

# **Programme Specification Document**

Approved, 2022.03

## Overview

Programme Code	33333	
Programme Title	Acting	
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University	
Programme Type	Degree	
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English	
Programme Leader		
Link Tutor(s)	Lauren Hall	

Partner Name	Partnership Type
Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts	Validated

#### **Awards**

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours - BAH	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Certificate of Higher Education - CHE	Articulate and employ technical processes by which the actor may create and build character, analyse text, collaborate and improvise Recognise the physiological components of a healthy voice and body and their connection to the imaginative work of the actor Read, analyse, and recognise dramatic texts as a blueprint for performance Recognise wider cultural contexts in the analysis and realisation of dramatic texts Undertake research in order to realise dramatic text and its conceptual potential Demonstrate an understanding of the core principles of acting disciplines in the creation of performance Develop an understanding of key working practices and personal attitudes necessary for sustained work as an actor
Alternative Exit	Diploma of Higher Education - DHE	Apply a range of technical processes in order to create character within varying and challenging styles, genres and differing performance platforms. Demonstrate an amalgamation of physical and vocal principles in synthesis. Develop a burgeoning independent methodology through creative application of the actor's process and techniques in performance projects. Articulate critically informed approaches to contemporary performance and acting practices. Undertake independent research in support of performance and practice. Identify aspects of professional development, analysis and employment potential within sector contexts. Employ interdisciplinary proficiencies in the forging of an additional discipline skillset.

## **External Benchmarks**

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Dance, Drama and Performance (2019)
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# Accreditation Programme Accredited by

PSRB Name	Type of Accreditation	Valid From Date	Valid To Date	Additional Notes
Council for Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre (CDMT)				

#### **Programme Offering(s)**

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts	3 Years

#### **Aims and Outcomes**

#### **Educational Aims of the Programme**

The programme intends to contribute to the education of actors, and its associated disciplines, through effective, coherent and innovative training that equips graduates as artistic creatives who, in addition to traditional practical skills, develop an ability to utilise practitioner techniques and theoretical insights to critically analyse performance material whilst developing a unique independent methodology and business acumen in order to maximise the utilities of their skillset. Our programme aims to:

- i. Facilitate graduates to obtain employment as versatile actors across performance platforms and contexts
- ii. Develop in students an independent and unique autonomy in technical and practical processes
- iii. Utilise student engagement through employment initiatives within the creative industries, including selfemployment and entrepreneurial frameworks
- iv. Advance in students an appreciation and understanding of cultural, social, political and economic perspectives in performance

#### **Learning Outcomes**

Code	Description
PLO1	Synthesise and evaluate historical performance traditions and techniques applied to contemporary arts practice
PLO2	Critically examine forms of discourse and their impact on spectators in performance
PLO3	Critique and select appropriate and creative psychological, physical and vocal performance processes
PLO4	Synthesise the management of a performance event and evaluate the effectiveness of key techniques and components in its creation
PLO5	Integrate imaginative collaborative practices within ensemble and group performance work, evaluating the effectiveness of these techniques
PLO6	Evaluate the practical application of theoretical concepts in performance, and the effect of this integration in practice
PLO7	Produce advanced creative interdisciplinary collaborations within conceptual frameworks
PLO8	Synthesise a range of approaches to achieve successful professional relationships, and evaluate techniques to solve creative collaborative issues
PLO9	Measure and rise to challenging, professional working contexts; setting complex goals and targets; collaborating when appropriate to negotiate positive outcomes
PLO10	Assess responsibilities as a performance practitioner in a working environment, synthesising risk factors for participants and ethical considerations

Code	Description
PLO11	Develop research skills, synthesising and organising results, and evaluate the significance of the material in practice
PLO12	Critically assess aesthetic, cultural and theoretical perspectives in emergent performance practice
PLO13	Create, advance and evaluate an informed application of technology and digital media skills to enhance industry profile
PLO14	Evaluate textual interpretations and practitioner readings, and integrate into performance
PLO15	Deconstruct practitioner approaches, synthesising cultural and historical influences
PLO16	Critically examine complex interrelationships between live/recorded media and evaluate its significance in practice
PLO17	Evaluate the creation of performance, isolating working methods, technical approaches and concepts
PLO18	Formulate original ideas, negotiating an argument and appropriate means of dissemination
PLO19	Implement an independent critical research investigation in order to create an original new work
PLO20	Synthesise cultural ideologies and contextual frameworks in performance works, evaluating their impact of on future events

#### **Programme Structure**

#### **Programme Structure Description**

The programme is studied over three years full-time. The programme is arranged in two semesters with skills classes continuing for all levels of study across the academic year. Two self-directed study weeks are built into terms both semesters to ensure that students can effectively engage with on-going assessment tasks and participate in industry-led activities.

