

Programme Specification

BA (Hons) Costume with Performance Design

Please note that the former Arts University College at Bournemouth (AUCB) became the Arts University Bournemouth (AUB) on 13 December 2012. All references in this document to AUCB, the University College or the Arts University College should be taken to refer to AUB, the University or the Arts University.



This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, graduates, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Whilst every endeavour has been made to provide the course described in the Programme Specification, the University reserves the right to make such changes as may be appropriate for reasons of operational efficiency or due to circumstances beyond its control. Any changes are made in accordance with the University's academic standards and quality procedures.

This document is available in alternative formats on request.

THE ARTS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AT BOURNEMOUTH

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

The Programme Specification provides a summary of the main features of the **BA (Hons) Costume with Performance Design** course, and the learning outcomes that a 'typical' student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she passes the course.

Further detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching and learning methods of each unit may be found in your Course Handbook.

<u>Key Course Information</u>

Final Award	BA Honours
Course Title	Costume with Performance Design
Teaching institution	The Arts University College at Bournemouth
Awarding Institution	The Arts University College at Bournemouth
Professional accreditation	None
Length of course / mode of study	3 years full-time
Level of final award (in FHEQ)	Level 6
Subject benchmark statement(s)	Art and Design
UCAS code	W451
Language of study	English
External Examiner for course	Anne Curry Senior Lecturer Nottingham Trent University
<i>Please note that it is not appropriate for students to contact external examiners directly</i>	
Date of Validation	1995
Date of most recent review	2009
Date programme specification written/revised	Revised September 2012

Course Philosophy

The BA (Hons) Costume with Performance Design intends to provide an education concerned with the processes of costume design, performance and set design, production supervisory skills and costume interpretation within the specialist nature of this area of study. The course is informed by the application of research, and directly references the subject benchmark statements.

Through its educative processes students are facilitated to learn to function as cognizant individuals within all areas of the subject, by the integration of contextual debate, creativity, applied practical and technological techniques, and with due consideration of commercial constraints. The course provides an understanding of Film, Television and Theatre Production, and how the design process fits into this structure.

The aim of the course is to develop aware, creative designers and interpreters with high aesthetic standards with strong technical ability, together with a series of transferable skills including those of problem solving, communication, and an excellent work ethic that will enable graduates to be desirable employees able to respond to the shifting performance industry constraints and opportunities.

As a consequence of engagement with industry, and as a result of continuous monitoring and review of our course, the decision has been made to continue to offer a broad course of Costume with Performance Design education, studied within a broad dramatic, cultural, historical and thematic framework. This incorporates specialist skills of Costume and Performance Design, which include costume design rendering using traditional methods and Computer Aided Design, technical set design, scale model box construction and costume cutting and making.

Course outcomes are achieved through a mixed series of thematic study from which students are able to understand the fundamental importance of the developmental and evolutionary nature of their specialist subject. This is achieved through study units which build in depth and complexity, and demonstrate, through a range of learning opportunities, the creative, dramatic and contextual base of the subject area. The sequence of study units undertaken will show how increasingly sophisticated technological developments affect production and manufacture within the performance industry.

Contextual and critical study is woven throughout the studio units with the aim of encouraging and deepening students' knowledge and understanding of the social, cultural and economic context in which the work of the artist and designer, both contemporary and historical, can be placed. Students are facilitated in developing skills in research, analysis, criticism and communication and are encouraged to develop creative and technical abilities alongside personal research interests through the exploration of new primary source material, and objectively questioning and testing sourced evidence in a quest for independent judgement and critical self-awareness.

The course emphasises personal, professional, creative and critical development, initially through design exploration and the acquisition of fundamental knowledge and skills. Students are encouraged to develop a critical understanding of text and styles of interpretation through exploration of innovative design solutions to extend manipulative and representational abilities, and to explore personal strengths and subject preferences.

As well as individual study, a significant amount of collaboration between students will take place, in order to extend conceptual and creative ability, contextual knowledge, technical understanding and practical expertise. In this way students acquire the confidence and ability required for the investigation of potential outcomes and the communication of ideas which provides the necessary foundation for a professional career. Creative practice is an essential part of the course as is our collaborative work with other departments within the college. Of particular value is the work we do with the BA (Hons) Film Production course, BA (Hons) Acting course as well as ongoing collaboration with University College photography courses, modelmaking, animation and arts and event management students.

