



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information	
Awarding Institution	University of the West of England
Teaching Institution	Bristol Old Vic Theatre School
Delivery Location	Bristol Old Vic Theatre School
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	
Faculty responsible for programme	Arts, Creative Industries and Education
Department responsible for programme	BOVTS - Acting
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	
Highest Award Title	MFA Professional Voice Studies
Default Award Title	N/A
Interim Award Titles	N/A
UWE Progression Route	Not applicable
Mode of Delivery	Full-time
ISIS code/s	W4911
For implementation from	April 2019

Part 2: Description

The aim of the course is to produce self-reflective, autonomous voice practitioners who will work within traditional fields, or go on to develop the practice in new ways. The course is eclectic in its approach drawing on a range of approaches and practitioners.

It is envisaged that graduates will seek careers in a range of voice related roles such as voice and/or dialect coaches for theatre, TV, film or radio; voice directors for theatre productions; voice teachers within conservatoires or university acting departments; voice and presentation skills coaches for business or other non-performers; voice artists for radio, audio books, animated productions; or voice artists within the fields of performance or contemporary art.

The course includes theoretical aspects of voice work including: anatomy and physiology and phonetics. The emphasis, however, will be on the practical applications of theory. This will include work to develop the potential of the student's own voice; coaching and teaching practice; performance; and encouraging the student to research their own areas of interest. This research will conclude with a 'practice-as-research' presentation or performance accompanied by a written reflective assessment.

There will be opportunities within the curriculum for collaboration with students on other courses including our MA Directing and Professional Acting courses.

The programme specifically aims to:

- Provide opportunities for students to study the discipline of voice studies
- Provide students with a detailed knowledge of anatomy and physiology relating to voice
- Provide students with a detailed, working knowledge of the International Phonetic Alphabet
- Provide students with the ability to transcribe, learn, produce and coach accents
- Provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge of voice, speech, accents and text to a variety of applications in theatre and recorded media
- Provide opportunities for students to develop the potential of their own voice and speech
- Provide opportunities for students to develop their voice practice in terms of coaching/teaching and performance
- Provide opportunities for students to research aspects of voice of their choice
- Encourage students to apply their work in an independent and autonomous way
- Enable teaching staff and students to engage actively in inclusive practice at all levels of the curriculum
- Map the curriculum to graduate destinations
- Provide opportunities for students to collaborate with other BOVTS programmes for example, MA Directing, BA (Hons.), FdA and MA Professional Acting

There are four modules:

1. Vocal Anatomy and Physiology (15 credits)
2. Phonetics and Accents (45 credits)
3. Voice, Speech and Text (60 credits)
4. Research and Practice (60 credits)

The Vocal Anatomy and Physiology module is taught in the first term and is designed to provide theoretical, practical and embodied knowledge which students can then use in a variety of contexts in the other modules.

The Phonetics and Accents module is taught in the first two terms of the course and is designed to provide students with the analytical and practical tools with which to analyse, produce and coach accents.

The Voice, Speech and Text module runs throughout the duration of the course. It is designed to provide opportunities, firstly, for the student to work on their own voice and speech; and, secondly, to apply an eclectic range of technical and creative approaches to the performance of a wide variety of texts including Shakespeare, Restoration comedy and contemporary drama.

The Research and Practice module also runs throughout the duration of the course. It is designed to provide opportunities for the student to develop their practice in terms of i) coaching and teaching; and ii)

Part 2: Description
independent research. There are two opportunities during the module for the student to research voice related subjects of their choice. These opportunities both culminate in practice-as-research presentations or performances. The second opportunity also requires a piece of reflective written work.
Programme requirements for the purposes of the Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR)
On successful completion of this course students will have gained knowledge, skills and attributes enabling them to perform professionally; and/or coach/teach voice, speech, accents and text work within a conservatoire, university or professional company setting. They will have a sound knowledge of vocal anatomy and physiology; phonetics and accents, approaches to their own vocal development; pedagogical approaches and research methodologies.
Regulations
A: Approved to University Regulations and Procedures
B: Approved variant to University Academic Regulations and Procedures:- That all programmes delivered by Bristol Old Vic Theatre School (BOVTS) that lead to a UWE award are limited to pass. Academic Board 4 th July 2018

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

	Module : UATAWY-15-M	Module: UATAWW-45-M	Module: UATAX3-60-M	Module: UATAWX-60-M
Learning Outcomes:				
Knowledge and Understanding:				
i) Advanced knowledge and critical understanding of anatomy and physiology relating to voice	/			
ii) Advanced knowledge and critical understanding of phonetics and accents		/		
iii) Advanced and critical understanding of the specialist knowledge around developmental work on voice and speech			/	
iv) A critical understanding of the structure and content of a wide range of performance texts			/	
v) A critical understanding of pedagogical approaches relating to voice				/
vi) Knowledge of research methodologies				/
Intellectual Skills:				
i) Ability to critically analyse, select and employ appropriate approaches to development work on voice, speech, accents and text		/	/	/
ii) Ability to critically apply theoretical knowledge to practical contexts	/	/	/	/
iii) Ability to critically and creatively reflect on efficacy of own development and that of others		/	/	/
iv) Ability to engage in autonomous research				/
v) Ability to articulate coherent, reflective arguments in verbal and practical presentations				/

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

vi) Ability to solve complex problems		/	/	/
Subject/professional/practical skills:				
i) Advanced skills in selecting appropriate pedagogical approaches		/		/
ii) Ability to analyse accents using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)		/		
iii) Ability to critically engage on own vocal development using appropriate methodologies		/	/	
iv) Ability to critically engage with a wide range of performance texts			/	
v) Ability to apply knowledge of anatomy and physiology to a variety of contexts	/			
vi) Ability to engage with a range of post-graduate research methodologies				/
Transferable skills and other attributes:				
i) Ability to synthesise a broad and deep knowledge base in a variety of practical contexts	/	/	/	/
ii) Ability to collaborate effectively and confidently with other practitioners		/		/
iii) Ability to critically engage in autonomous research				/
iv) Ability to analyse and communicate complex ideas	/	/		/
v) Ability to respond to new and complex challenges		/	/	/
vi) Ability to prioritise conflicting demands			/	/

Part 4: Programme Structure

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time post-graduate student** including:

- level and credit requirements
- interim award requirements
- module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

ENTRY		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Awards
Year 1	Vocal Anatomy and Physiology	UATAWY-15-M	None	MFA Professional Voice Studies
	Phonetics and Accents	UATAWW-45-M		
	Voice, Speech and Text	UATAX3-60-M		
	Research and Practice	UATAWX-60-M		

Part 5: Entry Requirements

The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply with the following additions/exceptions*:

Part 5: Entry Requirements

Applicants would normally be expected to have an honours degree in a related subject area. However applicants with extensive relevant professional experience will also be considered.

For speakers of English as a second language an IELTS 7.0 (International English Language Testing System) is the minimum requirement.

All applicants will be interviewed by two members of staff.

For international applicants it may be possible to conduct the interview via Skype or equivalent.

The selection process will include listening and perception tests.

Part 6: Reference Points and Benchmarks

Set out which reference points and benchmarks have been used in the design of the programme:

[QAA UK Quality Code for HE](#)

- Framework for higher education qualifications (FHEQ)
- Subject benchmark statements

QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Dance, Drama and Performance (July 2015) – recognizing that this is for undergraduate studies and so applying benchmarks at an enhanced standard.

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

[Strategy 2020](#)

[University policies](#)

UWE's Education for Sustainable Development and the Quality Management and Enhancement Framework

Staff research projects

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First SUVP Approval Date	17/04/2018			
Revision ASQC Approval Date	24/10/2018	Version	2	RIA 12779
Next Periodic Curriculum Review due date				
Date of last Periodic Curriculum Review				