

Programme Specification

BA Art and Theatre

For students entering Part 1 in September 2024

UCAS Code: WW40

UFARTXTHE

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	4 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	
Accreditation	N/A
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	Art and Design

Programme information and content

BA Art & Theatre is a unique four-year programme that brings together creative practice in art and film with academic knowledge, helping you to become a skilful, informed, and thoughtful creator. The programme affords sustained time, focus and resources to develop meaningful expertise in both subjects. Your learning on this programme supports sustained experimentation and creative enquiry in large credit practical studio modules alongside supplementary studies to introduce, develop and master skills and knowledge of art and filmmaking.

Your programme aims to provide you with tools to make, present and analyse art and theatre. It fosters investigative, critically reflective and independent learning through the study, discussion and practice of contemporary art and theatre from a range of periods. You will be equipped with the tools to express your creativity and develop your understanding of the relationship with wider social, political, cultural, and ecological contexts and practices.

Your BA Art & Theatre plays a vital role in connecting how people understand and shape the world globally, and so sustainability, accessibility and social engagement are thoroughly embedded into your studies. You will explore how creative practitioners respond to and shape our rapidly changing world and develop your ability to make politically engaged and creatively ambitious work.

As critically informed art and theatre practitioners, you will gain the employability and entrepreneurial skills needed to start your career in the creative industries or pursue postgraduate studies.

Part 1:	Art introduces you to a range of art making approaches and current discourses through a series of practical projects in different media, including Health & Safety training.
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	<p>In Theatre you are introduced to a variety of contemporary theatre making, writing, design, technical and production practices, and will use them to stage your own performance experiments. You will engage with the histories, practices, and ideas that inform contemporary performance in different global contexts.</p>
Part 2:	<p>Part 2</p> <p>In Art you are provided with the opportunity to develop your own art project in the studio guided by a series of individual skills training and the opportunity to gain more in-depth knowledge and understanding of art historical issues.</p> <p>In Theatre you have the chance to specialise based on your own interests, experiment with new forms of storytelling, and gain experience working with industry partners. Through research and practice, you will explore work within and beyond classical and conventional narrative traditions and learn about practitioners and movements that have challenged those traditions in various global contexts.</p> <p>Part 2i</p> <p>In Art you have the resources and opportunities to build on the intellectual and technical skills through increasingly independent art practice and its relation to art history and theory.</p> <p>In Theatre your studies will deepen your knowledge through selecting optional modules, allowing you to investigate a variety of areas in detail, as well as a selection of film and television modules; these are based around our academics' current world-leading research and practice.</p>
Part 3:	<p>Art facilitates your proficiency in a sustained and focused studio practice with an emphasis on independent research, critical reflection, production, and presentation skills.</p> <p>Theatre supports your expertise as a skilful and knowledgeable theatre maker and critical thinker, culminating in an individual creative research project or written dissertation.</p>

Programme Learning Outcomes - BA Art and Theatre	
<p>During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:</p>	
	Learning outcomes
1	Share knowledge of the diversity of art and theatre practices, and reflect materials, media and techniques, their relationship with wider contexts.
2	Show imaginative understanding and analysis of art and theatre practices in relation to their histories and studies, the contemporary field, current critical theories and discourses.

3	Understand and engage with the concepts, values and debates informing and shaping the study of art and theatre, with awareness of their limitations, including historical, contextual or geopolitical perspectives.
4	Use materials, media and techniques in informed, effective and skilful ways, committing to sustainability, responsibility and safety.
5	Initiate, manage, and present artworks with appropriate and effective methods, mindful of their context, audience and ethical and sustainable strategies of production and dissemination.
6	Demonstrate competencies in multiple production skills and roles such as directing, design, sound, lighting, writing and dramaturgy via practical or written forms.
7	Demonstrate understanding of how theatre practitioners from a range of contexts collaborate and effectively construct their own process of development.
8	Apply and share skills and knowledge flexibly and imaginatively in a variety of professional contexts with awareness of relevance to the creative industries.
9	Engage actively in seeking and building new networks and peer relationships to develop and expand self and others in meaningful and ethical ways.
10	Integrate transferable skills including, teamwork, independent work, concise written and oral communication, organisational skills, the use of IT skills to write, present and visualise information.

