

ACADEMIC SERVICES

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data			
Awarding Institution	UWE		
Teaching Institution	Bristol Old Vic Theatre School		
Delivery Location	Bristol Old Vic Theatre School		
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	N/A		
Faculty responsible for programme	ACE		
Department responsible for programme	Arts and Cultural Industries		
Modular Scheme Title	N/A		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	The Theatre is an affiliate of the Conservatoire of Dance and Drama.		
Highest Award Title	BA (Hons) Professional Stage Management		
Default Award Title			
Fall-back Award Title			
Interim Award Titles	DPS Professional Stage Management Cert HE Professional Stage Management		
UWE Progression Route	N/A		
Mode(s) of Delivery	FT		
Codes	UCAS:	JACS:	
	ISIS2: W45A	HESA:	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements			
First CAP Approval Date	September 2009	Valid from	September 2015
Revision CAP Approval Date	20/05/2014	Revised with effect from	01/09/2014
Version	2		
Review Date	September 2020		

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

- To train students to an advanced, professional standard of management, technical and craft skills for careers in theatre, television or radio production departments within a work-based learning environment.
- To develop through practical application students' talent, abilities and confidence to lead or be part of a team working on productions; to learn to communicate and interact effectively within production departments and to execute their own role to professional standards.
- To provide a conservatoire-level learning environment where students can explore, reflect on, critically evaluate and develop their own role and attitudes to the work of creative, support and management departments.
- To enable students to develop advanced level self-management skills and to learn to transfer skills gained to new and changing situations and contexts.
- To introduce students to other branches of the Entertainment Industry to indicate potential future areas of employment.
- To equip students for direct employment at assistant level in professional theatre, television or radio production departments; or for further study at postgraduate level.
- To develop the intellectual capacity commensurate with an undergraduate honours degree, within a conservatoire level vocational training framework.

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

A. Knowledge and Understanding (subject specific)

On completion of this award, a successful student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of current theatre practice, production processes and disciplines, departmental roles and current technology through engagement in training to professional standards;
2. Engage with the world of theatre employment, understanding how to look for work and be familiar with the range of employment available in the Arts and Entertainment Industry.

Learning takes place through participation on live projects, and working with real life issues. Acquisition of skill 1 is through practical classes and undertaking a range of production roles on theatre, television and radio drama productions. Acquisition of skill 2 is through specialist classes, employer contact and industry engagement on placement / work-based learning.

Assessment:

Assessment of these skills is achieved by testing the student's knowledge by undertaking production roles in public performance or recording conditions; feedback from placements, employer contacts.

B. Intellectual Skills (generic)

On completion of this award, a successful student will be able to:

1. Examine systematically and evaluate critically a wide range of craft, technical and managerial issues and problems; develop a range of realistic and professionally suitable solutions in a theatre or recording context;
2. Tackle complex problems and seek out practical solutions in a cost-effective and safe manner within a creative production environment.
3. Lead and manage a team; take initiative and responsibility for production roles and responsibilities delegated to them, and communicate effectively with specialist departments / staff.

All aspects of the course require students to undertake production roles in which skills 1, 2 & 3 are acquired.

Assessment

Assessment of these skills is achieved through assessing a student's performance in undertaking production roles and responsibilities which require a complex mix of these skills set in a professional context and to professional performance standards.

C. Subject/Professional/Practical Skills (subject specific)

On completion of this award, a successful student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the necessary high level skills and expertise for a career in stage management (or similar technical or craft function in theatre / recorded media production) moving from first job through to head of department without further training.

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

2. Engage in direct employment at assistant level in theatre / recorded media production departments;
 3. Be at a standard to working on professional productions or for a professional organization in the arts and entertainment industry;
 4. Undertake planning, scheduling and budgeting within a professional context
- Acquisition of these skills is achieved through classes and workshops at level 1, and practical production experience at levels 2 and 3.

Assessment

This skill is assessed by evaluating a student's ability in a range of production roles against professional standards.

D. Transferable Skills and other attributes (generic)

On completion of this award, a successful student will be able to:

1. Solve complex logistical, production and personnel problems in a creative and often unpredictable environment.
2. Work independently and initiate ideas and solutions.
3. Communicate to a high verbal, written and IT standard
4. Lead and manage production teams to a professional standard.
5. The ability to progress to a higher level of specialist training or study.

These skills are acquired through the practical application of skills acquired at Level 2 and 3 on productions including budget and scheduling responsibility. In addition skill 2 is acquired through placements as well as School productions.

Assessment

These skills are assessed by judging students' abilities against professional standards whilst undertaking a range of production roles at Level 2 and 3.

Part 4: Student Learning and Student Support

Teaching and learning strategies to enable learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

At UWE, Bristol there is a policy for a minimum average requirement of 12 hours/week contact time over the course of the full undergraduate programme. This contact time encompasses a range of face:face activities as described below. In addition a range of other learning activities will be embedded within the programme which, together with the contact time, will enable learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated.

