

COURSE SUMMARY DOCUMENT

2024-25 ACADEMIC YEAR

COURSE TITLE: Foundation Degree (FdA) Costume for Theatre, TV And Film

DURATION OF COURSE: Two Years (Full Time)

Entry Requirements:

The University of the West of England's Standard Entry Requirements apply with the following additions/exceptions: Normal academic entry requirements would be General Art and Design Foundation Course or equivalent Level 3 qualification; or equivalent practical experience.

Specific skills: competent sewing, well organised. Would normally demonstrate interest in areas such as film and theatre craft, and recreational sewing. Have a background in school / amateur theatre productions.

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.

Applicants will be interviewed by at least two members of staff, including the Head of Costume. Students are required to provide a portfolio with examples of their work. Applicants will be given an opportunity to ask questions of staff and current students where possible.

Normally all applicants are interviewed.

Course Outline:

You will find that this intensely practical and vocational two-year course will enable you to experience all the different aspects of the costume professional's role across stage and screen. You will be given the opportunity to learn a range of practical skills and applications to enable you to fulfil the various roles within the costume industry, including assistant costume supervisor, costume supervisor and costume maker for both stage and screen.

You will work to realise given designs. This will include sourcing costumes and fabrics, drafting patterns and making garments. All of the above follow safe working practices with relevant equipment.

We aim to encourage a good flow of communication, work to deadlines and work towards independently producing items of costumes. All of the School's many productions are staffed by students supported by tutors. Training is applicable to a wide range of employment in theatre, film and TV and is taught by School costume tutors and visiting industry professionals at Downside Rd and, when circumstances permit, on location.

You will work through the various costume roles building on experience within the School's productions. All of these roles happen within the environment of a professional production under the guidance of the Costume tutors.

All of the roles and skills that you encounter in your first year enable you to assess and consider your strengths and preferences as you move forward into your second year.

Core Modules and any Optional Modules:

Level 4/Year 1

Module Name: Assistant Costume Supervision in Performance (40 Credits)

Module Name: Basic Millinery and Foundation Skills (40 Credits)

Module Name: Pattern Cutting and Costume Construction 1 (40 Credits)

Optional Modules: There are no optional modules for this stage of this award

Interim Award: Cert HE in Costume for Theatre, TV and Film

Credit requirements: 120 from the above specific level 1 modules.

Level 5/Year 2

Module Name: Costume Supervision (40 Credits)

Module Name: Pattern Cutting and Costume Construction 2 (40 Credits)

Module Name: Millinery and Specialist Skills (20 Credits)

Module Name: Preparing for Employment and Work Placement (20 Credits)

Optional Modules: There are no optional modules for this stage of this award

Credit requirements 240 from the above specific Level 1 and Level 2 modules

Award: Foundation Degree (FdA) Costume for Theatre, TV and Film Total credits 240.

Method of study (for example, lectures, seminars and 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. In line with current Government regulations, it is anticipated that teaching and learning in 2023-24 may be a blend of face to face learning and online virtual learning (retaining the innovative practice developed in the last few years). The exact mix will be kept under review as Government regulations change and communicated to you in advance.

This intensely practical and vocational course will enable you to experience the costume professional role across stage and screen. You will be given the opportunity to learn a range of practical skills and applications to enable you to fulfil the role of Costume assistant and Costume supervisor in School productions and TV recordings. Within this role you will learn to develop the ability and confidence to lead and be part of a Production Team under the watchful eye of the Head of Costume.

Core skills in construction techniques, pattern drafting and costume interpretation will be delivered through practical classes and workshops. Equipped with these essential skills students will work towards developing a critical problem-solving approach. The Costume FdA is embedded in a fundamental hands-on approach. The ethos is reflected in a high level of contact hours between students and staff and the variety of settings in which this takes place. You will focus on individual development but just as importantly come together on joint projects under professional guidance.

Visiting Industry professionals will impart their specialist knowledge through a series of workshops and lectures. You will become familiar with specific tools required to enable you to progress through the various

aspects of the roles covered. Financial support is available for up to three weeks of Industry placements which provide the opportunity to further practical skills acquired in the course in a professional setting.

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

The learning is immersive with students taught and supervised by teaching staff at least 35 hours per week. Students are expected to undertake approximately 10 hours independent study per week.

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

The assessment strategy for this course is appropriate for professional practice modules. This means that you will be assessed on your industry standard outputs such as embroidery and millinery samples (hat and patterns), before and after photographs of hair and make-up techniques plus show specific examples/rehearsals, samples of dyeing and breakdown techniques, production of Foundation Costumes, a comprehensive range of reference samples, accurately filled out measurement sheets, sets of paper pattern blocks, paper patterns, a blocked felt and straw hat and show-specific costumes.

In terms of written assignments, you will be assessed on annotations of scripts, construction and maintenance of a continuity file, termly self-assessments and reflective placement reports amongst others.

Students are assessed on their professional practice on a pass or fail basis. Judgements about students' performance reflect relevant industry standards.

The UWE qualifications are awarded as non-classified/non-differentiated.

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

Foundation Degree (FdA) in Costume for Theatre, TV and Film, validated by the University of the West of England (UWE, Bristol).

Where the course is taught:

Operating at the School's Downside Road premises, on location and at Christchurch studios and normally in the major producing theatre venues in Bristol.

Length of the Modules:

Modules are delivered over the entire 34 week teaching year.

Staff who are delivering the teaching:

Head of Costume, Costume Tutors and visiting industry professionals.

The fees which students can expect to pay:

Tuition fees for UK and Republic of Ireland students on the FdA Costume for Theatre, TV and Film course will be £9,250

Tuition fees for overseas students (non-UK) on the FdA Costume for Theatre, TV and Film 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 see <https://www.oldvic.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/bovts-IT-specifications.pdf> or 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 and equipment (approximately £150.00) and contribute to some costs towards their self-promotion materials (approximately £200.00).

For Overseas students only:

Student Visa if applying from outside the UK £490. The Immigration Health Surcharge of £776 per applicant, per year of permission applied for.

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