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA1ART	Art Studio	40	4
FA1DR1	Drawing	20	4
FT1ATP	Analysing Theatre and Performance	20	4
FT1RFT	Radical Forms in Theatre and Performance	20	4

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the Department of Film, Theatre and Television.

Students with English as a second language who enter the programme with IELTS (or equivalent) below 7.0 will be required to take an additional non-credit-bearing language course provided via the Academic English Programme.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA2ART	Art Studio 2	40	5
FT2IPC	Identity, Performance and Culture	20	5

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the Department of Film, Theatre and Television and the Department of Art.

Part 2 (continued) modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA2IART	Art Studio 2b	60	5
FA2ISAP	Situated Art Practice	20	5

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the Department of Film, Theatre and Television.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA3ARTB	Art Studio 3b	80	6

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the Department of Film, Theatre and Television.

Placement opportunities**Placements:**

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University

Study Abroad:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which

they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will experience a range of approaches to teaching which are tailored to the learning outcomes of the subjects you will study and the overall objectives of the programme.

Student-centered learning in **Art** is situated within the art studio, your shared learning space, where you study amongst students from your programme; this core learning environment is informed by group work, collaboration and peer exchange, fostering inclusive and diverse debate.

You will be taught in **Theatre** through lectures, seminars, supervision tutorials and, depending on your specialization and module choices, practical workshops and tutorials using our specialist equipment and facilities.

Part 1

In **Art** your learning will be guided through set practical projects, group and one-to-one feedback, and weekly seminars. You will have the opportunity be inducted in workshop facilities, technical and Health & Safety training. In addition, there are directed study visits to museums and galleries. Further academic guidance is given through oral and written feedback as part of a series of scheduled meetings with your Academic Tutor.

Theatre Introduces you to the academic study of theatre and performance culture across a range of approaches and practices, instilling foundational terminology and key disciplinary debates. Students engage with their discipline both theoretically/critically and practically, learning the scholarly protocol of formal essay-writing and receiving an induction in the safe and appropriate use of facilities and equipment

Parts 2 and 2i

In **Art** your learning will be increasingly self-directed, supported by further training in skills and the deepening of your expertise through exhibiting your artwork, the visiting artist lectures and optional study visits. At this part you have increased optionality in art to support your own individual study path, your interests and strengths to allow you to bridge the two subjects.

Theatre provides you with an understanding of theatre and performance culture through the discovery and investigation of issues explored via in-depth discussions across lectures, seminars and workshops. Students also begin their process of specialization in theatre practice, leading to an increasingly confident use of specialist theatre-making facilities and equipment. You the opportunity to gain specialist knowledge through optional module

choices closely informed by staff research and advanced practical expertise through the pursuit of sustained and focused theatre-making practice.

Part 2i also offers opportunities for study abroad and work-based learning.

Part 3

In **Art** you consolidate your learning and master your skills and knowledge in a final exhibition; in **Theatre** there is an emphasis on independent research and enquiry through dissertation or a creative research project.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

There are dedicated resources available online via our virtual learning environment, Blackboard, including online video channels of recorded artist lectures.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

Assessments in Art & Theatre are authentic to support your learning through diverse and inclusive strategies, providing real world professional practice and to prepare you for the workplace.

Summative assessment points are predominantly coursework as a combination of a range of different assessment methods.

Practical modules support accumulative learning documented through portfolios of practice, combined with written reflective elements, and in larger credit modules, an end-of year group exhibition of your artwork.

Our practice-based assessment methods provide inclusive and diverse combinations that enable students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge relevant to their individual creative practice and strengths supported through detailed assessment handbooks.

