

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MA Professional Voice Practice
2	Course Code	Full Time: PT1265
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	N/A
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	<p>This school is a member of the Federation of Drama Schools and of Conservatoires UK.</p> <p>The course has been designed with reference to the QAA Benchmarks for Dance, Drama and Performance.</p>

6	Course Description
	<p>The course, originally set up with support from the Voice Department of the Royal Shakespeare Company, aims to provide an intensive grounding in the key areas, practical and theoretical, of voice practice in order to enable its graduates to pursue their professional and research interests.</p> <p>The foundation of the course is rooted in the principles of healthy vocal use. We advocate a physiological and imaginative approach to voice work that develops the “practical, physical and emotional skills of students in an atmosphere that is enabling, supportive and empowering.” (Federation of Drama Schools Core Principles.) Based on clarity about how the voice works, imaginative intention fuels the development of personal artistry.</p> <p>The starting point is work on yourself: your voice and its source in your body and breath. It is the experiential understanding of this process in yourself, and listening to your colleagues on the course, that informs your own pedagogy. Through reading, discussion, reflective writing and practising as a coach or a teacher, you will relate theory and practice and learn the ways of thinking and working of a professional voice practitioner. Through full engagement with the opportunities the course provides, you will be prepared for work as a voice practitioner in private practice, in Further or Higher Education, in business, in theatre, film or television or the field of performing arts.</p> <p>This course also offers opportunities to work with the singing voice. This area of work enables students to explore the relationship between the disciplines of singing and speaking as an ability to work with both sung and spoken texts is becoming an increasingly important area for the voice professional.</p> <p>Students are supported through this highly intensive course by a robust pastoral system led by personal tutors who will support students throughout the course. Students can seek tutorials with specific tutors or their course director at any time.</p>

	Students are also given more formal opportunities to feedback on their course through the formal BCU structures. In addition to these, the Course Director holds a termly meeting in which the cohort can express any areas of concern they may have about the course and its delivery.
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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	MA Professional Voice Practice	Level 7	180
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	PgDip Professional Voice Practice	Level 7	120
	PGCert Professional Voice Practice	Level 7	60

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	N/A

9	Delivery Patterns			
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
	MA Full Time	Ruskin Hall in Bournville	18 months (4 terms)	PT1265
	MA Part Time	Ruskin Hall in Bournville	2 Years	PT1266

10	Entry Requirements
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ .

11	Course Learning Outcomes	
	Knowledge and Understanding	
1	Evaluate a systematic understanding and knowledge of voice and voice practice and apply a range of theoretical and technical knowledge with regard to healthy voice practice.	
2	Apply established techniques of practice, interpretation and enquiry.	
3	Apply a range of methodologies and pedagogical thinking to your own practice.	
4	Reflect on your own practice in order to illustrate your understanding of pedagogy.	
5	Critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in professional voice practice.	
	Skills and Other Attributes	

6	Apply, develop and maintain your own vocal skills.
7	Embody and teach an understanding of the relationship between body, breath and voice.
8	Apply physical and vocal skills in order to communicate effectively in relation to the interpretive challenges posed by complex poetic, dramatic and sung texts.
9	Apply a sound physiological and pedagogical understanding to the teaching of voice subjects, at a professional level, demonstrating imagination and creativity within a chosen setting.
10	Facilitate and enable the physical/vocal use of others in a professional manner.

12	Course Requirements		
12a	Level 7: <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):</i>		
	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
	ACT7115	Voice Theory	40
	ACT7116	Practical Voice 1	20
	ACT7117	Voice and Text 1	20
	ACT7118	Singing 1	20
	ACT7119	Pedagogy and Placement 1	20
	ACT7120	Major Project	60

12b Structure Diagram

Level 7 MA Professional Voice Practice

Core

Voice Theory (40 credits)

Terms 1, 2 and 3

Practical Voice 1 (20 credits)

Terms 1, 2 and 3

Voice and Text 1 (20 credits)

Terms 1, 2 and 3

Singing 1 (20 credits)

Terms 1, 2 and 3

Pedagogy and Placement 1 (20 credits)

Terms 1, 2 and 3

Major Project (60 credits)

Terms 1, 2 and 3

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

MA Workload

Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	580
Directed Learning	120
Private Study	1060
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	60%
Exam	0%
In-Person	40%