



Definitive Programme Document

MA DIRECTING

Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	College of Liberal Arts
Department	Bath School of Music and Performance
Main campus	Newton Park
Other sites of delivery	NA
Other Schools involved in delivery	NA
Name of award(s)	Directing
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	No
Modes of delivery offered	Campus-based
Regulatory Scheme	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)	
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	
Date specification last updated	

Programme Overview

MA Directing is for theatre and live performance directors at all stages of their career, with a desire to work in or currently working in live performance. New and early career directors learn and develop skills to enhance their creative vision, artistic judgement, and leadership. You develop these skills, through evaluation and reflection on your own practice; expanding your artistic and market awareness by gaining insights into innovative artistic practices through a multidisciplinary approach.

The MA Directing sits within the collaborative model embedded in the Music and Performance postgraduate community. You work with colleagues in levels 5, 6 and 7 and across a range of disciplines. 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 Directing 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. This production work represents the ideal teaching environment for directors. You assist professional directors working on productions generated across the School and use these as a developmental process. Subsequently, you work with actors, producers etc to generate your own original directed work.

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 direct, the programme also prepares you for a range of career opportunities in the arts. Including, but not limited to workshop leading, teaching, actor's agency, production, arts administration and doctoral study.

Programme Aims

Throughout the course, the curriculum aims to:

1. To provide a creative environment that integrates direction, acting and production
2. To engender an ensemble approach to work appropriate to small-scale professional theatre
3. To foster a critical understanding of the role of the director process
4. To detail the key phases of the process of directing a production from idea to realisation
5. To examine the relationship between the director, actors and producer
6. To act as a catalyst for the development of live performance work.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

These ILOs reflect the level 7 descriptors of the FHEQ

A Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge

- A1 Systemic understanding of the management structures and technical roles that contribute to directing a production
- A2 Systematic practical knowledge of the skills necessary to assess, interpret, direct and assess live performance material
- A3 Professional-level direction that draws on current research and advanced scholarship
- A4 Communication that engages teams and potential stakeholders and develops professional networks with your creative, practical and evaluative ideas and strategies
- A5 Professional-level direction that demonstrates creative approaches, imagination and detail.
- A6 Industry-level confidence as a director underscored by responsiveness to company members and awareness of contemporary industry practice

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

- B1 Critical understanding of the theories and cultural landscape relevant to directorial practice to enable advanced scholarship.
- B2 Imaginative and focussed direction 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 the contemporary theatre/live performance industry, to include but not limited to knowledge of current and historical directorial practice, critical debates, concepts and dialogues relating to theatre direction

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, B4, C1, C3

PgDip Intended Learning Outcomes

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

Programme content

This programme comprises the following modules

Key:

Core = C

Compulsory = R (ie 'required')

Optional = O

MA DIRECTING				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
7	PM7001	Research Methodologies & Context	30	C	
7	PM7010	Production 1: Directing Actors	30	C	
7	PM7031	Professional Collaboration	30	C	
7	PM7037	Production 2: Directing a Company	30	C	
7	PM7070	Major Project	60	C	

PGCert DIRECTING				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
7	PM7001	Research Methodologies & Context	30	C	
7	PM7010	Production 1: Directing Actors	30	C	

PGDip DIRECTING				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
7	PM7001	Research Methodologies & Context	30	C	
7	PM7010	Production 1: Directing Actors	30	C	
7	PM7031	Professional Collaboration	30	C	
7	PM7037	Production 2: Directing a Company	30	C	

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.

Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates...	In Directing, 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 lead and interact with a broad range of practitioners and stakeholders
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change	Managing 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	Leading a production team by resolving logistical problems, informing interpretive decisions across a company and using critically evaluative insight to inform the creation of an artistic vision
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 the development of artistic output
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 international creative talent, artistic practice and perspectives
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers	Being a director
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 company members offer, their diversity and creative insight

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

TRIMESTER 1

**PM7001 - RESEARCH
METHODOLOGIES AND
CONTEXT**

CORE 30 CREDITS

**PM7008 – PRODUCTION 1:
SCENE STUDY**

CORE 30 CREDITS

TRIMESTER 2

**PM7037 – PRODUCTION 2:
DIRECTING A COMPANY**

CORE 30 CREDITS

**PM7031 – PROFESSIONAL
COLLABORATION**

CORE 30 CREDITS

TRIMESTER 3

PM7070 - MAJOR PROJECT

CORE 60 CREDITS

FULL-TIME PROGRAMME MAP – MA DIRECTING

YEAR 1

TRIMESTER 1

**PM7008 – PRODUCTION 1:
SCENE STUDY**

CORE 30 CREDITS

TRIMESTER 2

**PM7031 – PROFESSIONAL
COLLABORATION**

CORE 30 CREDITS

TRIMESTER 3

YEAR 2

TRIMESTER 1

**PM7001 - RESEARCH
METHODOLOGIES AND
CONTEXT**

CORE 30 CREDITS

TRIMESTER 2

**PM7037 – PRODUCTION 2:
DIRECTING A COMPANY**

CORE 30 CREDITS

TRIMESTER 3

PM7070 - MAJOR PROJECT

CORE 60 CREDITS

PART-TIME PROGRAMME MAP – MA DIRECTING

Map of Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) against modules

MA DIRECTING



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	C		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	

		& Context															
7	PM7010	Production 1: Directing Actors	C		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
7	PM7031	Professional Collaboration	C	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	PM7037	Production 2: Directing a Company	C	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	PM7070	Major Project	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓



Map of summative assessment tasks by module
MA DIRECTING

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	PM7010	Production 1: Directing Actors	C							1 solo/duo 1 scene				
7	PM7031	Professional Collaboration	C								1 portfolio			
7	PM7037	Production 2: Directing a Company	C							1 Project & 1 Viva				
7	PM7070	Major Project	C		15,000 words.									