Programme Specification

Bradford College

University of Bolton
Teaching Intensive, Research Informed

Programme Title: BA (Hons) Performance (Top up)

Awarding Institution:	University of Bolton
Teaching Institution:	Bradford College
Department and School:	Arts, Science and Creative Industries / School of Arts and Creative Industries

Professional accreditation	Professional body	Professional body URL	Status of graduates
	None associated with this programme		

Final award(s):	Honours Degree (BA)
Exit or Fall back award(s)	
Programme title(s)	(Hons) Performance (Top up)
JACS Code	W410
University Course Code(s)	TBA
QAA Benchmark Statement(s)	The following benchmark statements apply to this programme: The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, Subject Benchmark Statement: Dance, Drama and Performance (2015)
Other internal and external reference points	The Quality Assurance Agency - The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (October 2014)
Language of study	English
Mode of study and normal period of study	Full time, one year Part-time, two years

Admissions criteria

Typically an FdA qualification in Performing Arts or a related discipline or 120 credits at NQF Level 5 or equivalent.

Additional criteria

Students with non-traditional entry qualifications but relevant experience or a suitable CV will be considered for entry onto this programme through audition.

Additional admissions matters

Applicants will be invited to an audition and will be expected to perform a prepared piece, such as a classical or contemporary monologue, to ensure their performance work is at an appropriate level.

Potential international students' qualifications will be checked by NARIC for appropriate equivalency.

International students are additionally required to achieve a specified level on IELTS or equivalent. Please consult the admissions department for further details.

Fitness to practise declaration

N/A

Aims of the programme

The principal aims of the programme are to:

- Further develop your skills, knowledge and experience in order to become a successful practitioner within the performing arts industry and other related fields.
- Enhance your employability within the creative industries by promoting a collaborative approach to teaching and learning across different disciplines.
- Enable you to pursue further study at post-graduate level.
- Enable you to develop and embed critical and theoretical approaches to a range of media and sources of information.
- Enable you to engage in a stimulating curriculum that reflects industry practice and encompasses new developments and trends.
- Support you in producing innovative and original work as a performer and/or director/producer.
- Enable you to participate in both performance and higher education, regardless of your background or whether you are from an under-represented group in the community.
- Enable you to make a contribution to the performing arts industry through developing the relevant skills and understanding of the professional standards.
- Enable you to become a capable and well-rounded Performance graduate who will make a contribution to the labour market needs of the local, regional, national and global economies having developed appropriate knowledge and skills covering a broad range of specialist skills

Distinctive features of the programme

This Level 6 Top-up programme is designed to allow both students from a prior approved qualification and applicants with relevant experience to progress to an honours level degree.

Non-traditional entry qualifications may be considered for entry to the programme in accordance with the college's RPEL (Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning) policy.

- The programme is delivered by experienced practicing Performing Arts professionals and academics who have a wide range of skills and relevant industry experience in TV, Film and Theatre. For example, working with ITV, BBC, Channel 4, Sky, The Bolton Octagon, The Royal Exchange in Manchester and The Lawrence Batley in Huddersfield.

- The programme encompasses a broad range of learning and teaching opportunities in performance including conceptual, technical and commercial areas.

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- The programme builds on your previous learning and experience, giving you the opportunity to produce work of a professional standard within your Performing Arts specialism.
- The programme prepares you for the reality of a challenging and competitive industry. It gives you a range of experiences and roles to fully prepare you for a portfolio career in the Performing Arts, such as writing, accounting, directing, producing and promotion.
- The department has significant partnerships with local venues, companies and organisations to ensure that professional experience is embedded within your programme.
- Students will be given the opportunity to participate in projects with the Performing Arts Graduate Theatre Company, offering a bridge into the industry.
- The programme provides the opportunity to work collaboratively across different disciplines, creating a professional and vocational experience. For example, this could include music students, as part of a Musical and Film, Media and Media Make-up students on film projects.
- Students in their final year will perform in a 'Showcase' which they plan and organise and invite industry professionals. This potentially gives students the opportunity to meet and perform in front of agents and casting directors as well as other industry contacts, possibly in an external venue.
- The College was the first FE/HE provider to be a Lead Associate school of The Royal Shakespeare Company, which gives students the opportunity to work directly with the RSC and be involved in their projects and workshops.
- The department is fully equipped with industry standard equipment and facilities including two performance spaces. Both the Lister drama studio and The Spinning Shed Theatre space are equipped with a full lighting rig and PA.
- The programme offers a range of opportunities to enhance your learning. For example, overseas trips, visiting guest lecturers, live performance opportunities and professional commissions.
- The department offers you a high level of pastoral and academic support with accessible and helpful tutors.
- The College is committed to working in partnership with students – recognising the importance of the student voice and providing regular and timely informal and formal feedback to all students to support their learning experience and development as a practitioner.

