

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	BA (Hons) Applied Theatre [Community and Education]
2	Course Code	US0936
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)	N/A

6	Course Description
	<p>Theatre with Passion and Purpose</p> <p>At Royal Birmingham Conservatoire we seek to prepare the next generation of passionate and skilled theatre-makers to work across the entire spectrum of Applied Theatre. Our focus is on developing the skills and understanding needed to create compelling new performances and theatre projects with purpose.</p> <p>This is not a traditional acting course. Although there are some taught sessions and you will benefit throughout from the advice and support of experienced practitioners, the emphasis is on learning by doing – on bringing the skills and passions you have and getting better by applying them; as well as gaining new skills. You will not only be creating new drama, but gaining the knowledge and understanding needed to communicate that message in the wide variety of environments covered by the term Applied Theatre – such as theatre in education, community theatre, health, prisons, hospitals, or out on the streets.</p> <p>Through a range of projects you will transform yourself from student to professional practitioner. By working in partnership with your tutors, and increasingly independently, you will begin to identify and undertake the roles of performer, deviser, writer, performance maker and facilitator. You will work with a range of artists and professional companies along the way, allowing you to experience different styles and formats that will inform your own practice. Everyone who teaches on our Applied Theatre course is an experienced professional practitioner, with a strong commitment to the industry.</p> <p>Throughout the course you'll have the opportunity to develop your own artistic practice as well as specialise within your own areas of interest, giving you the chance to craft your future career. You will regularly work away from the Conservatoire – this might be with young people, community groups and a wide range of participants from different backgrounds. As part of the course you will complete a 6-8 week full-time placement with a theatre company or similar organisation; we believe that the best way of developing your skills is to be out there applying them.</p> <p>Learning through Doing</p> <p>You will collaborate with your fellow students by forming professional 'companies' in which you will work collectively. Within this company you will be expected to undertake individual roles and responsibilities, developing your professional abilities and teamwork skills.</p>

Professional practice is at the core of this course. Our strong industry links and on-going relationships with reputable education and community-based organisations allow us to prepare you thoroughly for a varied career in applied theatre.

We believe that creating theatre with social and political objectives can have a significant impact on the lives of individuals and communities. We use performance as a tool to explore the world, raise awareness, educate, empower, and instigate real and lasting change.

With a primary focus on performance you will also explore the reasons behind theatre, looking at history and theories, while developing an understanding of the need for constant research, discussion, reflection and development of your practice. As an emerging practitioner we aim to supply you with artistic space, autonomy and the choice you will need to succeed after graduation.

You will have regular opportunities to feed back on the course and modules, both formally through the BCU structures, and informally through close contact with your tutors, and you will have the support of personal tutors throughout your time on the course.

Working in the Real World

The course is partnered with Birmingham Repertory Theatre, one of the UK's leading production theatres, which gives you fantastic opportunities to engage with The REP's facilities, productions and Learning and Participation programmes. We also have strong ongoing relationships with a large number of other key partners such as Big Brum and The Playhouse – two of the most established and highly rated TIE Companies in the UK – as well as Geese Theatre (the UK's leading prison theatre company), health specialists HEARTH, Women and Theatre, MAC, Hanyong Theatre, Stan's Café, Loudmouth, adding up to a total of more than 60 professional companies in the Midlands. We are particularly proud to collaborate with the West Midlands Fire Service on a long term project which aims to deliver safety through drama at the Safeside village.

The course embraces students from a wide variety of performance backgrounds and actively encourages you to develop your own areas of interest and practice. Recent students have included spoken word artists, musicians/singers, dancers and those with interests as diverse as puppetry and arts administration. If you are passionate about the power of theatre, you want to make your voice heard, and you hope to make a difference using your own unique abilities, this is definitely a course to consider.

The course is packed with highly transferrable skills, and we have a strong and proud track record of graduates gaining employment across a wide range of careers. Many students have gone on to work with a small-scale and independent theatre company, or to develop their own new companies, or pursue freelance work within the industry. Others have gone into other related creative fields, such as arts education, or running youth theatres or dance groups. Some opt for training to be drama teachers, or drama therapists, or progress on to further study – from 2019 we will be offering our own MA course to graduating students. Applied Theatre graduates from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire are going to be changing the world; our journey is just beginning.

