



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

BAH Acting

Course Code: BAACT

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Award and Title BA (Hons) Acting (BAACT)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed at FEB/2024

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Acting
Contained Awards	Bachelor of Arts Acting (Level 6), Diploma of Higher Education Acting (Level 5), Certificate of Higher Education Acting (Level 4)
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total).
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 years (full time, campus based)• 4 years (full time, campus based with a Placement Year)• 6 years (part time, campus based)
Part Time Study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that the work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
Location(s) of Delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:
AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Course Fees

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to
Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>)

At Level 4, the curriculum does not follow usual university regulations by following a modular structure. Instead, students will be assessed against the Level Learning Outcomes through six pre-mapped projects. Learning and teaching in these projects will include performances, practical technique portfolios, and essays. That said, all projects will follow one of the three strands that structure this programme; skills acquisition, creative aptitude and context; at Level 4, skills acquisition is prioritised.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director	Dr Mark Flisher
Your Academic Advisor	Dr Mark Flisher
Your Course Administrator	Adam Paul

Sandwich or Other 'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

If desired, students can opt to take a work placement year where students can negotiate an appropriate placement opportunity that runs for one year between Levels 5 and 6. It is expected that students will propose activities that speak to the cognate discipline; these include, but are not limited to: touring their work to a series of theatres/performance festivals; working as an assistant to an artist, actor or director; arts administration; producing; teaching in primary and secondary schools.

Length

This placement year will consist of introductory lectures from stakeholders around the university, including practitioner-academics and Careers services. After this, students will be offered a supervisor who will help them secure a placement that lasts for a minimum of eight weeks. Throughout the year, the supervisor will meet with the student at their placement to observe their progress. The pass/fail module will be assessed through the observations and the student's completion of CareerEdge+ or other platforms that afford significant reflection on career choices.

Location

Students may be placed with various companies in the Leeds region, but placements further afield can be negotiated. Further information on the allocation process is provided by the module leader before option choices are made.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

There is no professional body associated with this course.

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

1. Equip the student with the skills, techniques and knowledge to pursue and sustain a career in the Creative Industries.
2. Provide the student with a skills-led acting curriculum that introduces them to various performance disciplines through live and mediated platforms.
3. To introduce students to various acting techniques that embrace multicultural approaches to practice.
4. Enable the student to critically reflect on their skill base and to develop themselves as an intelligent and creative performer.
5. To allow students to work practically with professional practitioners across the Creative Industries.
6. To engage with and use through practice theoretical perspectives on acting and performance.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

Skills Acquisition

1. Engage, critically analyse and practice various performance styles and techniques appropriate to their professional practice.
2. Select, critically analyse and successfully employ approaches to acting techniques to create a comprehensive working knowledge of their own 'training' regime.

Creative Aptitude

3. Independently and successfully apply creative approaches to acting through various performance disciplines.
4. Communicate and critique theatrical and performance intentions and concepts through process and practice.

Context

5. Embody and theoretically engage with key multicultural practitioners and theorists to develop knowledge.
6. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of theatre and cultural practices/histories and the concepts that surround them.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of, and engagement with, the Creative Industries.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The professional actor needs to be prepared for a variety of different employment opportunities which includes the more traditional page-to-stage performances, but also encompasses film and screen acting, acting for games, postdramatic theatre and devised performance works. In addition to this, professional portfolios might include community theatre and socially engaged practices. To enable this, the BAH Acting programme explores an intracultural approach to training that draws upon a broad spectrum of global arts and body practices and uses them alongside more traditional western practices with the purpose of applying this to creative performance products. With a programme that draws heavily on multi-cultural body-based practices there is an ethical concern around cultural appreciation so that one does not simply adopt 'useful' practices from other cultures. As part of the programme then a contextualisation and critical eye is foregrounded so that Actor Training can be developed and applied with virtuosity, intellect and sensitivity. To this end the programme aims to prepare you, the student, for employment as an actor who has the required flexibility, cultural, and emotional intelligence and entrepreneurial spirit for acting in the 21st Century.