Programme learning outcomes

K. Knowledge and understanding
On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of:

K1. the importance of key practitioners, practices and trends in the performing arts industry

K2. the full range of fundamental physical processes required for performance including vocal and acting techniques

K3. the creative processes by which performance is made, realised and managed

K4. the disciplinary relationship between theory and practice

C. Cognitive, intellectual or thinking skills

On completion of the programme, successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:
C1. critically analyse and evaluate performance, using appropriate theories and methods
C2. apply critical problem solving and creative thinking skills as a performer in relation to professional industry standards
C3. develop critical discourses and theories in relation to the performing arts and its cultural significance
C4. develop appropriate research methodologies and investigative skills to explore the performing arts
P. Practical, professional or subject-specific skills On completion of the programme, successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:
P1. collaborate in the conception, creation, production, presentation and evaluation of performance
P2. develop industry standards in the practice of voice and characterisation for performance using a variety of acting techniques
P3 prepare to enter the performing arts industry by developing a range of skills that will enhance employability
P4. apply a range of professional competencies, skills and techniques, personal qualities and attributes essential for a successful career within the performing arts
T. Transferable, key or personal skills On completion of the programme, successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:
T1. conduct research, communicate information and express ideas effectively using a range of methods
T2. determine and reflect on academic, professional and personal goals
T3. manage themselves in terms of time, organisation, engagement, motivation, initiative and resilience
T4. utilise current marketing, self-promotion and entrepreneurialism within the Creative economy.

Programme structure

Full-Time route

Year 1

Semester 1	Semester 2
Advanced Creative Practice	Independent Project
Individual Case Study	
Freelance Working and Self Employment in the Creative Industries	

Part Time Route

Year 1

Semester 1	Semester 2
Advanced Creative Practice	
Individual Case Study	

Year 2

	Semester 1	Semester 2
	Freelance Working and Self Employment in the Creative Industries	
		Independent Project

Module Code	Module title	Core/ Option (C/O)	Credits	Length (1, 2 or 3 periods)
	Advanced Creative Practice.	C	40	1 Semester
	Individual Case Study	C	20	2 Semesters
HNUB60030	Freelance Working and Self Employment in the Creative Industries	C	20	2 Semesters
HNUB60027	Independent Project	C	40	1 Semester

Learning and teaching strategies

This programme underpins the development of your practical skills as a performer with key theories, context and the development of academic skills. The programme is intended to be predominantly practical in its assessment and delivery, but with key theories and contextual information delivered as part of the course programme to underpin these practices. You are expected to develop vocational skills that will help you to learn in a more real world and vocational scenario. This could be through putting on a performance project or working with students from a different department to produce the piece of assessed work.

The e-learning strategy has been incorporated into the lessons to enhance the learning experience. You will use technology within some of the sessions for composition and notation. You may also notate pieces of written work by creating a blog or website. You will also utilise the College's own VLE (Moodle). All the resources are posted on here, and you can engage further with it by taking quizzes and submitting assignments via 'Turnitin'.

Tutorial sessions are worked in to the scheme of work for each module to ensure that you are offered one to one support with your transition and to ensure that you have a clear understanding of what is required in each module. You will also be supported through regular assessment workshops to work through any questions that you may have in terms of the progression of the module and essentially the assessment for the module

There will also be guest masterclasses from visiting professionals periodically throughout the year to give further context to the content delivered in the lectures.

Learning activities (KIS entry)

Course Year	HE6
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	34%
Guided independent study	66%

Assessment strategy

Within each module handbook there is an assessment plan giving you information about when each assignment is handed out and submitted. This also allows you to plan your time and manage your workload effectively.

The format of the work submitted for assessment should reflect what is stated in the module handbook. This could be in the form of an essay, presentation, performance, vlog, blog, viva voce or portfolio. Across the programme a range of assessment formats will be utilised that will reflect the nature of the module (theory or practical) and to account for different learning styles.

There will be collaborative work with students from your programme and from other areas of the School. The assessment methods for these projects will be in the form of a finished piece of work that is of a professional standard. This could be in the form of a collaborative performance with an accompanying vlog, a recorded performance or live show.

Critical reflection forms a major part of the assessment for all the modules, with the development of portfolios, viva voces, blogs and vlogs providing much of the evidence for your reflection of learning and development.

This project based work allows for formative assessment to be ongoing throughout a module. Your tutors will maintain close contact with you throughout these projects, giving evidence for both formative and summative assessment whilst the module progresses.