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Applied Theatre	Level 6	360
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Certificate of Higher Education Applied Theatre	Level 4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Applied Theatre	Level 5	240
	Bachelor of Arts Applied Theatre	Level 6	300

8	Derogation from the University Regulations		
	N/A		

9	Delivery Patterns			
9a. Mode(s) of Study	9b. Location	9c. Duration of Study	9d. Code	
Full Time	Ruskin Hall in Bournville	3 years	US0936	
Professional Placement Year	Ruskin Hall in Bournville	4 years	US1310	

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/ , or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.

11	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
1.1	Articulate the key principles and philosophy of Applied Theatre.
1.2	Analyse, discuss and advocate for a full range of Applied Theatre work.
1.3	Access and utilize knowledge of past best practice, key practitioners and texts, current provision and trends within Applied Theatre.
	Skills and Other Attributes
2.1	Devise and perform original new work to a professional standard, across a range of disciplines, styles and forms of theatre.
2.2	Plan, design and facilitate inter-active and appropriate drama workshops or extended projects with specific groups, using a range of drama conventions.
2.3	Collaborate effectively and creatively and reflect critically on your own practice and the practice of others.
2.4	Produce, document and evaluate original Applied Theatre projects.
2.5	Employ professional methods of working, work effectively alongside professional practitioners and apply advanced practical and administrative skills towards employment in Applied Theatre and related fields.

12	Course Requirements																																													
12a	<p>Level 4:</p> <p>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACT4044</td> <td>Applied Theatre</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT4045</td> <td>Drama for Learning 1</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT4046</td> <td>Community Stories</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT4047</td> <td>Performance 1</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Level 5:</p> <p>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACT5040</td> <td>Professional Practice</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT5041</td> <td>Drama for Learning 2</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT5042</td> <td>Political Stories</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT5043</td> <td>Performance 2</td> <td>40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Level 6:</p> <p>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACT6039</td> <td>Personal Project</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT6040</td> <td>Drama for Learning 3</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT6041</td> <td>Community Project</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACT6042</td> <td>Applied Theatre Festival</td> <td>40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ACT4044	Applied Theatre	20	ACT4045	Drama for Learning 1	20	ACT4046	Community Stories	20	ACT4047	Performance 1	60	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ACT5040	Professional Practice	40	ACT5041	Drama for Learning 2	20	ACT5042	Political Stories	20	ACT5043	Performance 2	40	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ACT6039	Personal Project	20	ACT6040	Drama for Learning 3	20	ACT6041	Community Project	40	ACT6042	Applied Theatre Festival	40
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12b Structure Diagram
BA (Hons) Applied Theatre (Community and Education) - Full Time

<u>Semester 1</u>		<u>Semester 2</u>
Level 4	Performance 1 60 Credits	
	Drama for Learning 20 Credits	Applied Theatre 20 Credits
	Community Stories 20 Credits	
<u>Semester 1</u>		<u>Semester 2</u>
Level 5	Professional Practice 40 Credits	
	Performance 2 40 Credits	Political Stories 20 Credits
	Drama for Learning 2 20 Credits	
<u>Semester 1</u>		<u>Semester 2</u>
Level 6	Personal Project 20 Credits	Applied Theatre Festival 40 Credits
	Drama for Learning 3 20 Credits	
	Community Project 40 Credits	

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 assessments

The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, and practical examination/performance or presentation is shown below.

Level 4

Workload

Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	378
Directed Learning	523
Private Study	299
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
In-Person Assessments [Performances/Presentations etc]	67%
Coursework [Written responses, critical reflections, etc]	33%

Level 5

Workload

Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	280
Directed Learning	665
Private Study	255
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
In-Person Assessments [Performances/Presentations etc]	35%
Coursework [Written responses, critical reflections, etc]	65%

Level 6**Workload****Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity**

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	246
Directed Learning	624
Private Study	330
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
In-Person Assessments [Performances/Presentations etc]	32%
Coursework [Written responses, critical reflections, etc]	68%