

2023-24 BA (Hons) Acting – Audition Process

Please make sure you have read these notes prior to applying and retain them for your reference.

All applicants must be 18 or over by the start of the academic year for which they are auditioning.

Applications for our BA (Hons) Acting course will open on 1st September 2023, via our website, and will close at 4pm on Wednesday 31st January 2024.

For 2024 entry the BA (Hons) Acting audition process has changed to a 3-stage process:

Stage 1 – Self-tape

Stage 2 – In person/online audition

Stage 3 – In person recall

After we have processed your application we will email you further instructions on the self-tape stage. You will have 14 days to submit your self-tape.

Stage 1 – You will need to perform two contrasting monologues. Each piece should last no longer than two minutes. The choice of plays is for you to decide; we no longer advise which plays you should choose. However, your monologues should be from a play and should not be extracts from poems, novels, films or television scripts.

Your self-tape will be viewed by members of the audition panel. Tips for your submission are below.

Tips for your audition pieces

- Contrast is important for us to assess your acting potential. This could be achieved by performing a classical and a contemporary speech, a comedy and a dramatic piece, or by choosing two different characters.
- Your speech can be translated from another language.
- You may choose a speech in any gender.
- Speeches should involve a character close to your own age and at least one speech should be performed in your own accent.
- It will help if you've read the whole play and understand the context of the speech.
- Think about who your character is speaking to and where they are.
- Think about what your character is trying to achieve, and see if there is a change of direction in the speech.

Tips for your Self-tape video

- Your audition video can be recorded using a smartphone camera. You do not need a professional grade camera.
- When recording your video, try to use a room that has privacy, some space to move around and which is as quiet as it can be.

- Record your audition in landscape orientation
- Do not stand too far away from the camera, but also don't stand too close.
- Do not sit or stand in front of a window as that will put you in shadow.
- If you are using a smartphone please use a stable surface to create a steady image.
- Take some time to practise before finally submitting your audition pieces.
- Please film your submission as one continuous take.
- Start your submission with your name and tell us the speeches you are going to perform.

A member of the admissions team will check that your self-tape has been successfully sent to us and the admissions team will watch the first few seconds of the self-tape to make sure we can see and hear the video. It will then be passed to the auditioners to view.

Once the self-tape has been viewed a decision will be sent to you – please note that there may be some delay in viewing the self-tapes sent in. If there is an issue with your self-tape the admissions team will contact you.

All self-tapes for unsuccessful applicants will be deleted at the end of the 2023-24 audition cycle.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide feedback for audition videos

Stage 2 – If you are successful in Stage 1 you will be invited to an 'in person' or online second round audition which will happen in February. Applicants will be asked to choose either an online audition or in-person audition here at the School. **The Stage 2 auditions will last roughly 15 minutes.**

In this second-round, applicants will be asked to do a third monologue – which **has to be a classical piece**. It must also NOT be one of the audition pieces chosen in Stage 1. You will also be asked to do a duologue chosen by the School and sent to you when you are advised that you have passed Stage 1.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide feedback for Stage 2 auditions

Stage 3 – Applicants who progress to Stage 3 will be invited to an 'in person' recall here at the School in Bristol. You will be required to attend for one day. Applicants attending the recall audition should be prepared to repeat their original speeches from their self-tape, plus their Classical piece.

Applicants will take part in classes in the following subjects: Singing, Improvisation, Movement, Acting and Voice and there will also be an interview with the Director of Acting Courses and the Director of Drama. There will also be time for applicants to meet with current students and ask questions about the School and the course.

Recall dates in 2024 will be on:

Monday 25th March 2024
 Thursday 28th March 2024
 Monday 15th April 2024
 Tuesday 16th April 2024
 Thursday 19th April 2024

Please note: these recall dates are fixed and non-changeable; therefore, if you are unable to attend, you cannot be considered for a place on the course.

After the recall audition, we will let you know if:

- You're successful and we'd like to offer you a place on the course
- You've not been successful this time
- You have been shortlisted for a place on the course

Additional Information

As indicated, there may be a wait time following each audition stage.

The decision of the panel is final. If you are unhappy with the process, you may make a complaint under our Admissions, Appeals & Complaints process (details are on the Policies and Procedures page of the website at **oldvic.ac.uk/about-us/policies**).

You may apply only once per academic year.