Assessment methods (KIS entry)

Course Year	HE6
Written exams	0%
Coursework	30%
Practical	70%

Assessment regulations

Assessment Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes apply to this programme.

Regulations can be found at:

https://www.bolton.ac.uk/about/governance/policies/student-policies/

Grade bands and classifications

Degree

Grade	Mark
First	70-100%
Second Class	60-69%
Pass	40-59%

Role of external examiners

External examiners are appointed for all programmes of study. They oversee the assessment process and their duties include: approving assessment tasks, viewing assessed samples of work with corresponding feedback/feed forward, reviewing assessment marks, attending assessment boards and reporting to the University on the assessment process.

They support both staff and students in the teaching and learning process.

Support for student learning

There are many support networks in place across the college and the students are introduced to these during the induction process. This includes access to student support services which ensure that help is available for students with any learning difficulties or disabilities. The College is committed to promoting equality and diversity in all aspects of student life, ensuring that everyone is treated in a fair and consistent manner throughout their time on the programme. Further information is included in the Programme and Student handbooks which list the support available in more detail.

Programme Level:

Students are given an induction in which they are introduced to the programme, facilities and the tutors on the programme. They are presented with a programme handbook which outlines specific information including module specifications and broader subjects including email addresses and contact numbers for the various services that the college provides. There will be an introduction to the programme identifying Level 6 expectations and any impact this has on the completion of work and assessment.

Students will receive one individual timetabled tutorial per semester to track their progress on the programme and discuss any issues regarding their studies. Further tutorials are available upon request. There are systems in place to account for any difficulties that students might encounter on the programme, including the option to apply for mitigating circumstances and extensions to deadlines.

Methods for evaluating and enhancing the quality of learning opportunities

- Student Staff programme committees
- Focus groups
- Module reviews by staff and students
- Student Experience Surveys
- Annual quality monitoring and action planning
- Peer review/observation of teaching
- Professional development programme for staff – REBEL
- External Examiner reports
- Quality Improvement Plan

Other sources of information

- **Bradford College University Centre website:**
  https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/study/university-centre
- **Student Handbook:** https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/study/university-centre/handbook
- **College Regulations:** https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/study/university-centre/handbook/regulations
- VLE - Moodle - https://moodle.bradfordcollege.ac.uk
- Student Portal - https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/student-portal
- Learner Portal - https://learnerportal.bradfordcollege.ac.uk
- Students' Union - https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/student-services/students-union
- External Examiner Report - https://moodle.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/mod/book/view.php?id=302018&chapterid=7993
- Library Services - https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/student-services/library-services
- College Careers - https://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk/student-services/student-support/careers-advice

Document control

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Learning Outcomes Map *(D – Developed; T – Taught; A – Assessed)*

Level 6

Module title	Module Code	Status C/O	K1	K2	K3	K4	C1	C2	C3	C4	P1	P2	P3	P4	T1	T2	T3	T4
Advanced Creative Practice.		C	TD	TDA	TDA	TDA	TD		DA	DA	TDA	TDA	DA	DA		TDA	TDA	
Individual Case Study		C	A			TD	DA	TDA	TDA	TDA	TD		TDA	DA	TDA	TD	D	
Freelance Working and Self Employment in the Creative Industries	HNUB60030	C	TDA		T			TD	TD	TD			TDA	TDA	TDA	T	T	TDA
Independent Project	HNUB60027	C	D	TDA	TDA	DA	TDA	DA		TA	DA	TDA	D	D	A	DA	TDA	TDA

K. Knowledge and understanding   P. Practical, professional and subject specific skills C. Cognitive, Intellectual and thinking skills   T. Transferable, key or personal skills

Module Listing and Assessments Map

Module title	Module Code	New? ✔	Level	Credits	Type	Core/Option /Elective C/O/E	Pre-requisite Module	Assessment 1			Assessment 2		
								Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item	Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item
Advanced Creative Practice		✔	6	40	Practical	Core	No	Ensemble Performance (40-80 mins)	80	N	Viva voce assessment	20	Y
Individual Case Study		✔	6	20	Practical	Core	No	Project plan (1600 words)	40	N	Performative presentation (15-20 mins)	60	Y
Freelance Working and Self Employment in the Creative Industries	HNUB60030		6	20	Coursework	Core	No	Career/business plan (2000 words)	40	N	Professional Portfolio (3000 words)	60	Y
Independent Project	HNUB60027		6	40	Project	Core	No	Proposal and plan (2000 words)	20	N	Project and reflection (40-80 mins or equivalent)	80	Y