Definitive Programme Document: Acting for Screen

(Bachelor's with Honours)

Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bristol School of Acting (boomsatsuma)
School	Bath School of Music and Performing Arts
Main campus	Bristol School of Acting, Silver St Bristol
Other sites of delivery	The Bottle Yard Studios, Bristol
Other Schools involved in delivery	None
Name of award(s)	Acting for Screen
Qualification (final award)	BA (Hons)
Intermediate awards available	CertHE, DipHE
Routes available	Single Honours
Professional Placement year	N/A
Duration of award	3 years
Modes of delivery offered	Campus-based
Regulatory Scheme[1]	Undergraduate Academic Framework
Exemptions from regulations/framework[2]	Yes
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation	N/A
Date of most recent PSRB approval (month and year)	N/A
Renewal of PSRB approval due (month and year)	N/A
UCAS code	W410
Route code (SITS)	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	Dance, Drama and Performance (2019)
Date of most recent approval	July 2021
Date specification last updated	July 2021

Exemptions

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

[2] See section on 'Exemptions'

The following exemptions are in place:

Programme/Pathway	Regulations/Framework	Brief description of variance	Approving body and date
BA (Hons) Acting for Screen	Undergraduate Academic Framework	Exemption requested to depart from Framework paragraphs 1.4 and 1.8	Curriculum Committee, 16 December 2020

Programme Overview

BA (Hons) Acting for Screen trains you to be an imaginative, technically skilful and employable actor. The programme has strong industry connections and is, in part, based at The Bottle Yard Film and TV Studios where you can gain experience of industry level practice and practitioners. You also work with boomsatsuma BA Games Art students, allowing you to experience leading edge VR techniques.

The programme offers a cohesive approach in which movement, acting class and voice are fully integrated to ensure your craft is flexible enough to allow you to develop a personal process but singular enough to offer an in-depth exploration of the art of acting for screen as a specific discipline.

Level 4 introduces you to the core principles that underpin the training: the development of your voice, movement and acting skills. The course also introduces you to the history of screen acting and the techniques of preparing for a role in TV and film as well as the technical demands of the studio.

At level 5 you explore advanced acting voice and movement techniques which prepare you for the film production that takes place at level 5. You also take a module in self-scripting that engages you in finding your voice as a creative artist and creating your own stories.

Level 6 further develops your professional practice from comedy to working with new technologies including VR. You work towards appearing in a professionally produced film as well as being supported to prepare for employment with classes in self-taping, audition technique and self-marketing. A showcase screening for agents, where possible in London, supports your career progression.

The programme equips you with the essential technical and creative skills required of a working screen actor, motivated artist and independent thinker as well as the critical thinking and research skills required by postgraduate study.

Programme Aims

1. To provide a relevant, diverse and challenging programme that develops the practical and creative skills at the forefront of screen actor training
2. To develop your creative, critical, analytical and interpersonal skills as a screen actor in a range of settings and contexts
3. To foster your ability to select, refine and effectively engage appropriate skills and processes of screen acting in a range of performance genres
4. To optimise critical and analytical engagement with theoretical perspectives of performance and their application to practice through a rigorous programme of study
5. To prepare you for a career in screen acting by offering industry-focused support that complements and enhances entrepreneurship and proactive engagement with the cultural industries
6. To improve your career opportunities by developing an acute awareness of the depth and range of transferable subject specific skills applicable to fluctuating and evolving employment scenarios and lifelong learning
7. To develop your ability to assess and manage risk, health and safety and to employ ethical working practices

