

Apply Through: UCAS Conservatoires
Institution Code: R86
Course Code: RW02

This course overview provides a summary of the BA Hons Musical Theatre programme as offered from September 2021. 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 changes 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
Singing 1 30 credits	Singing 2 30 credits	Bridge Project 20 credits
Acting 1 20 credits	Acting 2 20 credits	Public Performance 1 40 credits
Dance 1 30 credits	Dance and Movement 2 30 credits	Public Performance 2 40 credits
Voice, Speech and Text 1 10 credits	Voice, Speech and Text 2 10 credits	Professional and Creative Studies 20 credits
Professional Contexts 1 10 credits	Professional Contexts 2 10 credits	
Creative Processes 1 10 credits	Creative Processes 2 10 credits	
Integrated Process 1 10 credits	Integrated Process 2 10 credits	

Year One

Singing 1

Credits: 30

Assessment: Practical Assessment (50%), Report (40%), Class Test (10%)

Component One: Technique and Repertoire.

A series of individual tutorials and group seminars which concentrate on developing a secure singing technique through both practical exercises and repertoire, and the examination of the physiological and stylistic aspects of vocal production. The student will be equipped to continue their own professional development through independent identification and application of best practice and innovative methodologies across a variety of repertoire styles for Musical Theatre.

Component Two: Acting through Song 1

Through this project, students will develop skills in exploiting the expressive and narrative potential of song whilst remaining faithful to the key acting imperatives relating to character ownership and relationships.

Component Three: Musicianship

A series of practical classes which will facilitate students' understanding of music theory and interpretation of musical scores and texts.

Acting 1

Credits: 20

Assessment: Report 1 (50%), Report 2 (50%)

Component One: Improvisation

Practical classes, workshops and rehearsals create a working environment through which the actor investigates the challenges, opportunities and imperatives offered through improvised and spontaneous performance.

Component Two: Text and Rehearsal

Practical classes, workshops and rehearsals create a working environment through which the actor investigates the challenges, opportunities and imperatives of a given text or texts, with particular emphasis on character development and relationships

Dance 1

Credits: 30

Assessment: Practical Assessment 1 (50%), Practical Assessment 2 (50%)

Component 1: Jazz

Practical classes in core musical theatre Jazz Technique and Repertoire, to include more recent jazz forms such as Street Dance and Commercial

Component 2: Ballet

Practical classes in Ballet technique and vocabulary

Component 3: Tap

Practical classes in Tap technique and vocabulary

Component 4: Actor's Movement

The variant forms of Dance and Movement covered within the module will be assessed formatively through classes together with Practical Assessments in Jazz and Ballet.

Voice, Speech and Text 1

Credits: 10

Assessment: Practical Assessment 1 (40%), Practical Assessment 2 (60%)

A series of practical classes and tutorials establishing a thorough introduction to voice and text work. It will establish healthy and effective vocal use – particularly with reference to breath, resonance and diction. This is explored and applied through work on a variety of texts, the main focus of which is to explore, appreciate and enjoy language.

Professional Contexts 1

Credits: 10

Assessment: Practical Assessment (50%), Self-Reflective Writing (50%)

Component One: Contextual Studies

A series of seminars will explore key developments in musical theatre history and repertoire; as well as a number of theatre practitioners and theorists whose work has significantly changed existing forms, conventions and stylistic practices

Component Two: Professional Studies

A series of practical classes and workshops on rehearsal practices and audition techniques for the musical theatre industry.

Students will establish a Professional Practice Portfolio which will offer an opportunity for students to examine their developing progress and creative contribution to their work via engagement with a critical, reflective and evaluative process.

Assessment of this component will be made formatively, as well as via a Mock Audition process and submission of the Professional Practice Portfolio.

Creative Processes 1

Credits: 10

Assessment: Creative Performance (75%), Self-reflective document (25%)

A series of seminars, practical classes and workshops, where the process of making new work for musical theatre is discovered. The process may employ a range of collaborative devising, composing, and writing sessions.

Students undertake research, rehearsal and production of a self-generated performance drawing on skills developed across the course, culminating in a performance of no less than 10 minutes in front of an internal audience.

Assessment will be made on the basis of contribution to the Creative Process together with the submission of a work in a progress notebook.

Integrated Process 1

Credits: 10

Assessment: Report 1 (by 3rd party) (40%), Report 2 (by 3rd party) (40%), Self-reflective Writing (20%)

Component 1: Song and Dance

Students will research, rehearse and perform extracts of ensemble material drawn from a variety of musical theatre repertoire; through which they will discover the vital relationships and practical challenges of integrated physical and sung performance for Musical Theatre

Component 2: Medley

Students will research, rehearse and perform a short medley of Musical Theatre repertoire drawn from one work, through which they will further explore the vital relationships and practical challenges of integrated physical and sung performance.

Year Two

Singing 2

Credits: 30

Assessment: Practical Assessment (40%), Report (60%)

Component One: Technique and Repertoire

A further series of individual tutorials which concentrate on developing a secure singing technique through both practical exercises and repertoire. Critically, the student will be equipped to continue their own professional development through independent identification, evaluation and application of best practice and innovative methodologies.

