Course Specification

BA (HONS)
ACTING



Arts University Bournemouth

About the Course Handbook

This Handbook provides you with basic information about your course. Through the approved course specification, it provides you with the aims and outcomes of the course, and outlines the content and how this will be delivered.

It also provides some important information about key policies which apply to your academic studies, and explains how students can be involved in the decision-making at both course and University level. You should ensure that have read this, and that you refer to this Handbook throughout your course.

Your course is subject to a rigorous process of quality assurance and enhancement. This may result in changes to individual units as the course develops, to ensure that the relevance and quality of the course is upheld. You will be consulted, either directly or through your elected student representatives before any changes are made.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all the information contained within this Handbook, but it is possible that some of the details will change during the course of your studies. Any such changes will be notified to you.

Information in this Handbook should be used in conjunction with the HE Student Regulations. It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of the regulations that apply to your course; this includes information in this Handbook and in the HE Student Regulations. If you have any questions, you should speak to your Course Leader, or member of your course team.

ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

The Course Specification provides a summary of the main features of the **BA (Hons) Acting and the BA (Hons) Acting for Screen** courses and the learning outcomes that a 'typical' student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they pass the course.

Further detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching and learning methods of each unit may be found in the Unit Descriptors, which forms part of the Course Handbook.

Key Course Information	
Final Award	BA (Hons)
Course Title	Acting
Award Title	BA (Hons) Acting BA (Hons) Acting for Screen
Teaching institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Awarding Institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Offered in the School of	Bournemouth Film School
Professional accreditation	None
Length of course / mode of study	3 years full-time / 4 years with optional placement year
Level of final award	Level 6
Subject benchmark statement	Dance, Drama and performance (2019)
UCAS code	W410
Language of study	English
External Examiner for course:	Details provided on request
Date of Validation	June 2004
Date of most recent review	July 2024
Date course specification written/revised	April 2026

Course Description

The BA (Hons) Acting and the BA (Hons) Acting for Screen courses provide a contemporary, professional actor training within a collaborative setting, enabling students to deepen their skills, knowledge, and experience in the demanding and ever-changing theatre, screen and media industries.

BA (Hons) Acting and the BA (Acting) for Screen share Level 4 in foundational training, integrating a range of disciplines that cover the principles of contemporary acting techniques, working in practical, tutor-led classes in movement, vocal studies, improvisations and acting classes.

Two strands are running throughout the degree. There is an acting strand which prepares the students towards deepening emotional and intellectual understanding of the situations and relationships in the dramatic/screen texts. The second strand is founded in playfulness, spontaneity and improvisations that develop the students' creativity, inventiveness, as well as resilience, confidence and ability to make quick offers on stage or film-set.

The intensive, highly visceral type of work prepares the actor at this stage for both theatre and screen performances. The students culminate their first year in collaborative projects with BA(Hons) Film Production, acting and experiencing their first time being on a film set.

At Level 5, the acting courses develop their own distinct pathways. BA(Hons) Acting for Screen dives deeper into the methodology of acting for camera where the students work on the nuances of the screen acting techniques and styles as well as on the principles of being on camera as a part of the production's set-up They take part in a short film produced by their peers on the Film course. The BA(Hons) Acting students broaden their vocabulary of acting for the stage in front of a live audience, and learn the most current devising methods, culminating in a mini production, that broadens their particular interest (devised performance, scripted play or new writing/young audience project).

Throughout this level, there is also an opportunity to broaden the students horizons through Professional Practice & Research unit, where they are able to pursue their passion and curiosity for other parts of the creative industry represented in BFS school.

This part of the degree recognises the importance of a portfolio approach to the students' creative practice in 21st-century creative industries, and it equips students with a key set of skills and perspectives that can be seen as commercially and artistically viable in the rapidly evolving, and increasingly complex industry landscape.

At Level 6, the acting for screen students continue to develop their pathway skills through commercially filmed projects and graduate films within the Film school.

The acting course students work on their major stage project which is a scripted play and learn to roles of stage crew to broaden their understanding of theatre craft. They then move onto creating their own devised companies and produce a performance that could be a starting point for entering fringe festivals and showing their work to local and national producers.

The two courses work together preparing towards entering the industry. They prepare for professional showreels and take part in a Showcase in Central London in front of industry agents.

The culmination of their studies is a research project which purpose is to develop and deepen the students' particular industry or academic research interests.

The courses provide inclusive curricula and learning practices, behaviours and understanding, that aim to develop the students' ability as critical thinker and reflective practitioners. A student-centred approach and the development of each student's creativity is combined with the ethos of creating a strong, diverse and caring community of artists. The courses aim to empower the students to take control of their artistic development for a lifelong career and to realise their full potential as professional actors and creatives.

