

COURSE SUMMARY DOCUMENT

2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR

COURSE TITLE: Foundation Degree (FdA) Production Arts (Stage)

DURATION OF COURSE: Two Years (Full Time)

Entry Requirements:

Applicants would normally be expected to meet UWE Bristol's minimum entry requirements. Tariff points as appropriate for the year of entry - up to date requirements are available through the UWE Courses database.

For speakers of English as a second language an IELTS 7.0 (International English Language Testing System) or equivalent is the minimum requirement with a minimum of 7.0 in each component of reading, writing, listening and speaking.

The selection process is through interview.

Course Outline:

The FdA Production Arts (Stage) course provides a broad-based conservatoire standard training in theatre and live events production skills. You should develop your passion for live performance and an understanding of what working backstage involves with its excitement and pressure.

In the first year the Course provides grounding in all the major production disciplines needed to work as a professional. You will learn theoretical and practical aspects of stage management, lighting, sound, prop-making and scenic construction. You will learn a range of core skills in communication, problem solving and time management. You will usually spend the third term as part of a dedicated production department usually taking on stage management roles on public performances.

In the second year you will broaden your training by being entirely involved in a range of productions including props and/or scenic construction and technical operation. You will usually spend up to three weeks on placement with professional production companies or organisations. This is an integral part of the final year enabling you to match your career aspirations to the practical reality of a work environment. You will also undergo mock- interviews with professionals from the relevant industry and get support to develop and present your experience to an effective industry standard. You will work on your self-presentation skills and develop your resume as a written CV and in digital formats.

Core Modules and any Optional Modules:

Year One

All modules are compulsory.

Module Name: Stage Management (20 credits)

Module Name: Scenic Crafts (20 credits)

Module Name: Performance Lighting (20 credits)
Module Name: Sound Production (20 credits)
Module Name: The Production Department (40 credits)

Interim Award: Cert HE Production Arts (Stage):

Credit requirements: 120 from the above specific modules.

Year Two

All modules are compulsory

Module Name: Stage and Technical Management in Performance (40 credits)
Module Name: Departmental Management (30 credits)
Module Name: Stage and Technical Operation (20 credits)
Module Name: Preparing for Employment (30 credits)

Award: Foundation Degree (FdA) Production Arts (Stage) Total credits: 240.

Method of study (for example, lectures, seminars, work placements) expected:

In line with Government regulations teaching and learning in the last two academic years at BOVTS was delivered in part online, in part as blended learning and in part face to face prompting a lot of innovative practice. It is anticipated that teaching and learning in 2023-24 will be as much as possible face to face, with a small element of online virtual learning where it makes us more efficient or relevant to the way that the entertainments industry is working post-pandemic. The exact mix will be kept under review as Government regulations change and communicated to you in advance.

Scheduled learning includes lectures, small group seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and workshops, fieldwork, external visits, work-based learning, supervised time in studio/workshop.

Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

Average class size: The annual cohort size across the BA & FdA courses is usually 22-28 students. Classes are mainly taught in groups of 5, 6 or 7, with occasional group session of up to 14 students.

Placement learning: The Course includes a placement element. Students will normally spend three weeks on placement with a professional production company or organisation. The placement is arranged by negotiation between the student, the Course Tutor and the placement organisation with due regard to the student's profile and other Course commitments.

Placements can be anywhere in the UK.

Reasonable accommodation and travel expenses incurred whilst on unpaid placement will be reimbursed by the School.

Workload including number of contact hours with School staff and expected self-study:

The Course is immersive with an average of 25 hours contact time and 10 independent study hours per week.

When not on placement students would normally be in class or rehearsal Monday – Friday, 0930 -1730. During production weeks these hours might be extended to include evenings and some weekends.

The overall methods of assessment for the Modules (for example exams, course work or practical assignments):

Assignments are based on standard industry paperwork and processes. Practical assessments are based around making, planning, sourcing and management and design tasks that you would do as part of staging a show. Your interaction with the team around you is as important as your individual contribution. There are no written exams, dissertations or theoretical essays.

Modules and degrees at BOVTS are pass / fail – meaning there are no marks awarded and no classifications.

The award students will receive on successful completion of their Course:

Foundation Degree (FdA) Production Arts (Stage) validated by the University of the West of England, Bristol.

Where the course is taught:

Operating on three specialist teaching sites (Downside Road, Christchurch Studios and Sheene Road) and normally performing in major producing theatre venues in Bristol: Bristol Old Vic, Circomedia, Tobacco Factory, Wardrobe Theatre and the Redgrave Theatre.

Length of the Modules:

Between 4 and 23 weeks.

Staff who are delivering the teaching:

Head of Course, Stage Management, Lighting, Sound, Construction, Scenic Crafts, Employment Prep and Recorded Media Tutors, plus visiting industry professionals

The fees which students can expect to pay:

Tuition fees for UK and Republic of Ireland students on the FdA Production Arts (Stage) course will be £9,250
Tuition fees for overseas students (non-UK) on the FdA Production Arts (Stage) course will be £22,050

Please see the Fees Policy at <https://www.uwe.ac.uk/courses/fees/tuition-fees-policy> for further information.

Any extra costs (in addition to fees) which students may have to pay to complete the course and estimated cost:

Increasingly, much of the information and some of the content of the course is available via the School's virtual learning environment and so you will benefit from having access to your own personal computer and the internet to make the most of your course. It is estimated that a suitable personal computer will cost £300.00. Please check with the Course leader for recommended functionality. You will need to research the most cost-effective way of accessing the internet. The School has a number of means tested scholarship funds available to assist students with purchases of computer hardware and other essential costs which would otherwise cause financial hardship.

Course materials are provided, but students may have to allow funds to provide their own work clothes (£50 approx.) and equipment (including basic toolkit - £100 minimum). Students can apply for hardship funds if required.

For Overseas students only:

Student Visa if applying from outside the UK £348.00 Immigration Health Surcharge (with discount for Student Visa holders) £470.00

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