BAH Acting is a highly practical programme of study that introduces students to global approaches to acting techniques and practices. Led by a series of specialist practitioners, you can expect to spend most of your time in the studio space workshopping strategies and ideas associated with acting, theatre and performance. Some sessions will involve classroom activity, but practical studio-based learning will always be used to consolidate your learning. An inclusive approach to Learning, Teaching and Assessment has been developed through this programme, and as such, in addition to the inclusion of global acting techniques, assessments will also lend themselves to the diverse community of students that we attract. There is an expectation that you will engage with independent learning from Level 4 study; this is so that you can become autonomous practitioners who contribute to the rehearsal and making processes.

To give students space to make the most out of their learning journey with us, there is a loose modular structure at Level 4 where you can expect to learn through a series of projects that are pre-mapped to the Level Learning Outcomes. You can expect to engage in practical projects, weekly technique sessions, exploratory workshops, lectures, and be directed in performances. Detailed summative feedback will be

provided after the project so that each student can understand where they have excelled and their areas of development. Summative numerical grades are not used at Level 4 as a way of attending to the wellbeing needs of our student population, which is in line with our Inclusive Course Design Tool. At the end of Level 4, you will be invited to participate in a structured talk, which will be used to ascertain the extent to which the Level Learning Outcomes have been met.

At Level 5, students will continue developing knowledge of different acting approaches. In contrast to Level 4, greater emphasis will be placed on those techniques outside of the Western Canon although not exclusively), and intracultural approaches to training will be applied to public performances. By Western Canon, we are implying a set of practices that may include, but are not limited to, Stanislavski's System, the Meisner Technique, Shakespeare, and Laban Movement Analysis to name but a few approaches. An intercultural approach then might include Psychophysical approaches to actor training, Kathakali, Noh and Butoh as well as pre-performance training in the form of yoga. You can expect to apply a combination of different cultural practices and developed skills to complex ensemble projects, screen-based acting, and more experimental approaches to performance making through elective modules like Performance, Protest and Politics. At Level 6, you have the opportunity to expand your interests by choosing from a suite elective with the purpose of specialising and in turn preparing yourself for the employment that you wish to undertake on graduation.

Across all three years of Undergraduate study, there has been a movement away from isolated modules that approach performance solely from a 'know-that' perspective. Instead, modules require knowledge acquisition through a variety of modes, these of course include actively listening, reading scholarly texts, and writing critical essays, but the focus in BAH Acting is primarily knowing through doing. Drawing on an ethos of practice-research, you will learn criticality through practice modules such as the Level 5 Actor Training where weekly reading, discussions and application of critical global perspectives are considered through practice and made explicit through writing. At Level 6, Actor Training: Embodied Research Practice involves weekly advanced actor training sessions, but will also form the basis for an embodied research project which you can devise and implement yourself under the guidance of an acting specialist. The act of extrapolating lived experience in writing is a nuanced skill and therefore is something that needs to be developed at Level 4 through the pre-mapped projects.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. The option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of optional modules. Students required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules that meet the overall course learning outcomes. The structure of the programme allows for elective modules to be taken up at levels 5 and 6. At Level 5, you can choose one elective to be delivered in Semester 2. At Level 6, there is only one 40-Credit core module that spans across Semesters 1 and 2. In Semester 1 students can choose two 20-Credit electives and in Semester 2 you can choose one 40-Credit elective. It should be noted though that Film project (Acting) can only be chosen if you have successfully auditioned and have been cast into a film project. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Acting 1, 60 Credits	Y	Acting 2, 60-Credits	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Actor Training, 40-Credits	Y	Actor Training (continued), 40-Credits	Y
Acting Project 1, 20-Credits	Y	Acting for Screen, 20-Credits	Y
Movement Direction, 20-Credits	Y	Options from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Performance of Celebrity, 20-Credits Writing and Directing, 20-Credits 	N

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Actor Training: Embodied Research Practice, 40-Credits	Y	Actor Training: Embodied Research Practice (continued), 40-Credits	Y
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making Work in a Festival Context, 20-Credits Socially Engaged Practice, 20-Credits Body, Space, Place, 20-Credits Pilot Project (Acting), 20-Credits 	N	Options from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Film Project (Acting), 40-Credits Acting Project 2, 40-Credits 	N

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

At Levels 4, 5 and 6, students will predominantly be assessed by a broadly even mix of coursework and practical assessments.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	400 hours	400 hours	400 hours
Independent Study	800 hours	800 hours	800 hours
Placement	N/A	N/A	N/A

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and Opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.