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

A Subject-Specific Skills and Knowledge

	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) On Achieving Level 6	On Achieving Level 5	On Achieving Level 4
A1	A critical understanding and application of the interplay between performance skills, vocabularies, structures and acting methodologies in creating a performance for screen.	A practical knowledge and understanding of the interplay between performance skills, vocabularies, structures and acting methodologies in creating a performance for screen.	A practical knowledge and understanding of the fundamental elements of a coherent personal acting for screen process
A2	A critical understanding of how key practitioners, practices and theorists of screen acting form a professional and personal acting process	The ability to critically and imaginatively extend existing acting for screen concepts and principles to a personal acting process.	A practical knowledge of how key practitioners, practices and theorists of screen acting shape and inform a personal acting process.
A3	A synthesis and application of voice and movement skills within a range of complex professional screen acting contexts that can accommodate complexity, diversity and change	A critical understanding and creative application of voice and movement skills to screen acting situations.	A practical knowledge and understanding of the key voice and movement psychology skills that underpin the study of screen acting.
A4	The acquisition of technical specialist skills, knowledge and experience in order to prepare you for employment as a screen actor or for postgraduate study	A critical understanding of the technical processes of acting for screen and how they can be used to produce a professional screen performance.	A practical knowledge of the technical processes of acting for screen and how they relate to a personal acting process
A5	A critical knowledge of both historical contexts and developments in contemporary practices relating to the screen acting industry at national and international levels	A sophisticated knowledge of historical contexts and application of contemporary practices in the screen acting industry at national and international levels	An awareness of historical contexts and contemporary practices in the screen acting industry at national and international levels

A6	Application of a professional rehearsal and performance practice when recording an acting for screen performance, independently managing risk, health and safety issues and employing ethical working practices.	A critical knowledge of the requirements of professional TV and film studio and location practice, including health and safety issues and ethical working practice.	An awareness of the requirements of professional TV and film studio practice including health and safety issues as well as the application of ethical working practices

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) On Achieving Level 6	On Achieving Level 5	On Achieving Level 4
B1	The ability to integrate creative, analytical, critical and reflective skills in order to interpret and apply core skills to an acting for screen process across a range of mediated performance scenarios.	Effectively use creative, analytical, critical and reflective skills required to interpret and apply core acting skills to an acting for screen process.	An ability to present the creative and reflective skills required to interpret and apply core acting skills to an acting for screen process.
B2	The ability to formulate, conduct and evaluate the transition from stimulus to screen performance.	Use a range of working processes and techniques to initiate and undertake independently and/or collaboratively, the transition from stimulus to screen performance	An ability to apply process-led approaches that translate stimulus into creative action.
B3	The ability to think independently and undertake systematic independent evaluation of personal practice to support a professional screen acting process.	Effectively analyse and communicate the evaluation of practice that underpins an acting for screen process	Communicate the results of working processes with structured and coherent arguments
B4	The ability to identify, propose and manage the critical application of research to inform a professional screen acting process.	Evaluate research when working independently or as a member of a group project to determine and achieve personal/and or collaborative outcomes	Work independently to research and evaluate a range of information to contribute to the development of a personal screen acting process

C Skills for Life and Work

	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) On Achieving Level 6	On Achieving Level 5	On Achieving Level 4
C1	Autonomous learning (including time management) that shows the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility and enables decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts.	Autonomous learning (including time management) as would be necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making such that significant responsibility within organisations could be assumed.	Autonomous learning (including time management) as would be necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility.
C2	Team working skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace with an ability both to work in and lead teams effectively.	Team work as would be necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making for effective work with others such that significant responsibility within organisations could be assumed.	Team work as would be necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility for effective work with others.
C3	Communication skills that ensure information, ideas, problems and solutions are communicated effectively and clearly to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.	Communication skills commensurate with the effective communication of information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences in which key techniques of the discipline are deployed effectively.	Communication skills that demonstrate an ability to communicate outcomes accurately and reliably and with structured and coherent arguments.
C4	IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate core competences and are commensurate with an ability to work at the interface of creativity and new technologies.	IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate the development of existing skills and the acquisition of new competences.	IT skills and digital literacy that provide a platform from which further training can be undertaken to enable development of new skills within a structured and managed environment.

Programme content
This programme comprises the following modules

Key:
Core = C
Required = R
Required* - R*
Optional = O
Not available for this status = N/A
If a particular status is greyed out, it is not offered for this programme.

