

MA Classical Acting

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Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	Bath School of Music and Performing Arts
Main campus	Newton Park
Other sites of delivery	NA
Other Schools involved in delivery	NA
Name of award(s)	Classical Acting
Qualification (final award)	MA
Intermediate awards available	PgCert, PgDip
Routes available	Single
Duration of award	1 year full time / 2 years part time
Sandwich period	NA
Modes of delivery offered	Campus-based
Regulatory Scheme[1]	Taught Postgraduate Framework
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation	NA
Date of most recent PSRB approval (month and year)	NA

Renewal of PSRB approval due (month and year)	NA
UCAS code	NA
Route code (SITS)	CACTMA
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	There is no relevant Masters benchmark statement, but the BA honours Subject Benchmark Statement for Dance, Drama and Performance (2015) has provided some context.
Date of most recent approval	September 2017
Date specification last updated	September 2017

[1] This should also be read in conjunction with the University's Qualifications Framework

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Programme Overview

MA Classical Acting offers insight into the classical drama canon. It broadly defines these as plays from Ancient Greece to the mid-20th century, commonly identified as the 'standard repertoire.' This is to avoid genres such as Mystery Plays, Melodramas, or 'Well-Made Plays,' for example, because these engage with particular stylistic elements. The aim is to look at developing acting approaches for dramatic text.

The programme is for actors at all stages of their career with a desire to work or currently working in live performance. New and early career actors acquire acting skills that enhance their understanding, creativity and delivery of classical play texts. You will develop these skills through evaluation and reflection of your own practice; expanding your artistic and market awareness by gaining insights into innovative artistic practices through a multidisciplinary approach.

MA Classical Acting sits within a collaborative model embedded in the Music and Performance postgraduate community. You can work with undergraduate and postgraduate colleagues across a range of disciplines. For example, producers, directors, actors, and Shakespeare scholars work collaboratively. Throughout the programme, modules engender a company approach to the work, learning to function as a creative ensemble.

MA Classical Acting works within the Music and Performance production house, led by its Producer. This collaborative model allows you to contribute to a vibrant and diverse artistic community offering you networking opportunities that serve your business and creative practice.

The programme offers opportunities for international students to explore new cultural markets and research perspectives in the UK. For UK students, programme content considers international perspectives on Shakespeare as well as opportunities to put that into practice. By broadening the international outreach of individual students, your work likewise broadens the international outreach of the School.

As with all of the Music and Performance Masters, this programme places you within a creative and vibrant artistic community dedicated to all aspects of music and the performing arts. Your programme therefore sits within a dynamic environment where we actively encourage you to work with other practitioners and scholars from other disciplines. You will also work with professional practitioners from a similar range of backgrounds who will bring differing perspectives to your work.

As well as teaching you how to act, the programme also prepares you for a range of career opportunities in the arts. Including, but not limited to community theatre, workshop leading, teaching, actor's agency, production and doctoral study.

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Programme Aims

Throughout the course, the curriculum aims to:

1. Provide a creative environment that integrates acting, direction and production
2. Engender an ensemble approach to work appropriate to small-scale professional theatre
3. Foster a critical understanding of the classical canon of dramatic texts
4. Detail the key movements in the development of the classical repertoire
5. Examine the relationship between interpretation of idea and the realisation of performance
6. Act as a catalyst for the development of a personal approach to acting classic text.

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Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

These ILOs reflect the level 7 descriptors of the FHEQ

A Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge

- A1 Systematic practical knowledge of the skills necessary to assess, interpret, act in and assess live performance material
- A2 Advanced understanding of how individual creative processes interact with the management, creative and technical structures that contribute to the realisation of a live production
- A3 Professional performance practice that relates current research and advanced scholarship to acting processes and classical texts
- A4 Communication that engages teams and potential stakeholders and develops professional networks with your creative, practical and evaluative ideas and strategies
- A5 Professional-level performance that demonstrates creative approaches, imagination and detail.
- A6 Industry-level confidence as a actor underscored by responsiveness to the director, company members and awareness of contemporary industry practice

