

MA THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES
(INCORPORATING POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES)
PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Programme Specification
April 2010

(Updated August 2014)

Rose Bruford College of Theatre & Performance Post Graduate Programme Specification

What are programme specifications? Information for students.

Programme specifications focus on single programmes of study (or courses), and outline the intended knowledge, understanding, skills and attributes of a student completing that course. A programme specification also gives details of teaching and assessment methods as well as linking the course to the framework for Higher Education qualifications and any subsequent professional qualification and career path.

The University of Manchester validates the Masters Programmes taught at Rose Bruford College and as part of the validation process, the College is required to produce approved programme specifications for the courses that it offers.

Programme specifications form one part of a set of different types of documents about a programme and its components, which include prospectus, programme handbook, module specifications and information on websites. The Programme Specification is published on the College's website.

There may be concern that 'specifying' what a student will have learnt at the end of the course or programme might inhibit innovation within that course. For this reason it is important not to see programme specifications as 'tick lists'. They offer broad indications of the types of things students might be expected to learn and the types of skills and abilities they might be expected to gain.

*Adapted from QAA guidance to students on understanding courses
(<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/students/guides/UnderstandCourses.asp>)*

Rose Bruford College of Theatre & Performance Post Graduate Programme Specification

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Award	Programme Title	Duration	Mode of study
MA	Theatre for Young Audiences	13 months	Full Time Entry: September
PG Cert	Theatre for Young Audiences	10 Months	Part-time Entry: September
PG Diploma	Theatre for Young Audiences (exit award only)	10 months	Full Time Entry: September
MA	Theatre for Young Audiences	25 Months	Part Time Entry: September

Institution	Rose Bruford College
School	School of Performance and School of Design Management and technical Arts
Awarding Institution	University of Manchester
External Examiner	Dr David Broster Head of Division: Drama, Performance and Film, University of Worcester Teresa Brayshaw (wef 1 October 2014) Academic Leader and Principal Lecturer in Performing Arts, Leeds Metropolitan University
Programme Accreditation	Drama UK – Hallmark Programme
Relevant QAA benchmark(s)	N/A

2. AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The MA in theatre for Young Audiences has been designed as a multidisciplinary programme of study that offers students and practitioners from a range of backgrounds, (in both performance and technical disciplines), the opportunity to focus their developing practice towards creating theatre for young audiences. It has been designed specifically to be flexible enough to encompass a range of theatre disciplines whilst at the same time maintaining the rigorous, practical and academic approach to study that should be expected of students at Level 7.

The programme aims to:

01.	provide students from a range of theatre or performance disciplines and who have extensive practical experience, advance study and practice across a range of approaches that contribute to creating theatre for young audiences;
02.	provide a robust academic underpinning of theory as it relates to the practice of theatre for young audiences;
03.	provide a rigorous understanding of research methodologies, critical reflection and practice as research;
04.	offer a platform for cultural entrepreneurship and professional development within theatre for young audiences.

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3. INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME(S)

NOTE: Intended Learning Outcomes for the Postgraduate Certificate are identified on the curriculum map in section 6 (pg. 10)

A. Knowledge & Understanding	
Students completing the MA in Theatre for Young Audiences should be able to demonstrate:	
A1	a systematic understanding and a critical awareness of current and developing trends in theatre for young audiences and the ability to analyse contemporary production processes and performance practice;
A2	conceptual understanding of the dramatic, artistic, social and cultural setting in which the practitioner works through critical evaluation of current scholarship;
A3	a comprehensive understanding of a range of theatre techniques and their application in the context of producing theatre for young audiences appropriate to the student's discipline.



Learning & Teaching Processes (to allow students to achieve intended learning outcomes)
Teaching and learning methods will include practical classes, seminars, workshops, projects (involving rehearsal and performance), presentations, and tutorials; together with required and recommended reading, observation of live performance, participation in external workshops, placements, and access to a variety of research sources and materials.



