

**BA (Hons) Design for Performance**

Apply Through: UCAS  
Institution Code: R86  
Course Code: W460

This course overview provides a summary of the BA (Hons) Design for Performance programme as offered from September 2019. Please note that whilst the information reflects the programme offered to date, it may be subject to amendment and change in future years. Students are always consulted on such change and details are made available to applicants holding offers. Each year of the course is worth 120 credits. In order to progress through each year students will have to pass all modules

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Historical & Contextual Studies 20 credits	Historical & Contextual Studies 20 credits	Historical & Contextual Studies 20 credits
Technical Skills 20 credits	Technical Skills 20 credits	Specialist Study 20 credits
Foundation of Set Design 20 credits	Specialist Study 20 credits	Productions 20 credits
Foundations of Costume 20 credits	Productions 60 credits	Industry Practice & Final Exhibition 60 credits
Group Project 20 credits		
Individual Design Project 1 10 credits		
Individual Design Project 2 10 credits		

**Year One**

**Historical & Contextual Studies**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Group Seminar (30%), Written Assessment (70%)

Students will be introduced to a methodology of research directly related to their main areas of study. Through a series of lectures, seminars and independent study, the student is introduced to a chronological framework of some of the fundamental historical and contextual developments relating to the history of Theatre and Performance, Art, Architecture and Costume. With tutorial support, the student makes a presentation of related research in the form of a group seminar and a 2500-word essay. Throughout Year One students compile a record of their progress in their Professional Development Profile (PDP).

**Technical Skills**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Pass/Fail

Through this module, students will be introduced to the technical processes relating to design and design realisation. During these largely studio and workshop-based sessions, knowledge and skills will be introduced and developed through a series of lecture demonstrations and practical projects. Running in support of project work throughout Year One, this module introduces the basic elements of model making, technical drawing, scene painting and costume construction, and provides the student with the skills required to support the design process.

### Foundations of Set Design

Credits: 20

Assessment: Individual Project Work (100%)

Students will be given a structured introduction to the theoretical and professional processes relating to designing set for theatre. The components of this module provide the student with the basic knowledge and understanding required to advance to the project and production based modules. During these largely studio based sessions, knowledge and theoretical design skills will be introduced, developed and assessed through a series of lecture demonstrations, masterclasses, educational visits and practical projects. Beyond the theory and skills related to designing set for theatre, this module introduces the student to the processes related to all subsequent design. It is a vital module in laying the foundations for research for design, and the process of transferring research through practical design development into finished designs.

### Foundations of Costume Design

Credits: 20

Assessment: Individual Project Work (100%)

Student will be given a structured introduction to the theoretical and professional processes relating to costume design and costume design realisation for performance. The components of this module provide the student with the basic knowledge and understanding required to advance to the project and production based modules. During these largely studio based sessions, knowledge and theoretical design skills will be introduced, developed and assessed, through a series of lecture demonstrations, masterclasses, educational visits and practical projects.

### Individual Design Project 1

Credits: 10

Assessment: Research Development (75%), Final Design (25%)

Through this module, students will be able to apply the skills acquired through the Technical Studies module and the principles of design acquired through the Foundations of Design module to a conceptual, individual design project, working with a tutor taking the role of director, e.g. designing set and costumes for a classic text in a given venue

- Study of relevant text
- Research and design development
- Construction of 1:25 scale model box of the given venue
- Completed scale model design for set.
- Costume designs sketches

The emphasis will be on the student's ability to respond to a set of deadlines and set tutorials, representing the director/designers working process.

### Individual Design Project 2

Credits: 10

Assessment: Research Development and Design Folio (100%)

This module provides the student with the opportunity to apply the skills acquired through Technical Studies and the principals of design acquired through Foundations of Design to a flexible project that will be designed to suit the group's dynamics.

The students work individually within a smaller group to produce character development and performance proposals to a specially commissioned text and location. The project includes developmental puppet maquettes and an exploration of puppetry techniques and concludes with portfolio presentation.

### Group Project

Credits: 20

Assessment: Research Development & Design (50%), Group Presentation (50%)

Through this module, students will be able to apply the skills acquired through the Technical Studies module, and the principles of design acquired through the Foundations of Costume Design module to a group design project. In response to a given piece of text, music or art and with tutorial support the student will work as a part of a team to create characters to perform a fashion show.