Subject offered as single award

BA (Hons) Acting for Screen				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
4	ASC4001-20	The Instrument 1	40	C	
4	ASC4002-20	Acting 1	40	C	
4	ASC4003-20	The History of Screen Performance	20	C	
4	ASC4004-20	Production Practice 1	20	C	
5	ASC5001-20	The Instrument 2	40	C	
5	ASC5002-20	Acting 2	40	C	
5	ASC5003-20	Self-Scripting	20	C	
5	ASC5004-20	Production Practice 2	20	C	
6	ASC6001-20	Comedy	20	C	
6	ASC6002-20	The Actor in New Technologies	20	C	
6	ASC6003-20	Final Production	40	C	
6	ASC6004-20	The Professional Actor	20	C	
6	ASC6005-20	Evaluation of Practice	20	C	

Assessment methods

A range of summative assessment tasks will be used to 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.

Students will be supported in their development towards summative assessment by appropriate formative exercises and continuing feedback.

Work experience and placement opportunities

With regard to BA (Hons) Acting for Screen, it is important to note that Equity, the UK trade union for professional performers and creative practitioners, does not permit students to undertake any formal work experience or placement as a professional actor before graduation. However, the entirety of the programme has been designed to focus on engaging students in live projects that replicate the demands of the professional workplace environment. The programme's partnership with institutions such as The Bottle Yard Studios is designed to create a space for performance research and development based on an exchange between the professional artists and companies using the studios and the students training there. In addition, *boomsatsuma* provides excellent opportunities for developing your professional profile and expanding your networks via our strong existing relationships with numerous creative initiatives across the South-West.

Examples of organisations and professionals that have worked with *boomsatsuma* include:

Louise Kiely Casting	Encounters Film Festival	BBC Films	Into Film	Films@59	Blak Wave Productions
Bottle Yard Studios	Charlie Cox – film actor	Sam Thomas – producer Bron Studios	Channel 4 Films	Debbie O'Brien – casting director	Lindy King-agent

Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates…	In BA (Hons) Acting for Screen, we enable this…
1	Will be employable: equipped with the skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace, able to work in and lead teams	By engaging you in independent individual and collaborative projects, which will involve leading teams and being part of a team. The range of projects and collaborations involved expose you to diverse work-based scenarios and contexts for team building.
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change	By your understanding and ability to take responsibility for complex scheduling and your ability to respond imaginatively to the diverse demands required of the actor-interpreter and actor-creator in a range of settings and contexts.
3	Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners	By developing your understanding and ability to work imaginatively and resourcefully across a range of professional and artistic processes. In level 6 you will collaborate with industry professionals and students from other courses. You will identify ways in which your creativity must serve a wider audience and solve the questions that any creative process presents.
4	Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology	Our curriculum includes regular and diverse interaction with digital technology that develops skills and nuanced understanding of the digital literacy skills that are required to conduct the activities (writing scientific papers, creating multimedia presentations, online discussion). As a BA (Hons) Acting for Screen student you will engage with online teaching tools (online voice skills) recorded media (acting for camera) and be conversant with the latest online resources for emerging industry-specific digital platforms (social media profile, online casting, self-taping).

5	Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas	By encouraging you to take opportunities to study abroad (BSU's Global Citizenship Award). Importantly, BA (Hons) Acting for Screen's curriculum draws on European and global acting practices, theories and techniques and emerging international partnerships offer you access to creative intercultural projects. In this way, we seek to ensure that on graduating from BA (Hons) Acting for Screen, you are culturally aware and able network and work with communities in the UK, Europe and worldwide.
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers	By encouraging you to solve complex assignments independently and imaginatively throughout the course and to critically reflect on your practice.
7	Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy	By encouraging you to solve the questions that the creative process presents and to articulate your findings, through essays, presentations and in-class dialogue.
8	Will be ethically aware: prepared for citizenship in a local, national and global context	On graduating, you will have the ability to apply your subject knowledge and understanding across cultural divisions, with practitioners and colleagues who offer global perspectives. Importantly, you will develop the transferable skills to address familiar and unfamiliar challenges as well as appreciating the need for ethical standards and professional codes of conduct. These aspects are covered within modules and are assessed.