Course Aims

- A1 develop a comprehensive understanding and knowledge of costume and/or set design through the acquisition of specific discipline skills and abilities
- A2 develop an understanding of the development of key performance issues, their place within a social, historical and dramatic context, and appreciation of the inter relationship of research, theory and practice
- A3 develop creative, craft and aesthetic skills together with the ability to communicate design and interpretation solutions through a variety of methods
- A4 develop your professional competence and understanding and promote your business and professional potential
- A5 provide opportunities for you to participate in working situations which will develop your interpersonal and practical skills

- A6 demonstrate strategies for identifying personal strengths and needs through self reflection and self management

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course you will be able to:

- LO1 demonstrate a comprehensive understanding and knowledge of costume and/or set design through the acquisition of specific discipline skills and abilities
- LO2 recognise the development of key performance issues, their place within social, historical and dramatic contexts, and appreciate the interrelationships of research, theory and practice
- LO3 illustrate creative, practical craft and aesthetic skills together with the ability to communicate design and interpretation solutions through a variety of methods
- LO4 operate to professional standards and be able promote your business and professional potential
- LO5 participate in working situations which will develop your skills and the ability to work with others
- LO6 demonstrate personal strengths and needs through self reflection and self management.

Reference Points

UK Quality Code for higher education, including:

- Subject Benchmark Statement: Art and Design
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- Code of Practice

AUCB Undergraduate Regulatory Framework

University College Learning and Teaching Strategy

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The course objectives are met by deploying a wide variety of teaching and learning methods including projects, lectures, seminars, group critiques and tutorials. In consultation with the Course Leader, staff are responsible for co-ordinating individual units of study, and for selecting appropriate methods of delivery according to subject matter and student experience.

The methods employed induct you 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 you reach the later stages of the course.

The progressive promotion of independent learning reflects your anticipated maturity as a student and allows you to direct your learning towards individual goals. The teaching in Level 4 is directed at providing you with the knowledge, concepts and skills to take increasing responsibility for the management of your own learning.

Teaching is directed at supporting individual engagement in learning although there will be opportunities for you to work in teams to enable you to learn the value of peer co-operation.

The integration of theory and practice is promoted and reinforced through a team teaching approach. Lectures, seminars and tutorials may be delivered by team members, as appropriate, in the creative environment of the studio.

Assessment

Each unit is assessed separately, and the assessment forms part of the unit. Assessment both provides a measure of your achievement, and also gives you regular feedback on how your learning is developing.

For every unit of your course you will be provided with a Unit Handbook, which will state what you are expected to learn within the unit; the work that you have to submit; and how it will be assessed. The Unit Handbook will also give the deadline for presenting your work for assessment.

You will receive a final mark for each unit in the form of a percentage, which will be recorded on your 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 (eg 42, 45, 48). These marks correspond to a low, mid, and high level of achievement within each grade band.

On successful completion of your Honours degree course, you will be awarded a degree classification based on your unit marks. The final classification is determined using all unit marks at Levels 5 and 6 using two different algorithms, which are detailed in your *Quick Guide to the regulations*. If the two algorithms produce different results, you will be awarded the higher class of degree. For further information on progression, awards and classifications, please visit <http://intranet.aucb.ac.uk/registry/academicregulations.aspx>

Course Structure

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

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

For the award of a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE), you 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 you leave the University College following successful completion of the second year of your course.

For the award of a BA (Hons) you 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 your course.

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

Course Content

The course is structured in a way that builds systematically in a logical sequence. The course consists of three levels, each one lasting one academic year with each level building in complexity and demands.

In the introductory stages of the course the students undertake a series of basic skill gathering that informs the learning throughout the course. These consist of basic pattern drafting and manipulation, costume construction, textile workshops, figure drawing and design skills together with an introduction to research and writing skills through text evaluation and analysis.

As the course progresses, artistic and intellectual enquiry deepen to adapt to individual needs and career aspirations within costume design, set design and costume making.

Course Units

Unit code	Unit Title	Credit Weighting
Level 4		
CSS450	Fundamental Studies	20
CSS451	Design Laboratory	40
CSS452	Practice in Context	20
CSS453	Costume for Screen	40
Level 5		
CSS550	Defining Practice	40
CSS551	Concepts in Context	40
CSS552	Perceptions of Performance	20
CSS553	Independent Project	20
Level 6		
CSS650	Specialist Practice	40
CSS651	Dissertation	20
CSS652	Major Project	40
CSS653	Professional Preparation	20

Course Diagrams

These schematic diagrams show the proposed start/end dates for each unit with assessment periods. Further information on the structure of each unit will be included in unit handbooks.

