MA Performance (Pathways)

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	Oldfield Park Theatre Workshop
Other Schools involved in delivery	The Scottish Institute of Theatre, Dance, Film and Television
Name of award(s)	Performance (Acting)
	Performance (Directing)
	Performance (Creative Producing)
	Performance (Music)
	Performance (Theatre Making)
	Performance (Dance and Choreography)
Qualification (final award)	MA
Intermediate awards available	PgCert, PgDip Performance
Routes available	Single
Duration of award	1 year full time, 2 years part-time
Professional Placement Year	No

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	
Route code (SITS)	MA Performance (Acting) - ACTMA MA Performance (Directing) - PRDIRMA MA Performance (Creative Producing) - PFCPMA MA Performance (Music) - PFMUMA MA Performance (Theatre Making) - MA Performance (Dance and Choreography) -
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	Not applicable for masters study in this area
Date of most recent approval	June 2023
Date specification last updated	June 2024

[1]This should also be read in conjunction with the BSU Qualifications Credit Framework

Programme Overview

If you want to develop your skills to work in the creative industry as performers or musicians, creative producers, directors or choreographers then this programme, with a performing arts company at its core, is ideal for you. It brings together creatives who can use each other's skills to develop new work.

Actors and singers develop key skills and learn from each other. They work with directors, choreographers, conductors and instrumentalists, who in turn work with creative producers to develop their work and ideas. Each year, the MA Performance course becomes a company of unique talents that are individually and collectively developed.

The first trimester focuses on your individual development as a creative, so acting lessons for the actors and the singers, music lessons for the musicians, and individual approaches for the creative producers, directors and choreographers.

Throughout the first two trimesters you hone your skills and place your work within contemporary critical frameworks, helping you to develop your thinking as a masters level student. You develop your specific skills set but also share common strands of performance practice. Nobody learns in isolation and no performance is created alone.

The second semester explores notions of collaborative practice, whether that is as a performer working in a company or music ensemble, or leading the process as a conductor, director or creative producer.

In your third semester you undertake a major project, working with your contacts on the course and beyond to create new work. That could be a recital or a performance, you could produce, choreograph or direct. This programme allows you to develop projects or placements to help you move into the professional world of performance.

Programme Aims

1. Foster a detailed understanding of working as a practitioner in the performing arts industry
2. Provide a creative environment to explore the various components of performance
3. Engender an ensemble approach to work appropriate to small-scale professional performance
4. Foster a critical understanding of the professional and academic context surrounding performance
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 work within the performing arts industry.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

(NB These ILOs are at level 7 of the FHEQ)

A Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge

A1 Systematically understand the processes and roles that surround and inform performance, such as actors or musicians, creative producers or directors.

A2 Utilise experiential and self-evaluative processes when performing or creating work for performance.

A3 Apply systematic practical knowledge of the skills necessary to assess and interpret performance material in line with industry expectations.

A4 Undertake comprehensive research and advanced scholarship techniques.

A5 Communicate in a way that engages teams and potential stakeholders and develops professional networks with your original, creative, practical and evaluative ideas and strategies.

A6 Apply astute industry-recognised strategies to enable confident performance at an advanced level.

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

B1 Critically understand the theories and cultural landscape of the contemporary performing arts industry.

B2 Utilise imaginative and focussed approaches to complex problem solving that draws on independent judgements and creative decisions

B3 Retrieve, sift and select information from a variety of sources with a view to applying that information in a range of creative, critical and evaluative contexts

B4 Demonstrate an acute awareness of techniques and/or practices that underpin your contribution to performance work.

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

A1, A2, A3, B2, C2, C3, C4 .

PgDip Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, B1, B2, B4, C2, C3, C4

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 with pathways

MA Performance (Pathways)

MA Performance				
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Status
7	PER7001-30	Professional Practice	30	C
7	PER7002-30	Skills Portfolio	30	C
7	PER7003-30	Performance Practices	30	C
7	PER7004-30	Professional Collaboration	30	C

Pathways - Bath Spa University				
7	PER7005-60	Major Project (Acting)	60	R
7	PER7006-60	Major Project (Creative Producing)	60	R
7	PER7007-60	Major Project (Directing)	60	R
7	PER7008-60	Major Project (Music)	60	R
Pathways - The Scottish Institute of Theatre, Dance, Film and Television				
7	PER7009-60	Major Project (Theatre Making)	60	R
7	PER7010-60	Major Project (Dance and Choreography)	60	R
N.B. Students are Required to choose one major project, which determines the Pathway.				

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.

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 in order to pass that module.