Assessment (of intended learning outcomes)
Assessment through tutorial feedback on research, individual and collaborative presentations and projects and through written critical reflection.

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B. Intellectual Skills	
Students completing the MA in Theatre for Young Audiences should be able to demonstrate:	
B1	demonstrate independence, critical judgement and initiative in extending their own learning
B2	evaluate their personal practice through appropriate methodologies of research and reflection that allow for critique and development of that practice
B3	develop and contextualise the skills and knowledge that they bring to the programme within appropriate range of frameworks of knowledge, practice and research;
B4	develop research strategies applicable to this new area of study.



Learning & Teaching Processes
Teaching and learning methods will include core elements in each taught module; supervised projects and placements; reflective group seminars and individual tutorials.

Assessment
Assessment takes place through examination of performance and written work and through tutorial feedback on individual and collaborative presentations and projects and through written critical reflection.

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C. Practical Skills	
Students completing the MA in Theatre for Young Audiences should be able to:	
c1.	demonstrate a comprehensive range of techniques applicable to their discipline within the context of the field of study
c2.	manage the complexities of theatre-making systematically and creatively
c3.	demonstrate flexibility and originality in the application of knowledge in the practice of theatre for young audiences and a practical approach to the research necessary to underpin and interpret that practice
c4.	articulate their practice clearly to a variety of audiences at an advanced level.



Learning & Teaching Processes
Teaching and learning methods will include practical classes, short and extended workshops, master classes, placements, rehearsal, performance and reflection.



Assessment
Assessment takes place through examination of performance and written work and through tutorial feedback on individual and collaborative presentations and projects and through written critical reflection.

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D. Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities	
Students completing the MA in Theatre for Young Audiences should be able to demonstrate::	
D1.	formulate a comprehensive response to a designated assignment;
D2.	undertake relevant research and deploy appropriate supporting evidence;
D3.	develop scholarly modes of presentation in written analysis and applied research involving cross media strategies and in approaches to referencing and bibliography;
D4.	negotiate with a number of people in order to maximise their several skills within a collaborative context;
D5.	act independently and to make decisions within situations of uncertainty and ambiguity.



Learning & Teaching Processes
Teaching and learning methods include core elements in each taught module; supervised individual and collaborative projects; reflective seminars and tutorials with supervisors.

Assessment
Assessment takes place through examination of performance and written work and through tutorial feedback on individual and collaborative presentations and projects.

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4. THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME(S)

Programme structure and credits		Credits
MASTERS		
TYA401	Context of Theatre for Young Audiences	30
TYA402	Writing and Storytelling for Young Audiences	30
TYA403	Visual and Object Performance Practices	30
TYA404	Internship and Special Study	30
TYA405	Research and Final Project	60
	Total credits	180

Postgraduate Diploma (Exit Award Only)		
TYA401	Context of Theatre for Young Audiences	30
TYA402	Writing and Storytelling for Young Audiences	30
TYA403	Visual and Object Performance Practices	30
TYA404	Internship and Special Study	30
	Total credits	120

Postgraduate Certificate		
TYA401	Context of Theatre for Young Audiences	30
TYA404	Internship and Special Study	30
	Total credits	60

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5. STUDENT INDUCTION, SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT (in order to deliver the intended learning outcomes, including dissertation support and guidance)

Student induction and support take place at both the programme and College level.

At the programme level:

- You receive a Student Handbook at Registration.
- Each module throughout the programme is introduced with a briefing by the module coordinator.
- Peer learning and mentoring, are intrinsic to the programme's learning and teaching strategy.
- You will receive written feedback on all assessment tasks, and will be debriefed in a tutorial following the majority of practical projects, to encourage reflection on practice and to identify future learning goals.