Level 4																																		
	Autumn term										Spring term										Summer term													
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				
Induction week	CSS450 Fundamental Studies (20 credits)										Assessment	CSS451 Design Laboratory (40 credits)										Assessment	CSS453 Costume for Screen (40 credits)										Filming	Assessment
	CSS452 Practice in Context (20 credits)																										Assessment							

Level 5																																
	Autumn term										Spring term										Summer term											
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		
Induction week	CSS550 Defining Practice (40 credits)										Assessment	CSS551 Concepts in Context (40 credits)										CSS553 Independent Project (20 credits)										Assessment
	CSS552 Perceptions of Performance (20 credits)																										Assessment					

Level 6																															
Autumn term											Spring term										Summer term										
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	
CSS650 Specialist Practice (40 credits)										Assessment	CSS652 Major Project (40 credits)										Assessment	CSS653 Professional Preparation (20 credits)									Assessment
CSS651 Dissertation (20 credits)																															

Resources

University College Resources:

Library

The course is supported by a Subject Librarian who liaises closely with the team to ensure that the Library resources are relevant and meet student and staff research needs. As part of the AUCB's Information Literacy Framework, the Subject Librarian provides sessions on researching and using information, as well as individual support for students in the use of Library resources. There is also another member of staff part of whose role is to assist students with any additional needs.

The Library holds an excellent range of specialist learning materials including books, journals, CDs, DVDs, and newspapers. It has subscriptions to a wide range of specialist electronic resources focusing on art, design, media and performance, including e-books and e-journals.

The Library is wi-fi enabled and facilities include viewing rooms, a presentation space, a silent reading room, photocopiers, iMacs and PCs. The open plan design and high quality resources make the Library a popular space for work and study. The Library consistently receives high scores in both the in-house and national student surveys, which are carried out annually.

Information technology

The University College provides a comprehensive range of IT resources, utilising Apple Macintosh, Windows Personal Computers and specialist resources for its art, design, media and performance disciplines. The University College uses industry standard software from Microsoft, Adobe, Macromedia, Apple, Quark and leading software suppliers, and is continually investing in its technology and resources.

IT resources are also available to you via the Library, plus through a number of bookable IT suites and dedicated base room provision. To enable access to learning resources, wireless internet access is also available.

The ITCS section (Information Technology and Communication Services) provides a helpdesk facility for IT enquiries and fault notification. The Helpdesk is open from 8.30am until 5pm from Monday to Friday Email: itcshelpdesk@aucb.ac.uk

Museum of Design in Plastic (MoDiP)

MoDiP is a registered museum of 20th and 21st century design and popular culture with a focus on plastics. Its collection is unique within the UK and has been developed to support teaching and learning at the Arts University College at Bournemouth.

There are many ways in which MoDiP can play a part in your studies:

- as a source of inspiration – large numbers of items may be viewed, handled and explored in depth, drawn, photographed and filmed
- as the focus of a brief for products and projects relating to course work
- as an exhibition venue – your work can be displayed in relation to the collections and exhibitions and events may be mounted in the museum space

The Museum is in a purpose built space within the Library, designed with wheelchair access in mind, and has the same opening hours as the rest of the University College for the viewing of exhibitions. Objects not on display can be borrowed and taken to the studio. To see what is available, go to the [Plastics Network](http://www.plasticsnetwork.org) website (www.plasticsnetwork.org).

The Gallery

The gallery is a major resource for contemporary visual art at the Arts University College at Bournemouth and has received regional and national recognition. There are regular gallery events,

including collections on loan from galleries and museums, as well as individual exhibitions by some of today's leading artists, photographers, designers and critical writers.

It also functions as a learning resource and is integrated into the teaching, learning, and research practice undertaken at the University College.

text + work is the ethos which underpins the exhibition programme at the Arts University College at Bournemouth. The **text + work** concept promotes and provides a forum for challenging dialogue between innovative contemporary art, design, and media practice and its theoretical context.

There are **text + work** gallery events, critical texts, shared and networked exhibitions and a **text + work** website.

Student Support

Academic Guidance

Academic staff are responsible for providing you with feedback on your work and your general academic progress, and for providing academic support and guidance through the course. This is provided through "critiques" and written feedback, as well as guidance on practical work and informal discussion about your concerns. These sessions may be individual or, in the case of collaborative work, in small groups.

Academic tutorials are scheduled to allow you to discuss in depth matters relating to creative or theoretical work, or the course in general. You will be entitled to at least one formal recorded academic tutorial per term with a nominated member of the course team.

Support and advice is also provided on an informal basis throughout the course, through discussions between staff and students.

Career Education, Information and Guidance

You will be prepared for employment, and given the opportunity to learn about the various career options available to you, through a wide range of projects which may include live briefs or external competitions. Academic staff remain very familiar with the discipline, and will often still work in the field, and are also able to advise on specific opportunities.

The Careers Service within the University College offers impartial, confidential advice, support and guidance, to help you explore and develop your career ideas and manage your future career successfully. The Service offers individual career guidance interviews, as well as advice on job seeking strategies, CVs and interview skills, self-employment / freelancing, and further study opportunities.