The student is also introduced to collaborative work with students from a related discipline: Stage Management.

## Year Two

### Historical & Contextual Studies

Credits: 20

Assessment: Seminar (25%), Written Assessments (75%), Statement of Intent (Pass/Fail)

Following on from Year One through a series of lectures on late 19th, 20th & 21st Century Theatre, Performance, Art & Architecture, this module is designed to develop the student's research methods and introduce specific contextual and theoretical developments in this area of study. Each lecture series will present a detailed analysis of the subject matter and its social and historical background, and with tutorial support and independent study the student will produce a seminar and essay on an area of study.

In addition, each student will construct a reflective report on their experiences in Year One and aspirations for Year Two. This will form the core of the PDP.

A statement of intent on completion of Year Two will provide the basis for negotiated pathways of research to continue through Year Three.

### Technical Skills

Credits: 20

Assessment: Pass/Fail

This module provides the student with advanced technical processes relating to the student's area of study and gives the opportunity to further refine key study skills. During these largely studio and workshop-based sessions, knowledge and skills will be developed and refined through a series of lecture demonstrations and practical workshops. The module introduces advanced skills relating to the student's area of specialist study, model making, technical drawing, computer generated design, props making, scene painting or costume cutting and construction.

As an ongoing support to the student's skills a Sketchbook Journal will be compiled and assessed at the end of each term. The Sketchbook Journal will form a visual compliment to the PDP.

### Specialist Study

Credits: 20

Assessment: Practical Assignments (100%)

Student will be able to develop and further refine key study skills acquired in Year One. The content will vary to suit the need of the individual but essentially the student will be offered a choice between specialist studies in set or costume skills.

#### **For example:**

- Costume Re-construction
- Design for Opera
- Design for Found Spaces (Known as the New Writing Project or Write:Design)
- Studio Theatre Project

### Productions

Credits: 60

Assessment: Aptitude in Relationship to Specialist Area (25%), Effective Application of Practical & Creative Skills (25%), Attitude in Participation of Team Work (25%), Final Product (25%)

Following on from Year One, this module provides the student with the opportunity to apply the skills they have learnt in the context of practical creative work. As a member of a team on college productions, or on a negotiated professional placement, students will work in roles relevant to their area of specialist study with tutorial support from a supervisor relevant to their area of study e.g. design assistance / scenic art / prop making / costume construction/ millinery.

One of these projects/productions may be substituted as part of an International Exchange Programme.

## Year Three

### Historical & Contextual Studies

Credits: 20

Assessment: Reflective Report (20%), Dissertation (80%)

Developing on skills learnt in the previous two years, this module is designed to enable students to continue to build their reflective, analytical and critical facilities through a number of set tasks using a variety of presentation methods.

Students will present at the outset of Year Three an analytical reflective report reviewing experiences at Year Two and aspirations for Year Three.

With tutorial support, the submission of the major research project is in fixed stages, guiding the student through to the production of a significant body of research.

### Specialist Study

Credits: 20

Assessment: Practical Assignments (100%)

Students are able to choose a practical project suited to their own area of specialist study. The project will be designed by the student, with the student working to a negotiated brief with tutorial support.

### Productions

Credits: 20

Assessment: Aptitude in Relationship to Specialist Area (25%), Effective Application of Practical & Creative Skills (25%), Attitude in Participation of Team Work (25%), Final Product (25%)

This module provides the student with the opportunity to apply acquired skills in the context of practical creative work as a senior member of a team on College productions, working in roles relevant to his/her area of specialist study with tutorial support.

### Industry Practice & Final Exhibition

Credits: 60

Assessment: Exhibition (100%)

Students present in an exhibition a collection of their practical and project work collated and refined over their three years. In the process of selection and the presentation of work students are further afforded the opportunity to display both evaluative and aesthetic skills and to provide a showcase to future employers.

Students will also be provided with an introduction to some of the essential practices for approaching life and work in the professional domain in their chosen field of study through a series of group workshops, lectures and tutorials dealing with curriculum vitae construction, business correspondence, portfolio presentation and an introduction to accountancy/book-keeping. These will form the final stages of the PDP.