The programme is divided into study units called modules. All modules are core, with options toward contextual or practical-based research projects at Level 6. This award allows notional-electives as part of core module Artistic Practice I, II and III.

A 20 credit module is indicative of totalling 200 hours' learning activity comprising student contact (lectures, workshops, seminars, tutorials, rehearsals, performance projects and supervision), course work preparation and private study. All learners take modules to the value of 120 credits each year/credit level. The appropriate module credits are awarded for the successful achievement of the learning outcomes for the module.

The full programme award, BA with Honours, is achieved upon the successful completion of 360 credits.

Bachelor of Arts with Honours, 360 credits

Alt exit awards are:

Diploma of Higher Education, 240 credits from Levels 4 and 5

Certificate of Higher Education, 120 credits from Level 4

Programme Structure - 360 credit points	
Level 4 - 120 credit points	
Level 4 Core - 120 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 4500PD1 The Professional 1 Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	
[MODULE] 4517ACT The Actor's Technique: Acting I Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4518ACT The Actor's Technique: Acting II Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4519ACT The Actor's Technique: Movement Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4520ACT The Actors Technique: Voice Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4521ACT Artistic Practice I Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4522ACT Cultural Perspectives I Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	
Level 5 - 120 credit points	
Level 5 Core - 120 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 5518ACT The Actor's Technique II: Advanced Acting Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	

[MODULE] 5519ACT 2022.01 - 20 credit po	The Actor's Technique II: Advanced Movement and Voice Approved pints	
[MODULE] 5520ACT	The Actor's Process: Project I Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5521ACT	The Actor's Process: Project II Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5522ACT	Artistic Practice II Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5523ACT	Cultural Perspectives II Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	
[MODULE] 5524ACT	The Professional II Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	
Level 6 - 120 credit po	pints	
Level 6 Core - 100 cr	redit points	CORE
[MODULE] 6517ACT points	The Actor's Performance: Production I Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit	
[MODULE] 6518ACT points	The Actor's Performance: Production II Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit	
[MODULE] 6519ACT points	The Actor's Performance: Production III Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit	
[MODULE] 6520ACT	Artistic Practice III Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6523ACT	The Professional III Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 6 Optional - 20	credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 6521ACT 20 credit points	Cultural Perspectives III: Practical Project (Optional) Approved 2022.01 -	
[MODULE] 6522ACT - 20 credit points	Cultural Perspectives III: Contextual Project (Optional) Approved 2022.01	

Module specifications may be accessed at <a href="https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx">https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx</a>

## **Approved variance from Academic Framework Regulations**

#### Variance

Variance to run year long modules at level 4, 5 and 6

**Teaching, Learning and Assessment** 

Acquisition of learning outcomes 1-5 is through a combination of lectures, small group teaching and practical classes, workshops. Directed production projects, and additional contributions from visiting professionals, specialists and external professionals, enhance the delivery of outcomes 3 and 4 in particular.

Cross-modular links connect theory and practice, as well as inter-disciplinary collaboration across the curriculum, supplemented also by opportunities for students to work independently outside the curriculum on self-directed production projects facilitated by the Independent Study Board, (ISB). The learner is encouraged to undertake independent research to supplement and consolidate what is taught, to broaden knowledge and understanding of the subject area.

Programme Outcomes 1-5 are developed progressively at Levels 4 and 5.

All modules are supported by additional resources on Moodle (our Virtual Learning Environment).

Assessment (both formative and summative) is through a combination of continuous class assessment, formal and informal presentations, in-house and public performances, formal and informal studio presentations, written analyses and/or logbooks, portfolios and formal essays.

Within the practical elements of the programme at Level 4, emphasis of assessment is predominately weighted towards the technique and presentation elements of classes and rehearsals. At Level 5, the emphasis begins a shift, amalgamating technique and process, with focus on performance toward the end of the teaching year. At Level 6, the emphasis develops to focus primarily on performance or product, supported by follow-up written or oral presentations and evaluations as appropriate.

An assessment matrix for the programme as a whole is provided to students in the Programme Guide.

Intellectual skills are developed through the acquisition of outcomes 1-5 in a combination of lectures, small group teaching, practical classes, workshops, and directed production projects at Levels 4-6.

Theory and practice are integrated to inform a cogent and coherent understanding of the intellectual properties of performance works, practitioners, philosophies and critical theories.

Each module involves discussion of key issues concerning the practical engagement with concepts of acting and performance in practical rehearsal/performance, analysis and interpretation of source material, written work or oral presentation and individual feedback.