Sitting within the Bournemouth Film School, the Acting courses are part of cross-course collaborations, and this is a key feature of the programmes, enabling students to develop their skills and knowledge base within a context of collaborative and interdisciplinary working. Within the structure of the BA(Hons) Acting course, we have an established collaboration for our fully staged Level 6 shows and Graduate Film Productions for BA (Hons) Acting for Screen.

Professional development and employability skills are integrated through all three levels of the course helping students to prepare for a career in the creative industries and/or postgraduate study; and enabling students to aspire to professional standards as actors/ performers /makers/ authors in live performance and digital media contexts.

Students will graduate not only with generic and specialist knowledge required for a range of roles within performing and recorded arts industries, but also with informed perspectives on artistic creation in a range of fields and environments that consider equality, diversity, and inclusion.

Distinctive features of the course

Diverse learning experiences centred on portfolio careers:

The BA (Hons) Acting and Acting for Screen courses offer a diverse range of learning opportunities spanning text-focused acting techniques, devised theatre-making, contemporary performance, acting and experiencing a real-industry set-up while filming, professional showreels and Showcase in Central London. The students also have the possibility for further collaboration in projects and on film sets, drawing on their unique placement within the Bournemouth Film School. This broad range of contexts is explored through both practice and research, and results in a range of performance practices leading to acquiring specialist skills development at Level 5 and Level 6.

The courses have a strong focus on developing students' individual areas of interest while enhancing a range of employability experiences to support their progression to a career in the industry. Students' progress to a range of specialist areas including acting for theatre, film and TV, voiceover, theatre and performance-making, writing, directing, creative facilitation, and arts engagement practices.

Investing in traditional core skills of actor training to master innovative, technologically enhanced acting experiences:

Core skills development in actors' movement and voice are at the heart of the training. Voice work is complemented by singing and musicality, and the physical preparation extends beyond the traditional training by enhanced stage and screen fighting routines that feed to further the physical acting skills through digitally enhanced media (Motion Capture, Performance Capture technology or equivalent). It allows actors to develop confidence in their use of body enhancing their versatility as performers within Level 6 AUB Filmed and Staged Productions and future career progression.

Both courses will develop a strong understanding of the most up-to-date technology (i.e. VCR, Performance Capture) in our newly created facilities at AUB. However, the more advanced level will be taught at BA (Hons) Acting for Screen.

Interdisciplinary collaboration:

Across the three years, acting students have opportunities to collaborate with students on costume, make-up, performance design, film, creative writing, animation, and games design courses. These opportunities extend their knowledge and understanding of the creative sector more widely, while developing an interdisciplinary network offering opportunities for future creative collaboration beyond the degree.

Portfolio enhancement:

Alongside the collaborative opportunities within the programme, the AUB Acting courses are well-positioned for further extracurricular collaborations within the Bournemouth Film School, with wider courses at AUB, and in student projects for Film and TV production courses at neighbouring Bournemouth University. Students on the course regularly build a portfolio of film and photography projects alongside their studies, working as actors and models for student projects across make-up, fashion, film, television, photography, and creative events courses.

Course Industry Patron Scheme:

All courses at AUB are connected formally with an industry Patron, an industry practitioner or business that acts as a critical friend to the course and course team. Many courses work with several industry partners, but the more formal Industry Patron connection offers the opportunity to collaborate and maintain close relations with industry / business. This is a unique concept that ensures AUB courses are industry relevant and maintain current practices while providing further opportunities for students to engage with industry practitioners.

AUB Strategic Vision

The **BA (Hons) Acting** fits with the university's strategic vision in several ways:

Innovation*:* The course responds to emerging trends, which will support the university's need to provide relevant and innovative courses within the creative education sector. The Performance Capture and Motion Capture technologies with the supporting skills in highly physical stage/screen fighting will enable our students to be the leading experts in this emerging field.

Collaboration*:* The course empowers the students through interdisciplinary collaborations across different courses, or schools within the university, including with Film, Costume, Design for Costume and Performance, Make-Up for Media and Performance, Animation, Games Design, and Creative Writing. This allows a culture of collaboration to develop among students.

Internationalisation*:* The course is attractive to international students, who are motivated to study in this field, thereby contributing to the university's internationalisation and diversification goals.

Optional Placement Year

The optional Placement Year offers students the opportunity to:

- Get under the skin of an **industry, organisation, and role** to assist them with making better-informed decisions about their future career prospects.
- Undertake a placement, which ensures students can take **personal responsibility** for tasks, duties, and projects within a real-world work setting.
- **Develop and recognise their own work ethic and powers of critical reflection**.