At the College level:

- Welfare advice and counselling is available to all students.
- A Disability Officer is available to all students (students are contacted at admissions stage and invited to disclose any disabilities).
- Dyslexia support is available.
- At key points during the programme, you will discuss your personal and professional development with a programme tutor, and plan future action.
- You will be introduced to the Learning Resources Centre at induction, and receive both targeted and on-going research skills and information literacy instruction and support during the remainder of your programme.
- Ongoing academic support is available through the specialist Academic Support Team, and through on-line support materials.
- Placements operate within the College's Placement Policy, to ensure that you, employers and tutors have a common understanding of the purpose of the placement and of their various responsibilities.

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6. CURRICULUM MAP OF MODULES AGAINST INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

Module Title and Code (including dissertations and other programme components)	Knowledge & Understanding	Intellectual Skills	Practical Skills	Transferable Skills & Personal Qualities
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MA Theatre for Yung Audiences

Code	Course Unit title	C/O	A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
TYA401	Context of Theatre for Young Audiences	C	DA	D	D	DA	DA	D	D	D	D	D	DA	DA	DA	D	D	D
TYA402	Writing and Storytelling for Young Audiences	C	D	DA	DA	D	DA	DA	D	DA	D	DA	D	DA	DA	DA	D	D
TYA403	Visual and Object Performance Practices	C	D	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	D	DA	DA	DA	DA	D	D
TYA404	Internship and Special Study	C	DA	D	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	D	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA
TYA405	Research and Final Project	C	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA

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TYA401	Context of Theatre for Young Audiences	C	DA	D	D	DA	DA	D	D	D	D	D	DA	DA	DA	D	D	D
TYA404	Internship and Special Study	C	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA	D	DA	DA	DA	DA	DA

D = intended learning outcomes of the programme are taught or developed by students within this course unit

A = intended learning outcomes of the programme are assessed within this course unit

C = compulsory course unit

O = optional course unit

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7. CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

Entry qualification typically requires candidates to possess a good first degree (2.1) in a related discipline or appropriate professional experience.

Candidates will normally be required to attend an audition and interview before acceptance onto the programme. Where this is not possible (for example with international students) candidates will be asked to submit a portfolio of work which might include, for example, appropriate audio/visual material.

Overseas students for whom English is not their first language are expected to have passed IELTS with a 7.0 or above or TOEFL with 600 or above (paper-based) or 250 (paper-based).

Potential students can find information about the programme via the College Web site and the published (hard copy) Prospectus.

Entry onto the programme is by direct application to the College and enquiries, applications and auditions are handled by the Programme Administrator and the College's Registry.

8. PROGRESSION AND ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Please refer to the University of Manchester Academic Regulations.

9. PROGRAMME REVISIONS

The programme is regularly reviewed through the College's annual programme monitoring process. As part of this process, the Programme Committee receives feedback from students, external examiners and academic staff. Recommendations for any revisions to the programme can be discussed as part of this annual monitoring process.

Proposed programme modifications are considered at programme committees prior to their further examination at the College's Learning, Quality and Standards Committee, which is a sub-committee of Academic Board.

Programme modifications constitute either minor or major modifications.

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Minor Modifications include the following:

- Changes to the syllabus content which do not affect aims or learning outcomes
- Reduction in the number of optional modules
- Change of module title
- Minor changes to teaching or delivery methods
- Changes to the assessment of individual modules, including the balance between different types of assessment within a module

Major Modifications include the following:

- Changes of syllabus content which significantly affect learning outcomes at either module or programme level
- Introduction of new compulsory modules within a programme
- A change to or addition of mode of study
- Significant changes to assessment or other programme regulations
- Adaptations to make the programme available to new student or client groups
- Significant changes to work based or work-related learning components
- New arrangements for collaborative provision
- A change of programme title

Any proposed modifications by the programme team should be discussed with the Head of School and Director of Learning, Teaching & Curriculum Development. They should then be sent for consideration by the relevant External Examiner. The proposed modifications, together with the completed proforma, will then be sent to the Learning, Quality & Standards Committee for internal approval. In the case of major modifications, these will also require approving by the Academic Development Committee. Once modifications have been internally approved they will be sent to the University of Manchester for approval.

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