Outcomes 1-5 are assessed on the learner's ability to demonstrate skills through the production of coherent through oral, written and electronic presentation, as well as formal written submissions. At Level 6 all learners will engage in a formalised extended independent research project as part of Cultural Perspectives III as a vehicle for the demonstration of acquired skills. The acquisition of these skills will be demonstrated by students separately if not collectively.

#### Opportunities for work related learning

The learning environment of the programme mirrors, where practicable, the environment an actor may expect to find in a real world employment context. Students will present and perform at all levels of the programme. Links between Professional Development and Artistic practice at all levels of study example a concerted focus on the integration of business and employment practices with creative, artistic products and ventures. This development of entrepreneurial skills, with the potential to include partnerships with external agencies and small-scale touring, in the creation of original new work enhances the skills, knowledge and abilities necessary for effective professional profiling, promotion and practice in such contexts. The Actor's Process (Level 5, Semester 2) and The Actor's Performance at Level 6 presents students with the opportunity to collaborate with visiting professional directors, enhancing network contacts, with some performances scheduled at external venues. Furthermore, the Graduating Actor's Showcase is an enrichment of industry engagement, with London, Manchester and digital-online presentations of students' work to prominent agents, casting directors and industry professionals.

### **Entry Requirements**

Туре	Description
A levels	We are committed to accepting students on to this course who have the potential to succeed as performers and who will gain sustained work in the performing arts and entertainment industries. With this in mind we wish to identify through applications and interview or audition key attributes and achievements. The key attributes that we seek to identify are: • Knowledge, ability and experience of acting • Commitment to the performing arts • Ability to work effectively with others • Broad interest and engagement • Self-awareness • Spirit of enterprise The minimum educational standard that we are looking for is: GCSEs We normally require a minimum of five GCSEs grade C. These should include Maths and English. Plus a minimum of 64 UCAS tariff points (2017 tariff) or 160 UCAS tariff points (2016 tariff). We accept all types of equivalent qualifications, the following are the most common UK qualifications that people tend to apply to us with: A/AS Level This should be from two A Levels (i.e. grades C, C), excluding General Studies. Points from AS and Key Skills are not counted.

Alternative qualifications considered	Audition or Interview Candidates are invited to audition/interview on the basis of completing the LIPA and/or UCAS application form. We look for evidence of the key attributes and an ability to achieve the qualifications standard. In exceptional cases people may be invited to audition/interview who have not met or are not on course to meet the qualifications standard. In these cases there must be substantial potential demonstrated against the other attributes. The audition or interview allows us to evaluate you as a practitioner in your area of interest. Offers of a place will follow where you demonstrate high ability and the potential to succeed. At the audition we provide an overview of LIPA and candidates are asked to present prepared pieces, they also take part in a practical workshop. At a recall event, candidates are asked to bring a piece of written work, take part in workshops and present prepared pieces. They may also be asked interview questions. On occasions, we may combine all elements in to a single audition. In exceptional cases an offer of a place may be made on the basis of the application form alone. Equal Opportunity LIPA is an equal opportunities organisation and aims to successfully recruit students from a wide range of different socio-economic and personal backgrounds. To ensure we provide effective equality of opportunity within the application process we carefully consider each application individually and acknowledge differences that can exist between applicants' experiences from diverse backgrounds. We regularly update our approaches to take into account changing understanding of communities and cultures and we monitor applicant/student characteristics such as age, gender and ethnicity. Recognition of Prior (Experiential) Learning [RP(E)L] and Credit Transfers If you can demonstrate that you have already achieved learning equivalent to a module or modules, or a level of study, in the programme then you may be eligible to be awarded credit for this learning or to have credit transferred
BTECs	Extended Diploma (i.e. Merit, Pass, Pass profile). BTEC Diploma (i.e. Merit, Merit). Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications such as an A Level, in which case total needs to be 64 (2017 UCAS tariff points) or 160 (2016 UCAS tariff points) across both qualifications. 90 Credit Diploma (Distinction, Merit). Acceptable on its own or can be combined with other qualifications such as an A Level, in which case total needs to be 64 (2017 UCAS tariff points) or 160 (2016 UCAS tariff points).
Other international requirements	We welcome applications from students with qualifications from outside of the UK. Each application is considered on an individual basis and mapped to the appropriate entry level. We value the diversity of experience that students from different backgrounds bring to the course. IELTS Score of 6 is required
International Baccalaureate	International Baccalaureate Acceptable on its own and with other qualifications Welsh Baccalaureate Acceptable on its own but is ideally combined with other qualifications as it is equivalent to one A Level.

## **Extra Entry Requirements**