- Build **high-level transferable skills** and enhance professional competencies in the workplace.

The Placement Year will be recognised on the degree transcript. As students will remain a registered student for the duration of the Placement Year, they will retain access to all university support services. Students will be allocated a Placement Tutor who will maintain regular remote contact with them. Placements often lead to a permanent role on graduation, providing a greater chance of success for graduates of this course.

Course Aims

A1: To provide a professional actor training within a collaborative ensemble context, developing students' ability to meet the challenges and demands of the contemporary industry (theatre, screen and media)

A2: To develop the concepts, skills, and knowledge needed to function professionally within interdisciplinary and multi-cultural environments, enabling the development of graduate attributes for employment, career diversification, and lifelong learning.

A3: To support learners to construct and receive reflective feedback in learning and professional contexts, as a core skillset enabling the development of a self-reflexive creative practitioner.

A4: To engender a strong sense of agency and entrepreneurialism for each student to enable them to understand how they might best utilise their professional skills, knowledge, experience, and values within the cultural industries and alternative professional environments, particularly in relation to performance and screen performance arenas.

A5: To expand students' awareness of the social, political, and ethical implications of cultural representation, identities, and narratives within public performance and wider cultural discourse in global contexts.

Course Outcomes

LO1: Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of specialist acting skills for solo and group work within a range of diverse contexts including stage and screen performance, audio and visual media.

LO2: Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the professional practice, skills, behaviours, and ethics expected within the performance and creative industries.

LO3: Develop responsible skills in reflection, communication, feedback, and teamwork, in collaboration with others and in response to the student's own practice.

LO4: Demonstrate strategies for identifying personal skills, values, creative interests and goals, in the development of an authentic professional identity.

LO5: Critically reflect on the social, political, and ethical implications of cultural representation, identities, and narratives within public performance and wider cultural discourse in global contexts.

Reference Points

UK Quality Code for higher education, including:

- Subject Benchmark Statement: Dance, drama, and performance (2019)

- National qualification descriptors (Levels 4-6)
- AUB LTAF and Undergraduate Assessment Regulations

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

Experiential learning is a key principle of study, and work throughout the course reflects the collaborative nature of acting. The course objectives are met by deploying a wide variety of teaching and learning methods including rehearsal, performance, ensemble working, workshops, lectures, seminars, group critiques and tutorials. In consultation with the Course Leader, staff are responsible for co-ordinating individual units of study drawing on their specific expertise, and for selecting appropriate methods of delivery according to subject matter and student experience.

Throughout the degree students will experience both tutor-led learning, including the participation of professional practitioners, and self-directed methods of learning (through independent learning, negotiated practice and research work). In this way students will be able to develop an increasing independence and a positive attitude towards life-long learning. The methods employed also induct students to the disciplines required of a creative practitioner and promote the development of transferable skills.

The study time allocated to each unit in the course incorporates a balance of formal teaching, tutorial support and independent learning. The course is structured progressively to provide increased opportunities for independent learning as students reach the later stages of the course. This progressive promotion of independent learning reflects an anticipated maturity and allows students to direct their learning towards individual goals. The teaching in Level 4 is directed at providing students with the knowledge, concepts, and skills to take increasing responsibility for the management of their own learning as they move on to Levels 5 and 6.

Ensemble working reflects the importance of teamwork in the discipline of acting and there are many opportunities to work in groups to learn the value of peer co-operation.

The teaching and learning methods for AUB course units have been selected as the most appropriate for the successful delivery of the syllabus, and appropriate achievement of the aims of the unit. All units involve student contact time and independent study, which come together to indicate the total study hours requirement for the unit.

The University sets indicative contact hours for units at each level. Course teams are free to vary this according to the demands of the different units, but the total for the year will be in line with the totals set out in the Learning, Teaching and Assessment Framework. In addition, student contact hours information provided in the unit descriptors might, on occasion, be subject to some minor variation; for example, in response to student feedback, or to take advantage of unanticipated learning opportunities that would enhance the student learning experience. No changes will be made that would be to the detriment of the unit experience, or which would disadvantage student learning.

Some teaching may be delivered online when appropriate and will count as student contact hours.

Sessions are built into the curriculum of each unit to explain to students how they are assessed against the learning outcomes. Learning outcomes clearly relate to the aims of the unit and to the assessment components.

A proportion of summative and formative assessment takes place in every unit. Formative assessment is continual as students are monitored and supported in sessions. Formal tutorials are scheduled in a structured way to provide feedback and support at key points in a unit.