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

Appendix 1: Programme Structure diagram - BA (Hons) Acting for Screen Single Honours

Year-long delivery
Level 4 (take 120 credits core modules only)
ASC4001-20 The Instrument 1 - 1 x 40 credits **(C)**
ASC4002-20 Acting 1 - 1 x 40 credits **(C)**
ASC4003-20 History of Screen Performance - 1x 20 credits **(C)**
ASC4004-20 Production Practice 1 - 1 x 20 credits **(C)**
Level 5 (take 120 credits core modules only)
ASC5001-20 The Instrument 2 - 1 x 40 credits **(C)**
ASC5002-20 Acting 2 - 1 x 40 credits **(C)**
ASC5003-20 Self -Scripting - 1 x 20 credits **(C)**
ASC5004-20 Production Practice 2 - 1 x 20 credits **(C)**
Level 6 (take 120 credits core modules only)
ASC6001-20 Comedy - 1 x 20 credits **(C)**
ASC6002-20 The Actor in New Technologies - 1 x 20 credits **(C)**
ASC6003-20 Final Production - 1 x 40 credits **(C)**
ASC6004-20 The Professional Actor - 1 x 20 credits **(C)**
ASC6005-20 Evaluation of Practice - 1 x 20 credits **(C)**

Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) against modules

BA (Hons) Acting for Screen

Level	Module Code	Module Title	C,R 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
4	ASC4 001-20	The Instrument 1	C	X	X	X					X			X			
4	ASC4 002-20	Acting 1	C	X	X		X			X	X				X	X	
4	ASC4 003-20	The History of Screen Performance	C		X			X				X	X	X		X	X
4	ASC4 004-20	Production Practice 1	C	X		X	X		X	X	X			X	X		

Level	Code	Title	Status													
5	ASC5 001-20	The Instrument 2	C	X	X	X				X			X	X		
5	ASC5 002-20	Acting 2	C	X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X		
5	ASC5 003-20	Self -Scripting	C				X	X	X	X		X	X			X
5	ASC5 004-20	Production Practice 2	C	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X		
6	ASC6 001-20	Comedy	C	X	X	X			X	X			X			
6	ASC6 002-20	The Actor in New Technologies	C				X		X	X			X			X
6	ASC6 003-20	Final Production	C	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X		
6	ASC6 004-20	The Professional Actor	C				X	X	X			X	X	X		X
6	ASC6 005-20	Evaluation of Practice	C		X		X	X				X	X	X	X	

Appendix 3: Map of summative assessment tasks by module

BA (Hons) Acting for Screen

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status C,R,R*, O	Assessment method													
				Coursework							Practical			Written Examination		
				Composition Portfolio	Research Project	Journal / Blog	Portfolio/profile	Project/Development Plan	Evaluation	Essay	Performance	Practical project	Presentation	Skills Project	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)
4	ASC4001-20	The Instrument 1	C					1x						1x			
4	ASC4002-20	Acting 1	C									1x		1x			

4	ASC4003-20	The History of Screen Performance	C							1x									
4	ASC4004-20	Production Practice 1	C				1x				1x								
5	ASC5001-20	The Instrument 2	C					1x					1x						
5	ASC5002-20	Acting 2	C				1x				1x								
5	ASC5003-20	Self-Scripting	C								1x	1x							
5	ASC5004-20	Production Practice 2	C								1x								
6	ASC6001-20	Comedy	C								1x								
6	ASC6002-20	The Actor in New Technologies	C								1x								
6	ASC6003-20	Final Production	C								1x								

| 6 | ASC6004-20 | The Professional Actor | C | | | | | 1x | | | 1x | | | | | |
| 6 | ASC6005-20 | Evaluation of Practice | C | | | | | 1x | | | | | | | | |