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

- B1 Critical understanding of the theories and cultural landscape relevant to performance practice to enable industry-standard realisation of a classical text
- B2 Imaginative and focussed performance that draws on complex problem solving and the ability to make independent judgements and creative decisions
- B3 Retrieval, sifting and selection of information from a variety of sources with a view to applying that information in a range of creative, critical and evaluative contexts
- B4 Professional understanding of contemporary industry-level approaches to classical drama, to include but not limited to knowledge of current and historical performance practice, critical debates, concepts and dialogues relating to acting

C Skills for Life and Work

- C1 Autonomous learning (including time management) that demonstrates the exercise of initiative, personal responsibility and decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations and the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development

C2 Team working skills necessary to succeed in the global workplace, with an ability both to work in and lead teams effectively, as well as the ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level

C3 Communication skills that show the ability to communicate clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences knowledge at, or informed by, the forefront of the academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice, and the conclusions drawn from dealing with complex issues systematically

C4 IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate the ability to develop new skills to a high level and to approach complex issues systematically and creatively

Intermediate awards

PgCert Intended Learning Outcomes

A2, A4, A5, A6, B1, B2, B3, C1, C3

PgDip Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A2, A4, A5, A6, B1, B2, B3, B4, C1, C2, C3

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Programme content

This programme comprises the following modules

Key:

Core = C

Compulsory = R (ie 'required')

Optional = O

Not available for this status = N/A

If a particular status is greyed out, it is not offered for this programme.

MA CLASSICAL ACTING				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
7	PM7001	Research Methodologies & Context	30	C	
7	PM7008	Production 1: Scene Study	30	C	
7	PM7031	Professional Collaboration	30	C	
7	PM7038	Production 2: Acting in a Company	30	C	
7	PM7070	Major Project	60	C	

PGCert CLASSICAL ACTING				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
7	PM7001	Research Methodologies & Context	30	C	
7	PM7008	Production 1: Scene Study	30	C	

PGDip CLASSICAL ACTING				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
7	PM7001	Research Methodologies & Context	30	C	
7	PM7008	Production 1: Scene Study	30	C	
7	PM7031	Professional Collaboration	30	C	
7	PM7038	Production 2: Acting in Company	30	C	

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Assessment methods

A range of summative assessment tasks test the Intended Learning Outcomes in each module. These are indicated in the attached assessment map which shows which tasks are used in which modules.

You are supported in their development towards summative assessment by appropriate formative exercises.

Please note: if you choose an optional module from outside this programme, you may be required to undertake a summative assessment task that does not appear in the assessment grid here to pass that module.

Work experience and placement opportunities

At the core of this programme is a simulated work environment, you engage with the School's season of events, ranging from fringe to large-scale productions. Working in this hothouse environment provides you with a real-time work experience of the process and detail required to engage with live performance. However, no assessment activity draws on a formal work placement or work experience.

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Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates...	In Classical Acting, this means...
1	Will be employable: equipped with the skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace, able to work in and lead teams	Developing skills to identify employment opportunities and to interact with a broad range of practitioners within an acting ensemble
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change	Managing personal interaction with complex production processes that integrate artistic, practical and conceptual elements.
3	Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners	Engaging with production teams to resolve logistical problems, inform interpretive decisions across a company and use critically evaluative insight to inform the creation of performance
4	Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology	Fluency with differing communication systems and an appreciation of the impact of digital technology on a performance
5	Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of the their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas	Recognising the benefits of drawing on artistic practice and perspectives to inform personal creative responses and interaction with other actors.
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers	Being an actor

7	Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy	Reacting intelligently and fluently to multiple stakeholders, practitioners and audiences
8	Will be ethically aware: prepared for citizenship in a local, national and global context	Respecting the uniqueness that fellow company members offer, their diversity and creative insight