Student Engagement

Enhanced Learning through Collaboration: There are multiple opportunities throughout the course for collaboration fostering cooperative learning and developing key graduate attributes for employment. Students engage with diverse perspectives, deepening their understanding and application of performance concepts.

Co-design of Learning: Students are encouraged to actively participate in their education, by developing their personal brand and developing a career plan that aligns with their future career aspirations; and writing Learning Agreements that focus on personal development and intent. This autonomy motivates them and ensures their learning is directly relevant to their career goals.

Building a Professional Portfolio: Students build a strong portfolio of professional materials in Level 6 which align with personal and career interests, helping them to become industry ready.

Real-World Applications and Networking: Interaction with industry-set briefs and guest speakers offers real-world experiences, enhancing learning and helping to build vital industry connections.

The Use of Learning Outcomes
The course applied the following thematic structure to learning outcomes:
Practice & research units -

- LO1 relates to the acquisition of unit-specific knowledge and skills.
- LO2 relates to the discipline specific skills developed within movement, voice, improvisation or singing classes.
- LO3 centres on the relevant professional skills and process work, e.g. in collaboration, rehearsal, independent preparation, and project management.
- LO4 focuses on reflective and critical analysis skills.

Theory & research units –

- LO1 relates to the extent and breadth of research, including academic sources.
- LO2 centres on engagement with theories and wider cultural contexts.
- LO3 focuses on the level of critical analysis and academic argument.
- LO4 relates to engagement with academic protocols and communication of ideas.

Assessment

Each unit is assessed separately, and the assessment forms part of the unit. Assessment both provides a measure of student achievement and also provides students with regular feedback on how their learning is developing.

For every unit of a course, we will inform students of what they are expected to learn; what they need to submit; how their work will be assessed; and the deadline for presenting work for assessment.

A minimum of one unit at Level 4 will be assessed on a pass/fail basis, with written feedback but no numerical grade. All other units will be given a percentage mark.

Students will receive a final mark for each unit in the form of a percentage, which will be recorded on a formal record of achievement (transcript). Each component of assessment is graded using a notched marking scale, whereby only certain marks are used within each grade. The only marks available within any ten-point band are *2, *5 and *8 (e.g. 62, 65, 68). These marks correspond to a low, mid, and high level of achievement within each grade band.

All learning outcomes must be passed to successfully complete the unit.

On successful completion of an Honours degree course, students will be awarded a degree classification based on their unit marks. The final classification is determined using all unit marks at Levels 5 and 6.

If a student has joined Level 6 through either the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) route or having completed a Foundation Degree (FdA), the final classification is determined using only unit marks at Level 6.

For further information on assessment, progression, awards, and classifications, please visit https://aub.ac.uk/regulations

Specialist resources:

BA (Hons) Acting and Acting for Screen students benefit from three specialist workspaces on campus including a fully equipped Studio Theatre and a sound recording studio. AUB also have their own theatre, the Palace Court Theatre in central Bournemouth which offers a further rehearsal room and performance spaces.

BFS Film Resources
(Available for use by inducted students for appropriate collaborative projects)
Studio space (off campus):

- 3 large studios each with green rooms and 3-phase power provision up to 325amps.

Virtual Production Centre (on campus):

- Greenscreen volume with wraparound walls and dedicated LED lighting.
- Vicon Optical Motion Capture Suite with face and voice performance capture

Post-Production Facilities:

- Avid Media Composer Editing Suites.
- DaVinci Resolve Digital Picture Grading Suite
- Avid Pro Tools Audio Editing Suites with audio control surfaces
- Sound Recording Booths for Voiceover & Foley.

Technical Equipment:

- ARRI Alexa cinema cameras and accessories;
- Sony FX9 and FX6 camera kits
- Canon & Sony DSLR and Mirrorless camera kits
- Selection of Canon, Sigma and Samyang Prime and zoom lenses
- Wide range of studio and portable lighting equipment, grip and rigging equipment
- Bolex H16 and Arriflex SRII 16mm film cameras
- Wide range of location sound recorders and audio mixers, microphones and sound recording accessories.

Newly upgraded cinema with 6.9m screen, Barco 4K smart cinema projector, and 38-speaker Dolby surround sound.

Virtual Production Centre

- A 6 metre by 6 metre, 3.5-metre-high green screen volume with 2.5 metre wrap-around side walls, an infinity cove, chroma green roll-out vinyl flooring, and dedicated LED lighting fixtures - 6 Litepanel Gemini 2x1 fixtures and 3 Chroma-Q Space Force Octo space lights.