Component Two: Acting Through Song Project 2

Through this project, students will develop advanced skills in exploiting the expressive and narrative potential of song whilst remaining faithful to the key acting imperatives relating to character ownership and relationships.

Acting 2

Credits: 20

Assessment: Report (50%), Report (50%)

Component One: Heightened Text

A series of group classes, observed scene work and calls where the context of plays employing heightened text such as works by Shakespeare, Moliere, Coward and Wilde are studied; together with the means of analysing and realising the text, and the relationships to other acting methodologies are explored leading to the rehearsal and performance of a selection of scenes and speeches.

Component Two: Acting For Screen

Students are asked to respond to a variety of working environments familiar within the television and film industry. These will include audition and casting sessions, pressurized and time sensitive shooting, the devising and adapting of scripts and filming short scenes on location

Dance and Movement 2

Credits: 30

Assessment: Practical Assessment 1 (50%), Practical Assessment 2 (50%)

Component 1: Practical dance classes in Jazz Technique and Repertoire, Latin and Ballroom styles

Component 2: Practical dance classes in Ballet technique and vocabulary and Partner Work

Component 3: Practical dance classes in Tap technique and vocabulary

Component 4: Practical classes in Actor's Movement to include Stage Combat

Voice, Speech and Text 2

Credits: 10

Assessment: Practical Assessment 1 (80%), Practical Assessment 2 (20%)

A series of practical classes and tutorials, which consolidate and extend the work covered in Voice, Speech and Text 1. Focus will be on increasing technical command, range and muscularity particularly with reference to using the voice in a range of different spaces and media as well as work on accent and dialect acquisition. Alongside this, the student will develop their understanding of the semantic and sensory structures contained in a range of increasingly demanding texts – leading to a presentation of work to an external coach.

Professional Contexts 2

Credits: 10

Assessment: Practical Assessment (75%), Self-Reflective Writing (25%)

Component One: Contextual Studies

A series of seminars will examine current industry creative practice and recent and emerging developments in programming in the professional Musical Theatre repertoire.

Component Two: Professional Studies

A series of Practical classes and workshops on rehearsal practices with particular emphasis on audition techniques for the musical theatre industry.

Component Three: Professional Practice Portfolio

Students will continue to contribute to their Professional Practice Portfolio which will offer a further opportunity to deeply scrutinise their progress and creative contribution to their work via the understanding of a critical, reflective and evaluative process. Students will evaluate their approach to a specific Level 5 project, particularly taking into account the integration of practical work across the modules, which will be submitted as a reflective document part of the Assessment.

Creative Processes 2: New Writing

Credits: 10

Assessment: Report (by 3rd party) (75%), Self-reflective writing (25%)

Via a new piece of musical theatre work; either a whole piece or abridged version; students will undertake a research and development process with a creative team in the exploration and realisation of the piece. Students will contribute to the development of the piece via discussion and practice. Assessment will be made based on the contribution to the process together with a short presentation.

Integrated Process 2: Book Musical

Credits: 10

Assessment: Report (75%), Self-reflective writing (25%)

Through practical and critical research of either a classic or contemporary Book Musical; for example, *Carousel*, *Oklahoma*, *A Chorus Line*, *Chicago*, students will rehearse and perform an abridged version of a complete work. The emphasis in rehearsal will be the exploration of credible and multi-

dimensional characters, together with the technical and artistic achievement in the practical skills of Singing and Dance.

Year Three

Bridge Project

Credits: 20

Assessment: Report (100%)

A series of rehearsals that seeks to build on the work undertaken in the Level 4 and 5 practical modules through detailed work on a musical theatre work within a professional rehearsal environment. Emphasis will be placed on the necessary disciplines implicit in the rehearsal process, including a professional awareness of the roles played and skills contributed by stage management, lighting and sound design.

Public Performance 1

Credits: 40

Assessment: Report (100%)

The student is given an opportunity to rehearse and perform a number of roles under professional direction and production conditions, often within the exacting scrutiny of potential employers. A wide selection of material is performed in a range of performance contexts, requiring rapid assimilation and synthesis of skills derived from across the programme, whilst employing appropriate discernment and judgement.

Public Performance 2

Credits: 40

Assessment: Report (100%)

The student is given an opportunity to rehearse and perform a number of roles under professional direction and production conditions, often within the exacting scrutiny of potential employers. A wide selection of material is performed in a range of performance contexts, requiring rapid assimilation and synthesis of skills derived from across the programme, whilst employing appropriate discernment and judgement.

Professional and Creative Studies

Credits: 20

Assessment: Report (50%), Practical Assessment (30%), Self-reflective writing (20%)

Component One: Showcase

Particular emphasis will be placed on preparation for the Showcase presentation which takes place in Cardiff and London during the Spring term. Additional rehearsals for the Showcase will be offered in the weeks prior to the presentation.

Component Two: Audition Technique

Students will be asked to take part in auditions and / or master classes taken by professional directors, casting directors and agents – which offer practical experience of different audition processes for the professional musical theatre industry.

Component Three: Professional Practice Portfolio

Students will finalise the contributions to their Professional Practice Portfolio which will offer a further opportunity to evaluate their progress and creative contribution to their work via the understanding of a critical, reflective and evaluative process. Students will evaluate their approach to the Level 6 projects via a reflective document and a spoken presentation.