Other forms, such as video essays, creative projects, learning journals, script reports and film/tv/theatre reviews will also be used to develop new types of skills and ensure student engagement in their learning.

Academic research, writing and presentation skills are captured alongside knowledge acquisition through journals, essays, and reflective reports, culminating in a written dissertation or creative research project.

Formative assessment as linked feedback and feedforward in large-credit practical art modules consists of a series of exhibitions and a mid-module rehearsal of the summative assessment.

Formative assessments include a range of methods to build assessment literacy and competency, including assessment scheduling and briefings, self-assessment based on rubrics, peer-review, presentations, planning and drafting of written work, and revision of past samples of good practice.

Both summative and formative assessment volume and timing are distributed evenly across semesters and shared from the beginning of the academic year.

Timely feedback and feedforward is both written and verbal:

In practical modules it is ongoing and continuous through one-to-one and small group tutorials; Every learning activity includes an embedded feedforward element.

In 20 credit modules feedback is attached to formative assignments and feedforward tutorials supports planning towards summative assessment.

Across the programme a series of scheduled Academic tutorials help acknowledge as well as join up and act on formative and summative feedback.

Progression

Part 1

To achieve a threshold performance at Part 1, a student will normally be required to:

- (i) Obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1;
- (ii) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in modules amounting to 120 credits.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance;

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Students on Joint Honours programmes who achieve the University threshold standard for progression at Part 1 may transfer to a Single Honours degree in one of their joint subject areas if they have achieved at least 40% in 40 or more credits (i.e. 2 x 20 credit modules) of modules owned by the School or Department which delivers the Single Honours

programme to which the student wishes to transfer. In addition, students must also have met any programme specific requirements on the Single Honours programme to which they may wish to transfer. Students should seek advice about the titles of programmes they may be eligible to transfer to.

Part 2

To achieve a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) Obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; and
- (ii) Obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits taken in Part 2; and
- (iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 2i, a student must achieve a threshold performance;

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 2i

To achieve a threshold performance at Part 2i, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) Obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2i; and
- (ii) Obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits taken in Part 2i; and
- (iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2i to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

Classification

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark Interpretation

70% - 100% First class

60% - 69% Upper Second class

50% - 59% Lower Second class

40% - 49% Third class

35% - 39% Below Honours Standard

0% - 34% Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Four year programmes

Part 2: one-sixth

Part 2i: one-sixth

Part 3: two-thirds

The classification method is given in detail in [Section 17](#) of the Assessment Handbook.

Additional costs of the programme

You will incur costs for theatre, cinema and/or gallery trips linked to Department modules and module assessments. These visits are an essential and very enjoyable part of your studies. We recommend that you budget between £60 to £100 for this per year. We secure discounted tickets in good seats through group booking, and travel costs can be significantly reduced by booking well in advance, travelling off-peak, and using Group Travel discounts and a 16-25 rail card. To help reduce costs, we also include visits to venues in Reading and Oxford as well as London where appropriate, and we invite practitioners to the department to perform/exhibit work and hold workshops and master classes for our students.

The Department of Art houses its own art supplies shop that provides a range of materials at subsidised prices. Equipment and software for video and digital media practices are all available to hire at no cost through our student media resource. Due to the individual nature of studio practice, the cost of materials throughout your programme will vary depending on your choice of media. At Part 1 most materials are provided by the department except where students wish to use specialist or unusual materials of their choice. In subsequent years we would suggest an approximate budget of £200 per year to cover basics. For the final year exhibition, you may wish to invest more in materials. This is not a necessary requirement and advice should be sought from the module convenor. However, a reasonable budgetary expectation would be an additional £200.

If you partake in Study Abroad you should expect to pay for services which you would normally expect to pay for at Reading e.g. housing, food, travel, social activities, etc. Additional costs will vary depending on the host institution and location. Please see the Erasmus and Study Abroad website for further details.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. Estimates were calculated in 2023.

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BA Art and Theatre for students entering Part 1 in session 2024/25

30 June 2023

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