- A 6 metre by 6 metre motion capture volume comprising

    - Vicon Optical Motion Capture Suite, complete with small, medium and large tracked performer suits
    - Vicon Markerless Motion Capture Suite
    - Rokoko Headcam face and voice performance capture set
    - Vicon Active Crown pan, tilt and roll virtual camera movement tracking set
    - Black and grey checkerboard soft foam flooring

- Focus, Iris and Zoom (FIZ) lens data capture, to support full physical camera tracking within green screen production environments.

- A pan, tilt and zoom observation camera to distribute images from the Virtual Production Centre into the adjoining room (A034) in support of larger group learning and teaching.

- A high-end PC workstation with Vicon Shogun Live and Shogun Post software applications for capture, clean-up and post-production.

- Network connectivity into the Avid NEXIS media server to distribute captured data to dedicated post-production environments.

Additional Bookable Equipment

- ARRI matte box and follow focus to facilitate a fourth production camera channel
- Sony FX6 camera kits complete with interchangeable lenses, matte box, follow focus and shoulder rigs
- Sekonic Spectrometer
- Ronford Baker Fluid 7 tripod system complete with tall and medium legs
- Manfrotto professional fluid head tripods
- DJI RS 4 camera stabilisers
- Grip Factory GF-Quad Dolly set
- Grip Factory GF-Mini Jib set
- Tiffen filter sets
- Lighting fixtures - Litegear LiteMat Plus, Aputure Infinimats, Aputure Storm 80c, Creamsource Vortex 4
- Manfrotto wind-up and roller lighting stands
- Sennheiser radio microphones

Course Structure

All students are registered for the award of BA (Hons); however, exit awards are available if a student leaves the course early, having successfully completed one or two levels. If students successfully complete a level of the course, they will automatically be entitled to progress to the next level.

For the award of a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE), students must have achieved a minimum of 120 credits at Level 4. This qualification may be awarded if a student leaves the University following successful completion of the first year of the course.

For the award of a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE), students must have achieved a minimum of 240 credits of which a minimum of 120 must be at Level 5. This qualification may be awarded if a student leaves the University following successful completion of the second year of the course.

For the award of a BA (Hons) a student must have achieved a minimum of 360 credits of which a minimum of 240 must be at Level 5 or above, of which a minimum of 120 credits must be at Level 6. This qualification will be awarded upon successful completion of the course.

A BA without Honours may be awarded if a student achieves 300 credits, at least 180 of which are at Level 5 or above, and at least 60 of which are at Level 6.

Core Values and Skills

In developing courses, the University aims to create a curriculum that reflects its values and ethos. It should prepare students for the future not only in enabling them to have a successful career, but also empower students with the knowledge, skills and passion to have a positive impact on the world and be an agent for change. AUB has drawn from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (https://sdgs.un.org/goals) which have informed our values of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion as well as our Graduate Attributes.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)

As an organisation we have moral, social and legal obligations to fulfil in terms of EDI, and in doing so our commitment is to put EDI at the heart of every area of activity. It is not covered as a separate, stand-alone section, rather it forms an integral part of the curriculum, throughout your study here.

Graduate Attributes (GA)

Over recent years, there has been an increasing pace of change, technological, social, environmental. This has been further impacted by the world-wide pandemic effecting significant change in the global economy and the employment market.

In this context, the University has recognised the importance of developing AUB graduates who have the attributes to be able to build their career, adapting to different circumstances and embracing changes. A suite of attributes has been defined that we feel are particularly appropriate to the creative courses that we deliver and to AUB's core values; during your course, both curricular and extra-curricular activities will give you the opportunity to prepare for your working career.

The course will introduce students to topics which are integrated with the curriculum at every stage of learning. This will allow the student to structure their career development journey through levels 4-6 of the degree course and consider the following stages: Self Awareness,

Opportunity Awareness, Decision Making and Transitioning into Work. These align to the AUB Career Readiness stages: Explore, Focus, Engage and Achieve.

In practice, this means that each unit of the course, at each Level, will include elements of career development and these will be shown explicitly in unit descriptors and outline syllabuses. Whilst students engage with these as they go through each unit, they will all come together in the final unit at each Level. Such an approach is designed to support students in the next steps they take after graduation, in whatever direction those may be, and is fundamental to degree studies.

Maintaining Health and Wellbeing

Throughout the course students are encouraged to reflect on their own health and wellbeing, and to develop themselves as a healthy creative practitioner. Students will consider how to develop study and work strategies and habits which maintain and promote their own wellbeing, and to manage their professional activities in a way which safeguards their mental and physical health.

Course staff have designed the course in order that, as far as is reasonably possible, health and wellbeing are promoted. Therefore, it is vital students maintain constructive communication with their colleagues and their staff throughout their time on this course.