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Modifications

Module-level modifications

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect

Programme-level modifications

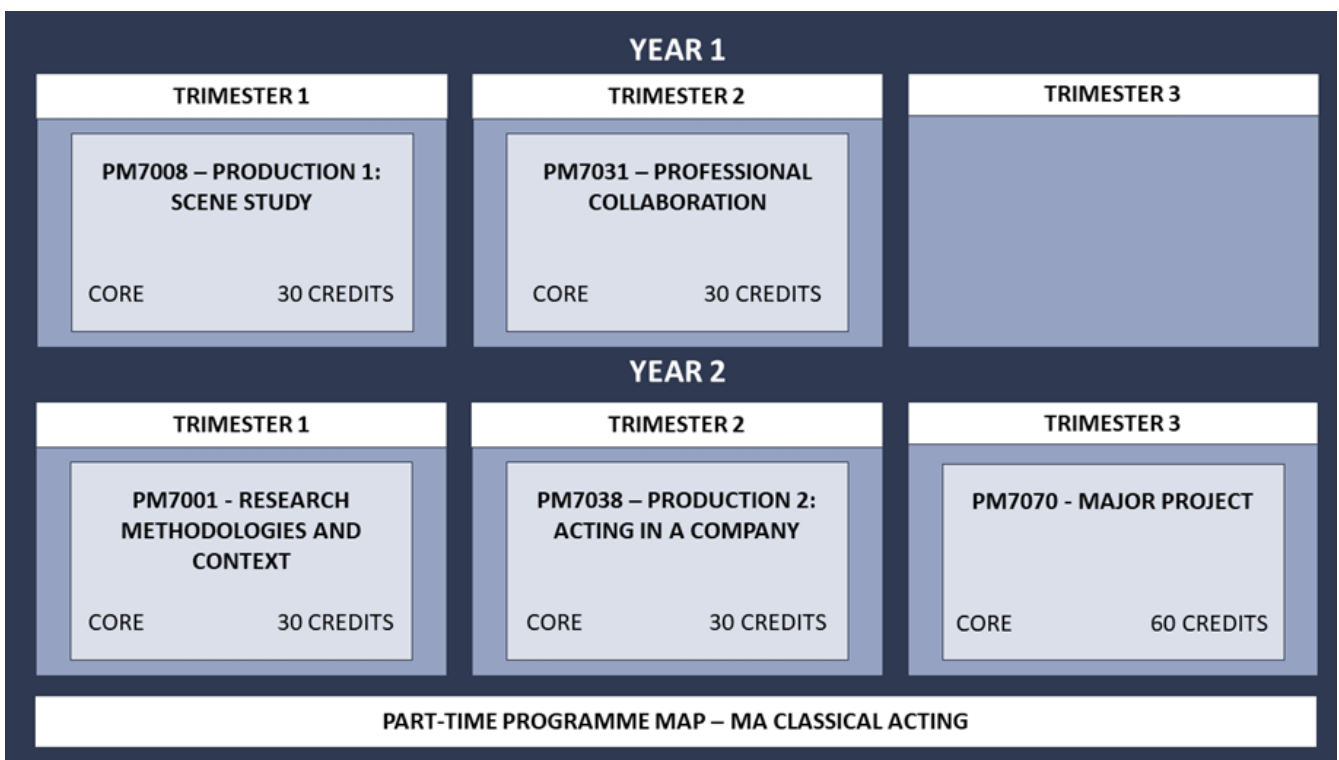
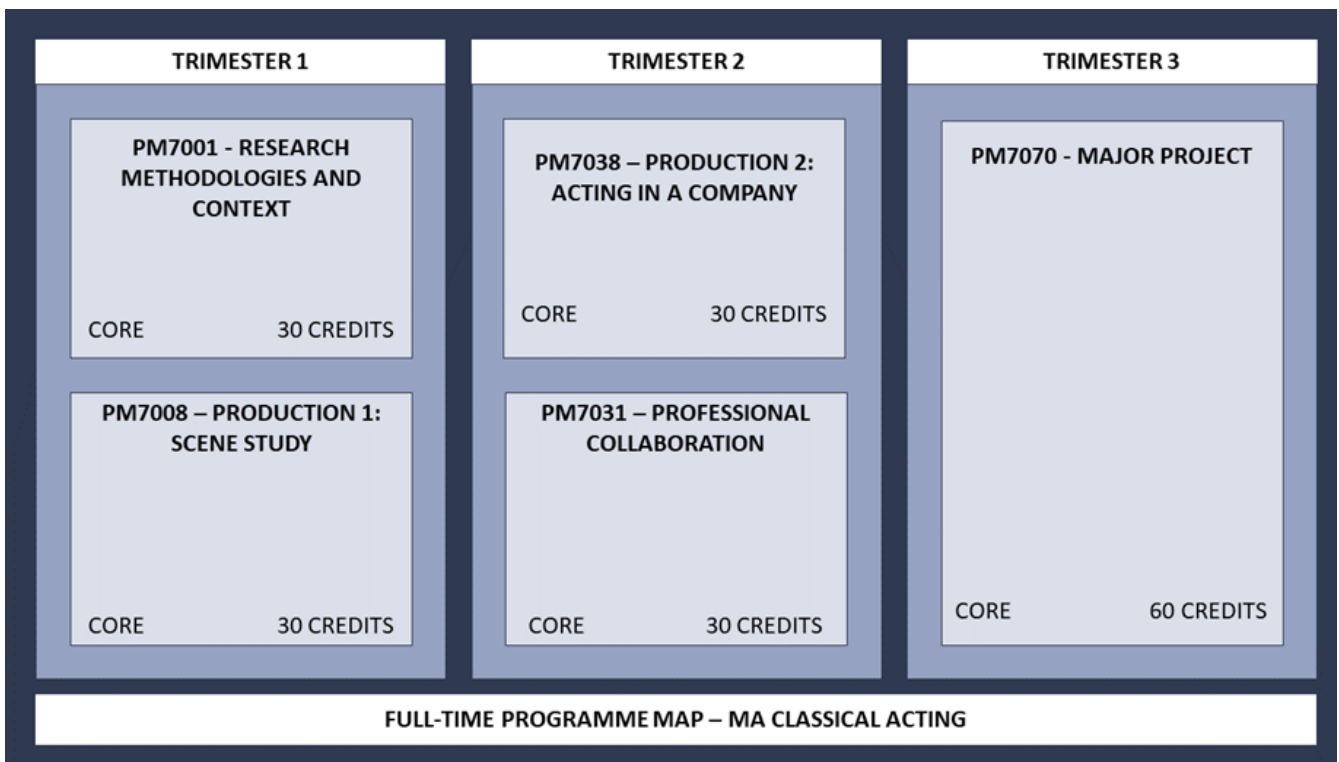
Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect

Attached as appendices:

1. Programme structure diagram
2. Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes
3. Assessment map
4. Module descriptors

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Appendix 1: Programme Structure Diagram - MA Classical Acting



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Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O)	Intended Learning Outcomes														
				Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge						Cognitive and Intellectual Skills				Skills for Life and Work				
				A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	
7	PM7001	Research Methodologies & Context	C		P		P				P	P	P		P		P	
7	PM7008	Production 1: Scene Study	C		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	
7	PM7031	Professional Collaboration	C	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
7	PM7038	Production 2: Acting in a Company	C	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
7	PM7070	Major Project	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

[2] C = Core; R = Required; O = Optional

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Appendix 3: Map of Summative Assessment Tasks by Module

Most word counts below are indicative, they often combine practical and written elements. There are no examinations in any Music and Performance MAs

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O)	Assessment method											
				Coursework					Practical						
				Composition Portfolio	Research Project	Journal / Blog	Portfolio	Evaluation commentary	Essay	Performance Recital	Practical Project	Presentation	Skills Projects		
7	PM7001	Research Methodologies and Context	C		7,500 words										
7	PM7008	Production 1: Scene Study	C							1 solo/duo 1 scene					
7	PM7031	Professional Collaboration	C								1 portfolio				
7	PM7038	Production 2: Acting in a Company	C							1 Project & 1 Viva					
7	PM7070	Major Project	C		15,000 words.										

[3] C = Core; R = Required; R* = Required*; O = Optional

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