Scheduled learning includes lectures, 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 choices made.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made.

Placement learning: may include a practice placement, other placement, year abroad.

- All learning takes place within a context of reproducing professional practice with the focus on developing a student's professionally employable skills.
- All classes are "calls" in the professional sense of the word and attendance is compulsory. The students' normal timetable commences at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 5:30 p.m. Individual research/study is undertaken outside these contact sessions. Public performance experience takes place in addition to these times.
- All teaching is in the form of practical, individual or group vocational training and supervision by experienced practitioners;
- Teaching takes place in a realistic professional producing-house environment according to professional priorities, etiquette and discipline;
- Students on each award route work closely with students on other routes including reflecting their future professional relationships in the Industry;
- The Programmes are delivered with a Student/Staff ratio of approximately 5:1 which allows a significant commitment to formative individual reflection, feedback and counselling about their current performance - both formal and informal.
- The progress of each individual student is under constant scrutiny and review by means of a two- way process involving the student's own evaluation of his/her work and the guidance by permanent staff and regular guest tutors. There is a high degree of staff / student contact; students develop skills of self-evaluation and an awareness of their own ability.
- The overall pattern and progression of the BOVTS learning experience is made clear in the Student Handbooks for each award which are revised as appropriate to match changes in curriculum structure, etc.
- Students understand the learning outcomes of the courses on which they are studying. Highly motivated and keenly aware of the level of achievement required to pursue their individual ambitions, they choose to train at the School because of its reputation for providing intensive training for employment. They are "learning by doing" the work which they wish to pursue professionally. They also see the success of graduating students in achieving their immediate goal of finding employment in the field.
- Students learn to work independently through practical project work and group exercises,

Part 4: Student Learning and Student Support

assuming increasing responsibility for the quality of their work and for meeting production schedules;

- In their final year students are working to professional standards and deadlines with that work presented to peers, potential employers and the paying public.

Description of the teaching resources provided for students

The Theatre school reproduces professional industry practice. Students will be taught in specialist environments specific to their course.

Description of any Distinctive Features

The programme provides conservatoire level intensive vocational training to enable students to have direct entry into their chosen area of career. All teaching staff have professional industry backgrounds in their subject specialisms. All applicants are interviewed or auditioned.

Part 5: Assessment

Approved to [University Regulations and Procedures](#)

Assessment Strategy

Students are assessed on their professional practice on a pass or fail basis. Judgements about students' performance are made against the relevant professional standards. The UWE qualifications are awarded as non-classified/non-differentiated.

Part 6: Programme Structure

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student**, including:
 level and credit requirements
 interim award requirements
 module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

ENTRY	Year 1	Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Interim Awards
		UAMPC3-40-1 Stage Management	• There are no optional modules for this stage of this award.	Cert HE Professional Stage Management • Credit requirements 120 from these specific level 1 modules.
		UAMPC4-20-1 Prop-making – Materials and Processes		
		UAMPC5-20-1 Scenic Construction – Materials and Processes		
		UAMPC6-20-1 Principles and Practice of Performance Lighting		
		UAMPC7-20-1 Principles and Practice of Sound Production		
		Year 2	Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules
	UAMPC8-30-2 Stage and Technical Management in Performance	• There are no optional modules for this stage of this award.	• Target/highest: Foundation Degree in Professional Stage Management • Credit requirements 240 from these specific Level 1 and Level 2 modules.	
	UAMPC9-30-2 Departmental Management			

		UAMPD3-30-2 Stage and Technical Operation		
		UAMPD4-30-2 Recorded Media		

	Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Interim Awards
Year 3	UAMPD5-40-3 Head of Department - A	UAMPF5-40-3 Head of Department – B	Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target/highest: BA Hons Professional Stage Management
	UAMA96-40-3 Employment Focus	UAMPD6-40-3 Recording Project	Credit requirements BA Hons - 360

Part 7: Entry Requirements

The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply. Tariff points as appropriate for the year of entry - up to date requirements are available through the [courses database](#).

Part 8: Reference Points and Benchmarks

Description of **how** the following reference points and benchmarks have been used in the design of the programme:

[QAA UK Quality Code for HE](#)

National qualification framework

Subject benchmark statements

Qualification characteristics for [Foundation degrees](#) and [Master's degrees](#) (if applicable)

[University strategies and policies](#)

Staff research projects

Any relevant PSRB requirements

Any occupational standards

Reference should be made to the graduate outcomes identified in the [QAA-HEA Guidance](#)

University teaching and learning policies.

Employer interaction/feedback.

QAA benchmarks relevant to this subject. Of only limited use in this intensely vocational area.

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications, available on the [University's website](#).