Course Content (BA (Hons) Acting)

Level 4

Throughout the course the focus rests on fundamental questions and approaches to acting, ensemble, autonomy, spontaneity, repetition, self and character, play and presence. It is a process of experimentation and building your own meaning and your own processes of working.

Through the units *Acting 1* and *Acting 2* students are working on the idea of being in the moment, heightened awareness, precision to detail, and working on voice and language through dramatic texts. They work on exploring vulnerability, openness, risk taking in making visible what normally, in society is invisible.

In *Playfulness, Games and Spontaneity* and *Ensemble techniques* units, students are introduced to collaborative, visceral and sensual practices that enhance their stamina, physicality and most importantly imagination and a sense of play.

In *Acting for Screen and Media s*tudents learn to enhance their curiosity and to sustain and deepen their awareness of how texts and narratives move into live and media performance, through a range of creative development processes and rehearsals. Students develop understanding of how performance in different recorded or filmed contexts requires shifts in techniques and technologies.

Through this level, practice-based and research methodologies, including an introduction to dramaturgical methods, are developed through seminars, group discussions, viewing professional theatre and performance works and through screenings and set readings. All of which extend the breadth and depth of knowledge relating to the changing professional and cultural landscape.

Self-reflexivity, analytical skills, self, and peer-assessment are all important parts of the critical tool kit; skills to sustain these learners through a lifelong practice. Learners are introduced to these skills sets in Level 4 as the foundation of an approach to learning which creates a learning partnership by providing the student with the skills to self-determine and drive their own learning to reach their own goals.

Level 5

Level 5 consists of more advanced work concerned with aspects of dramatic structure and the implications of style for the actor. Students build on key skills and concepts introduced in Level 4 and continue to expand their skills, knowledge and experience of voice and body work as a core spine through the level.

Through the *Shakespeare* and *Acting 3* units, the acting is developed to a more advanced level. Historical and contemporary texts and scores further challenge the students to apply existing skills and knowledge to the making and staging of these works, as well as opening new opportunities to acquire new skills and sensibilities within workshop, rehearsal, and performance settings. In Acting 3, the students work on understanding the styles and genres of film acting through various contemporary acting techniques adapted for working with the camera. The important innovation here is also gaining skills in acting for innovative technologies (Motion capture, performance capture) underscored by deepening their physical and expressive skills through screen fighting techniques and movement sequences.

The *Devising* unit provides students with skills and techniques to create devised, physical and full of imagination theatre shows as well as an introduction to how to create their own companies, and the touring industry. The unit is supported by learning the foundations of dramaturgy and making it a practical skill when devising.

The *Staged Mini-plays* unit is designed to give students first-hand experience of performing in front of the audience and is an integral part of their development towards ensemble practices, performance understanding, and audience awareness at Level 6. The students' particular interest will guide the choice of the form (scripted/devised/new writing of the show.

The Professional Practice and Research unit is a shared part of the Bournemouth Film School experience. Some elements will be the same for every course, while others are tailored to suit the specific discipline or focus. It gives students the chance to build their knowledge and practical skills within a professional, industry-relevant environment, encouraging creativity and innovation.

Level 6

Level 6 enables students to extend the scope and depth of their exploration of the acting process, and test the working methods developed in Levels 4 and 5, with a range of creative challenges. In this level all students focus on public facing performance presentations working with a wide range of external theatre practitioners enhancing their skills of collaboration and working to tight professionalised deadlines. This level also provides students with the opportunity to evaluate their development as an artist, consider strengths and weaknesses, and develop an understanding of the necessary skills and knowledge to manage their career and approach potential employers and employment opportunities in a professional manner.

In *Major Stage Project* students engage in a professional-level theatre performance work to build a portfolio of roles and project delivery experiences across acting, production, and project management. Honing their skills from on *Mini-Staged production*s at Level 5, they will work on a full-length, public-facing production, both as cast and crew members within AUB Theatre Productions.

Ensemble Practices offers students the opportunity to work in an ensemble, developing and exploring working methodologies and performance vocabulary in an original theatrical event, presenting their work to a public audience, and showcasing their professional interests in the creative and performance industries. This unit supports students' ambitions to form their own

companies and operate as freelance practitioners through lectures and workshops on producing, budgeting, and touring.

Graduate Showreels and Showcase & Professional Preparation units enable students to build a digital portfolio of work and further their understanding of audio and media work within the profession. In these units, both courses merge again to collaborate and present their skills and face the industry agents in Showcase in London and prepare for professionally or collaboratively filmed showreels for their Spotlight platform. This work is documented and forms an important aspect of the public facing professional portfolio for each individual student.

