



Module Specification

Acting Practice

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Acting Practice

Module code: UATNKC-40-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 40

ECTS credit rating: 20

Faculty: Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

Department: ACE Dept of Creative & Cultural Industries

Partner institutions: Bristol Old Vic Theatre School

Field: Professional Acting (BOVTS)

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module explores the fundamentals of acting. You will be taught through classes, workshops and text projects and your learning will cover stage, screen, and audio. Acting classes focus on the exploration of a range of acting methodologies and approaches. Particular focus is given to the themes of imagination and play, self and character, ensemble and autonomy. These classes will encompass the work of key practitioners and fundamental skills, giving you a range of techniques, or 'toolkit' to apply in different situations.

Features: Acting Technique classes allow you to investigate embodied experiences in which the interrelation of body, thought, breath and feeling can be explored.

The work on skills and key practitioners is considered for both stage and screen allowing you to explore the fundamental truths of acting while considering the different processes required when working within differing mediums. Work in front of the camera begins from the outset and continues throughout this module.

Text Projects run concomitantly to encourage you to experiment and practice using a variety of texts including original, contemporary and classical. As a result, you begin to build your own meanings and ways of working. You are encouraged to investigate your relationship with technique. This empowers you to challenge the notion that acting is dependent on any one methodology, to play with the contradictions and uncertainties that lie at the centre of acting and encourages you to develop an ethos of independent artistic curiosity.

Educational aims: This module aims to:

Introduce some fundamental questions, methodologies and techniques of acting for stage and screen.

Encourage you to work openly and respectfully within an ensemble.

Let you begin to take responsibility in preparing and rehearsing a role.

Introduce methods of integrating experience and imagination to achieve authenticity and embodiment of a role in acting.

Enable you to explore a range of dramatic texts and directorial approaches.

Facilitate your application and integration of knowledge and skills acquired in voice, movement, acting and reflective practice.

Outline syllabus: Indicative Content:

Acting Technique for stage, screen and audio work.

Improvisation and Clowning for Stage.

Text Projects: Self Story; Modern Duologues; American Project.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: You will learn through group classes, tutorials, individual and group project work and rehearsals. Much of your learning will be in the form of in-class verbal feedback on your performance from your tutors. You will be expected to engage in self-directed learning including essential reading, research preparation and presentation.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Apply the theory of learned acting skills and techniques to a range of media and scenarios.

MO2 Exercise the creative imagination and a sense of 'committed play.'

MO3 Understand and explore a range of dramatic texts.

MO4 Apply and integrate techniques in voice, movement, reflective thinking and textual analysis to the extent that there is evidence of embodiment in the creation of a role.

MO5 Use research in order to discuss context and apply a knowledge and insight into character and situation.

Hours to be allocated: 400

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 100 hours

Face-to-face learning = 300 hours

Total = 400

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: To pass this module you must successfully pass the assessment.

Assessment will be made of your basic understanding and competency in acting technique, methods and approaches at three phased points (end of the autumn, spring and summer terms).

Continuous feedback of class-based work will enable the assessment of your ability to 'play' and to exercise the creative imagination through relaxation, concentration and ensemble appreciation. You will also be assessed on your application and creative use of acting technique in workshop style text projects as well as an internal audition in the summer term.

Formative verbal feedback on your progress is given by tutors and external text project directors throughout the Module. This will enable the identification of your ability to understand and interpret texts from diverse and international backgrounds.

You will receive written summative feedback from your text project directors at the end of each text project within the module.

The identification of specific actor learning techniques, where a 'toolkit' of techniques and methodologies are presented to you, will be continually assessed in class by tutors. The synthesis of those techniques will be applied to all text -based, movement, singing and voice work within the school, thereby demonstrating a continuity of approach across all modules.

Assessment: Rehearsal and Performance:

Students will be assessed on:

Text Projects – Each term you undertake a Text Project; working with a tutor or director on a specific project studying a text or number of texts culminating in a performance for an invited audience of tutors. Each project normally lasts 7-10 weeks.

The Text Projects are:

Autumn Term – Self-Story.

Spring Term – Contemporary Project.

Summer Term - American Project.

Internal Audition:

In the summer term you will undertake an internal audition comprising of two contrasting monologues and a Song for an audition panel of tutors from the Acting, Movement and Voice Departments.

Performances of the Projects usually last up to 1.25 hours.

Internal Auditions usually last approximately 5 minutes.

If you are unable to participate in or fail to meet the minimum achievement required in an assessment, a re-sit of the failed assessment task (or an equivalent task) will be offered. The task will be decided by the Module Tutor, Module Leader and Course Leader and will be appropriate to the assessment you are resitting.

The length of the task will be determined by the nature of the task to be undertaken as the resit.

Assessment tasks:**Performance (First Sit)**

Description: Rehearsal and Performance:

Weighting:

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Performance (Resit)

Description: Rehearsal and Performance

Weighting:

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: