

COURSE SUMMARY DOCUMENT

2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR

COURSE TITLE: Master of Arts (MA) Screen Acting

DURATION OF COURSE: One Year (Full Time)

Entry Requirements:

Applicants would normally expect to meet the University of the West of England's minimum qualifications for admission, except where age, experience and alternative qualifications are contributory factors. Most students will have completed a three-year conservatoire training and will have a BA in performance. Applicants will normally be interviewed and auditioned – usually face-to-face (but this may be online as necessary).

All applicants who have professional experience follow the same procedures, but background and relevant professional experience are taken into consideration alongside talent and potential.

For speakers of English as a second language an IELTS (International English Language Testing System) or equivalent 7.0 is the minimum requirement with a minimum 7.0 in each component of reading, listening, speaking and writing.

Course Outline:

Over the course of five modules spread across three terms this course will take you from developing specific performance skills, discovering what is unique about yourself, effectively analysing a script, remaining open and responsive to a scene partner, to delivering a performance of professional standard in a filmed scene suitable for inclusion in a show reel and screened in a cinema.

Many learning sessions will take place in fully equipped studios and many or most exercises will be filmed and analysed in a supportive class atmosphere.

Professional on set conditions will be replicated for the final Shoot.

Core Modules and any Optional Modules:

All modules are compulsory.

Module Name: You and the Camera (30 credits)

Module Name: The Bigger Picture (45 credits)

Module Name: Listen and React (40 credits)

Module Name: The Shoot (45 credits)

Module Name: The Business (20 credits)

Optional Modules: There are no optional modules.

Interim Award: There are no interim awards under this award scheme.

Credit requirements: MA Screen Acting 180 credits

Method of study (for example, lectures, seminars, work placements) expected:

In line with Government regulations some of the teaching and learning in the last few years at BOVTS was delivered online, 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 online virtual learning (retaining the innovative practice developed in recent years) and face to face, on-site learning. The exact mix will be kept under review as Government regulations change with an emphasis on face to face learning.

This course offers you a coherent route from developing your performance skills to preparation for entry into the screen industry. You will learn in a structured class environment with other MA Screen Acting students supported by a specialist screen acting tutor and visiting industry professionals.

The course gives you room to explore and develop your artistry in performance as well as providing you with the technical and industry knowledge needed to navigate the challenges of a screen acting career. You will learn through structured classes, workshops, masterclasses and through observing and analysing your own and your class-mates performance.

Classes are safe spaces where the ethos of trial and error are supported and you will be encouraged to challenge yourself and develop the required disciplines needed to become independent and highly motivated artists.

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

This is a full-time course. Contact time averages 16.5 hours per week. Students should expect to undertake at least 10 hours per week of independent study. There will be some weeks where students will need to be in School full-time.

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

You will be assessed throughout the course on your ability to apply theoretical strategy and technical techniques to effectively enhance your performance in front of the camera. You will receive feedback from peers, tutors and visiting industry professionals. Your progress and learning will be assessed by the Head of the Course and visiting specialists on your completion of module assessments.

Assessment is all by course work meaning there are no timed written exams. Assessments take the form of a 2,000-word essay, storyboarding and acting in short films, annotating script, performing in scenes on screen, class presentations, application of Meisner inspired tasks and exercises in class and on film and collation of self-presentation materials.

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

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

MA Screen Acting validated by the University of the West of England, Bristol.

Where the course is taught:

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School – Operating on two specialist teaching sites (Downside Road, main site and Christchurch Studios) and at other venues as required.

Length of the Modules:

Between 6 and 14 weeks.

Staff who are delivering the teaching:

Head of Course, Artistic Director, BOVTS teaching staff and visiting industry professionals.

The fees which students can expect to pay:

Tuition fees for UK and Republic of Ireland students on the MA Screen Acting course will be £11,700

Tuition fees for overseas students (non-UK) on the MA Screen Acting course will be £26,000

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 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 contribute to some costs towards their self-promotion materials. It is estimated that additional costs will be around £150.00. Students can apply for hardship funds if required.

For Overseas students only:

Student Visa if applying from outside the UK £348.00 Immigration Health Surcharge (with discount for Student Visa holders) £470.00

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