Alongside this work freelance business skills form part of the content of taught sessions, as well helping students to identify their personal brand and career goals. This enables them to enter the professional environment with insights into current industry practices and/or assisting them in further studies at postgraduate levels.

In *the Investigative Study* unit, students design and complete an independent research project on a topic of their choosing. The research should be relevant to the subject specialism broadly but does not need to be restricted to acting alone.

Course Content (BA (Hons) Acting for Screen)

Level 4

Throughout the course the focus rests on fundamental questions and approaches to acting, ensemble, autonomy, spontaneity, repetition, self and character, play and presence. It is a process of experimentation and building your own meaning and your own processes of working.

Through the units *Acting 1* and *Acting 2* students are working on the idea of being in the moment, heightened awareness, precision to detail, and working on voice and language through dramatic texts. We work on exploring vulnerability, openness, risk taking in making visible what normally, in society is invisible.

In *Playfulness, Games and Spontaneity* and *Ensemble techniques* units, students are introduced to collaborative, visceral and sensual practices that enhance their stamina, physicality and imagination.

In *Acting for Screen and Media s*tudents learn to enhance their curiosity and to sustain and deepen their awareness of how texts and narratives move into live and media performance, through a range of creative development processes and rehearsals. Students develop understanding of how performance in different recorded or filmed contexts requires shifts in techniques and technologies.

Through this level, practice-based and research methodologies, including an introduction to dramaturgical methods, are developed through seminars, group discussions, viewing professional theatre and performance works and through screenings and set readings. All of which extend the breadth and depth of knowledge relating to the changing professional and cultural landscape.

Self-reflexivity, analytical skills, self, and peer-assessment are all important parts of the critical tool kit; skills to sustain these learners through a lifelong practice. Learners are introduced to these skills sets in Level 4 as the foundation of an approach to learning which creates a learning partnership by providing the student with the skills to self-determine and drive their own learning to reach their own goals.

Level 5

Level 5 consists of more advanced work concerned with aspects of dramatic structure and the implications of style for the actor for screen. Students build on key skills and concepts introduced in Level 4 and continue to expand their skills but with the specialist focus and demands of acting for camera.

The students will continue in the first term to work together with the BA(Hons) Acting students on the *Shakespeare* and *Acting 3 units to continue to develop* their acting skills to more advanced level. Historical and contemporary texts and scores, further challenge the student actors to apply existing skills and knowledge to the making and staging of these works as well as opening new opportunities to acquire new skills and sensibilities within workshop, rehearsal, and performance settings.

However, in *Advanced Acting for Camera* unit, the students are developing advanced skills to acting for Camera through a Meisner or an equivalent technique. They are also gaining advanced skills and understanding in acting for innovative technologies (Motion capture) as well as developing more depth in working on screen fighting methods and techniques.

Acting in a short BFS film production, it is a collaborative unit with the film school where the actors are developing their understanding of acting on the set and being part of the production team. The students will experience the full range of activities and learn about being part of filmed production settings: rehearsed readings, prep activities and on set filming routines.

Professional Research and Development Unit is a shared part of the Bournemouth Film School experience, with common aims and learning outcomes across all courses. Some elements will be the same for every course, while others are tailored to suit the specific discipline or focus. It gives students the chance to build their knowledge and practical skills within a professional, industry-relevant environment, encouraging creativity and innovation.

Level 6

Level 6 enables students to extend the scope and depth of their exploration of the acting process, and test the working methods developed in Levels 4 and 5, with a range of creative challenges. In this level all students focus on public facing performance short films enhancing their skills of collaboration and working to tight professionalised deadlines. This level also provides students with the opportunity to evaluate their development as an artist, consider strengths and weaknesses, and develop an understanding of the necessary skills and knowledge to manage their career and approach potential employers and employment opportunities in a professional manner.

In *Commercially Specialised Acting - Short film production unit and Acting for Graduate Film Project* students engage in professional level acting for camera projects where they build a portfolio of roles and project delivery experiences working across BFS film productions, independent film project collaborating with students from many different departments. Honing on their skills Level 5 skills, they will act on a high end, graduate-length films which are nationally and internationally public facing productions.

Graduate Showreels and Showcase and Professional Preparation units enable students to build a digital portfolio of work and further their understanding of audio and media work within the profession. In these units, both courses merge again to collaborate and present their skills and face the industry agents in Showcase in London and prepare for professionally filmed showreels for their Spotlight platform. This work is documented and forms an important aspect of the public facing professional portfolio for each individual student.

Alongside this work freelance business skills form part of the content of taught sessions, as well helping students to identify their personal brand and career goals. This enables them to enter the professional environment with insights into current industry practices and/or assisting them in further studies at postgraduate levels.