Work experience and placement opportunities

Given union restrictions for performers taking placements in professional performance settings, it is not possible to offer placements directly related to the degree subject. However, where possible students are encouraged to utilise placement opportunities to support their learning, and the programme also simulates a work environment through Bath Spa Productions. This programme runs alongside BSP as a production house, engaging students in a range of professionally focused projects led by industry professionals.

Table of Additional Costs

Module Code & Title	Type of Cost	Cost

Graduate Attributes

Bath Spa Graduates…	In Performance, this means…
Will be employable: equipped with the skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace, able to work in and lead teams	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.
Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change	Your understanding and ability to take responsibility for complex scheduling and your ability to respond imaginatively to the diverse demands required of practitioners in a range of settings and contexts.
Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners	Developing your understanding and ability to work imaginatively and resourcefully across a range of professional and artistic processes. Your focus on and collaboration with industry professionals and students from other courses will aid you in this respect, and throughout your course your creativity must serve a wider audience and solve the questions that any creative process presents.
Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology	Modules include regular and diverse interaction with digital technologies that develop your 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 masters student you will engage with online teaching tools, recorded media and be conversant with the latest online resources for emerging industry-specific digital platforms (social media profile, online self-promotion, etc.).
Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of the their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas	The programme draws on European and global practices, theories and techniques. You will study with colleagues from around the world all of which enables you to be culturally aware, supporting your ability to network and work with communities in the UK, Europe and worldwide.
Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers	Encouraging you to solve complex assignments independently and imaginatively throughout the course and to critically reflect on your practice.
Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy	Encouraging you to solve the questions that the creative process presents and to articulate your findings through your assessments.
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 – MA Performance (Pathways)

Full-Time			Part-Time		
Trimester 1	**Trimester 2**	**Trimester 3**	**Trimester 1**	**Trimester 2**	**Trimester3**
Core Modules			**Core Modules**		
Year 1					
PER7001-30 Professional Practice	PER7004-30 Professional Collaboration		PER7002-30 Skills Portfolio		
			PER7003-30 Performance Practices		
PER7002-30 Skills Portfolio			**Year 2**		
PER7003-30 Performance Practices					
			PER7001-30 Professional Practice	PER7004-30 Professional Collaboration	
Required Modules (Bath Spa University)			**Required Modules (Bath Spa University)**		
		PER7005-60 Major Project (Acting)			PER7005-60 Major Project (Acting)
		PER7006-60 Major Project (Creative Producing)			PER7006-60 Major Project (Creative Producing)
		PER7007-60 Major Project (Directing)			PER7007-60 Major Project (Directing)
		PER7008-60 Major Project (Music)			PER7008-60 Major Project (Music)
Required Modules (The Scottish Institute)			**Required Modules (The Scottish Institute)**		
		PER7009-60 Major Project (Theatre Making)			PER7009-60 Major Project (Theatre Making)
		PER7010-60 Major Project (Dance and Choreography)			PER7010-60 Major Project (Dance and Choreography)
Rule Notes: Students choose 1 x Required module to determine their pathway.					

Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes - MA Performance (Pathways)

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,R*,O)[1]	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	PER7001-30	Professional Practice	C	X	X						X			X	X		
7	PER7002-30	Skills Portfolio	C		X	X							X	X			
7	PER7003-30	Performance Practices	C				X	X	X						X		
7	PER7004-30	Professional Collaboration	C			X	X					X	X	X		X	X
7	PER7005-60	Major Project (Acting)	R	X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
7	PER7006-60	Major Project (Creative Producing)	R	X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
7	PER7007-60	Major Project (Directing)	R	X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
7	PER7008-60	Major Project (Music)	R	X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
7	PER7009-60	Major Project (Theatre Making)	R	X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
7	PER7010-60	Major Project (Dance and Choreography)	R	X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X

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

Appendix 3: Map of Summative Assessment Tasks by Module - MA Performance (Pathways)

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C, R,R*,O)[1]	Course Work		Practical					Written Examination		
				Final Project	Research Project	Skills Portfolio	Collaborative Project	Portfolio	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)
7	PER7001-30	Professional Practice	C					X					
7	PER7002-30	Skills Portfolio	C			X							
7	PER7003-30	Performance Practices	C				X						
7	PER7004-30	Professional Collaboration	C	X									
7	PER7005-60	Major Project (Acting)	R	X									
7	PER7006-60	Major Project (Creative Producing)	R	X									
7	PER7007-60	Major Project (Directing)	R	X									
7	PER7008-60	Major Project (Music)	R	X									
7	PER7009-60	Major Project (Theatre Making)	R	X									
7	PER7010-60	Major Project (Dance and Choreography)	R	X									

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