

FAQ: BA Theatre Studies

1) Do you accept applications from international students?

Yes. We welcome applications from across the globe. We do require a good level of spoken and written English and may require evidence of this (for example, IELTS certification) from non-native speakers.

2) Do international students pay different fees?

No. All fees are the same, regardless of where in the world you live. International students are able to pay tuition via Flywire.

3) Can I study around my job or caring duties?

Yes — the course has been designed around the needs of students who combine it with other activities. To undertake full time study you shouldn't have many demands on your time apart from the course; however, we offer part time options for those who have less time because of other responsibilities. Students do need a minimum of 10-12 hours per week to undertake the programme; if you have more time available than this you may be able to take more modules (up to 60 credits per semester).

4) If I find I have more or less time than I originally thought, can I change the number of modules I take?

Yes, students can change the number of modules they take per term (with notice). Those who move from part time study to full time study will need the approval of the Lead Academic Tutor.

5) How much of the course involves performing? How does this work online?

It is important to note that the BA Theatre Studies is not an actor training course. However, we do believe in the practical application of learning, so you will be required to do some performing (and directing, designing, writing, etc) as part of your creative learning. You will not be assessed on your proficiency in performing, but on your engagement with tasks. Creative tasks are often recorded by video or audio and shared in portfolios, but they may also be part of webinar activities. We treat the computer/device screen as a creative space and encourage our students to use technology in innovative ways to create performance.

6) Are there online lectures/webinars?

Each module will have one webinar per unit, which generally equates to one per month, plus a one-to-one tutorial at the end of the semester. If you take more than one module, you will have the equivalent number of webinars per month. Attendance in webinars is a mandatory part of the course.

7) When do webinars take place?

Webinars are scheduled at the beginning of each term; tutors arrange times with students, keeping in mind individual schedules and time zones (within reason – students must offer flexibility). The majority of webinars take place in the evening (UK time) or on weekends, but we are occasionally able to schedule them during weekdays, depending on the schedules of tutors and students.

8) What happens in webinars?

Webinars do not follow a lecture format. Instead, we take a 'flipped classroom' approach where tutors organise activities or set preparation tasks, so that students are able to actively apply their learning. These activities may include discussions, presentations, collaborative work, and practice-based

activities. We are experts in creative approaches to online learning! Tutors will also remind students of important upcoming deadlines and answer questions.

9) **Apart from webinars, are there other opportunities for me to engage with other students?**

Yes! Students post work and discuss tasks in module forums, using Microsoft Teams; this is an important part of learning and will allow you to get to know your fellow students. In addition, students are often required to collaborate with each other in the completion of tasks. Our active group of Student Ambassadors also organise online social events.

10) **How do I communicate with staff when studying on the course?**

You are able to communicate with your module tutor by email and we encourage students to keep in touch whenever they have a question or concern. Your tutor will also reach out to you to ensure you are making good progress, contribute to the module forum and organise one-to-one tutorials at the end of term. Karen Morash, Lead Academic Tutor, is also available to meet one-to-one online for pastoral, academic or broader issues.

11) **I have not been in formal education for a while. Does this matter?**

We welcome applications from everyone, regardless of age. If you completed school more than five years ago, we will look at a combination of your school results and your employment/volunteer history. If you completed school in the last five years you will need 96 UCAS points. However, we may be able to make exceptions for those who show promise. We also offer excellent support for those who are feeling nervous about returning to education after a gap – we have designed our Level 4 learning material to help ease you into study.

12) **Do you offer bursaries?**

Unfortunately, at this time we are unable to offer bursaries or scholarships. Students in England are able to apply for student finance; you may qualify for this in your own country. Students are also able to pay their tuition in instalments.