In *Investigative Study* unit, students design and complete an independent research project on a topic of their choosing. The research should be relevant to the subject specialism broadly but does not need to be restricted to acting alone.

Course units

Those in bold are shared between BA (Hons) Acting / BA (Hons) Acting for Screen

Unit code	Unit Title	Credits
Level 4 (BA (Hons) Acting & BA (Hons) Acting for Screen)		
ACT401	**Acting 1**	**20**
ACT402	**Playfulness, Games and Spontaneity**	**20**
ACT403	**Acting 2**	**20**
ACT404	**Ensemble techniques**	**20**
ACT405	**Acting for Screen and Media**	**40**
Level 5 (BA (Hons) Acting)		
ACT501	**Shakespeare**	**20**
ACT502	**Acting 3**	**20**
ACT503	Devising	20
ACT504	**Professional Research and Development**	**40**

ACT505	Staged Mini Production	20
Level 5 (BA (Hons) Acting for Screen)		
ACT501	**Shakespeare**	**20**
ACT502	**Acting 3**	**20**
ACT506	Advanced Acting for the Camera	20
ACT504	**Professional Research and Development**	**40**
ACT507	Acting in Short BFS Film	20
Level 6 (BA (Hons) Acting)		
ACT606	Major Stage Project	40
ACT607	**Graduate Showreels**	**20**
ACT608	Ensemble Practice	20
ACT609	**Showcase and Professional Preparation**	**20**
ACT610	**Investigative Study**	**20**
Level 6 (BA (Hons) Acting for Screen)		
ACT611	Commercially Specialised Acting – Short film production	20
ACT607	**Graduate Showreels**	**20**
ACT609	**Showcase and Professional Preparation**	**20**
ACT612	Acting for Graduate Film Project	40
ACT610	**Investigative Study**	**20**

Course diagram

This diagram shows the proposed start/end dates for each unit and shows teaching weeks only; holiday periods are not included.

<table>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="30">Level 4 BA (Hons) Acting / BA (Hons) Acting for Screen</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="10">Autumn Term</td><td colspan="10">Spring Term</td><td colspan="10">Summer Term</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Induction week</td><td colspan="10">ACT401 Acting 1
Weeks 1-10
20 credits
Pass/fail unit</td><td colspan="10">ACT403 Acting 2
Weeks 11-20
20 credits</td><td colspan="10" rowspan="2">ACT405 Acting for Screen and Media
Weeks 21-30
40 credits</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="10">ACT402 Playfulness, games and spontaneity
Weeks 1-10
20 credits
Pass/fail unit</td><td colspan="10">ACT404 Ensemble Techniques
Weeks 11-20
20 credits</td></tr>
</table>

Level 5 BA (Hons) Acting

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Autumn Term										**Spring Term**										**Summer Term**									
	ACT501 Shakespeare Weeks 1-10 20 credits										**ACT503 Devising** Weeks 11-20 20 credits										**ACT505 Staged Mini Production** Weeks 21-30 20 credits									
	ACT502 Acting 3 Weeks 1-10 20 credits																													
	ACT504 Professional Practice and Research Weeks 1-30 40 credits																													

Level 5 BA (Hons) Acting for Screen

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Autumn Term										**Spring Term**										**Summer Term**									
	ACT501 Shakespeare Weeks 1-10 20 credits										**ACT506 Advanced Acting for the Camera** Weeks 11-20 20 credits										**ACT507 Acting in Short BFS Film Production** Weeks 15-30 20 credits									
	ACT502 Acting 3 Weeks 1-10 20 credits																													
	ACT504 Professional Practice and Research Weeks 1-30 40 credits																													

Level 6 BA (Hons) Acting

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Autumn Term										**Spring Term**												**Summer Term**							
	ACT606 Major Stage Project Weeks 1-13 40 credits										**ACT608 Ensemble Practice** Weeks 11-20 20 credits												**ACT610 Investigative Study** Weeks 21-30 20 credits							
	ACT607 Graduate Showreels Weeks 1-13 20 credits										**ACT609 Showcase and Professional Preparation** Weeks 11-30 20 credits																			

Level 6 BA (Hons) Acting for Screen

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Autumn Term										**Spring Term**												**Summer Term**							
	ACT611 Commercially Specialised Acting – Short Film Production Weeks 1-13 20 credits																				**ACT610 Investigate Study** Weeks 21-30 20 credits									
	ACT607 Graduate Showreels Weeks 1-13 20 credits														**ACT612 Acting for Graduate Film Project** Weeks 15-30 40 credits															
											ACT609 Showcase and Professional Preparation Weeks 11-30 20 credits																			

Image: All My Blues | BA (Hons) Film Production