The Senior Careers Officer holds regular lunchtime lectures, which cover a range of popular careers topics, including Postgraduate study and funding, Career planning, Networking and self-marketing, and Teaching as a career. Full details and dates of forthcoming lectures are available on the Careers intranet pages and on the Student Services notice boards.

The Careers Service also offers specialist events, working in partnership with local employers, AUCB alumni, and external agencies to bring together a range of art, design, media and performance expertise.

Learning Support

Support for students with disabilities (including dyslexia)

The Arts University College at Bournemouth is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunities for all students and positively welcomes applications from people with disabilities and/or additional needs. Throughout all aspects of University College life, we actively encourage and support the participation of students with disabilities. We aim to support disabled students by offering needs assessments and support plans which enable you to achieve your personal goals.

The Learning Support team provides academic support for students with specific learning difficulties including dyslexia. We ask all new Home students to complete a 'Quicksan' screening programme when they join the University College. This screening is designed to check your learning style (the way you learn best) and whether you might have signs of dyslexia. If appropriate, you will be referred to an educational psychologist for a full assessment.

Students with a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia are able to access individual tutorials aimed at improving your independent study skills, and are supported in applying for the Disabled Students' Allowance, which can provide specialist equipment and, if appropriate, personal support. The Senior Disability Officer and Wellbeing Officer provide ongoing support and advice for students with all other types of disability, including mental health difficulties, physical disabilities, medical conditions and sensory impairments.

Support for students for whom English is a second language

If English is not your first language you will be invited to complete a brief written exercise during the initial weeks of your course, so that your current academic language skills can be assessed. Our English for Academic Purposes (EAP) tutors, who are part of the Learning Support team, will review the exercise and contact you if your work indicates that you would benefit from additional support. An EAP tutor will work with you to draw up an Individual Learning Plan, which will set out a structured approach to developing your independent academic and study skills. This may include helping you to develop strategies for interpreting assignment briefs, working on the structure of your written work, or developing your proof-reading skills, for example. The plan will be reviewed each term and will be shared with your course tutor so that they are aware of the work you are doing to improve your study skills. If necessary, your EAP tutor will refer you to a local language school so that you can improve your generic English language levels.

Pastoral support and guidance

Support and advice on non-academic matters is provided through trained and qualified professional staff within Student Services. We have a team of professionally qualified male and female counsellors, with appointments available during weekdays and evenings. Students accessing the service are offered various levels of support ranging from regular weekly sessions, occasional support or just a "one off" consultation. In most cases, you can expect to be seen for a session within two days of making initial contact with the service. If the situation is very urgent and you are very emotionally distressed, we also have a crisis support service and you will be seen by one of our counsellors almost immediately.

Pastoral support is also available from the AUCB Chaplaincy. The Chaplaincy at the Arts University College at Bournemouth is shared with Bournemouth University and is an inclusive Chaplaincy, which welcomes people of all faiths and none. The Quiet Room and the Islamic Prayer Room are in regular use by staff and students, and meetings with ministers of any faith can be arranged.

Advice and support with practical issues such as funding, accommodation or childcare is available from the Student Advice, Funds and Accommodation Office within Student Services.

Methods for Evaluating and Improving the Quality and Standards of Teaching and Learning

The course is subject to the University College's rigorous quality assurance procedures which involve subject specialist and internal peer review of the course at periodic intervals, normally of 5 years. This process ensures that the course engages with the national Subject Benchmarks and references the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications.

In addition all courses undertake an Annual Course Review which takes account of relevant information such as:

- External Examiners' Reports
- Key statistics including data on application, retention and achievement
- Results of the National Student Survey
- Results of the in-house Student Perception Survey
- Feedback from Student Representatives
- Feedback from relevant employer groups, including the course Industry Liaison Group

All courses develop an action plan arising out of this exercise, which is monitored by the Course and Faculty Boards of Study. Your student representatives can keep you informed about progress against the action plan.

Staff development priorities for the course team as a whole are identified through the Annual Course Review process, and for individuals through the Staff Performance Review process.

Indicators of Quality and Standards

The Arts University College at Bournemouth was granted taught degree awarding powers by the Privy Council in 2008 following an intensive period of scrutiny by experienced academics from across the higher education sector.

The University College was audited by the QAA in May 2011 and received a judgement of 'Confidence' in the management of the academic standards of its awards, and its management of the quality of learning opportunities. This is the best available outcome, and confirms that our quality assurance mechanisms are robust, meaning that we can have full confidence in the standard of course outcomes, and the quality of the educational experience we deliver.

Please note that this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course.

More detailed information is available in the following documents:

- Online course information
- Quick guide to the regulations
- Unit Handbooks
- HE Student Regulations – <http://intranet.aucb.ac.uk/registry/academicregulations.aspx>
- AUCB Student Guide