

BA Theatre

Programme Specification

1. Programme title	BA Theatre
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	N/A
5. Final qualification	BA Theatre BA Theatre (Acting) BA Theatre (Design) BA Theatre (Directing) Dip HE Theatre Cert HE Theatre
6a. Year of validation	2019/20
6b. Year of amendment	2023/24
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full time (Part time pathway offered)

9. Criteria for admission to the programme
<p>Admission to the programme is normally by Workshop/Interview.</p> <p>International students for whom attendance for interview is not practical will be offered the opportunity to submit a recorded scene of their choice.</p> <p>Academic experience, interest and qualifications will be considered as well as practical skills in performance, or the potential for development of such skills. Candidates should be able to display a strong interest in the theory and practice of theatre.</p> <p>Candidates with disabilities are warmly encouraged to apply and to discuss with teaching staff what the programme will be able to offer them on an individual basis; we</p>

will also facilitate a visit to the campus to assess its accessibility for candidates where this is necessary.

Candidates for whom English is not the first language will be required to provide evidence of sufficient English language competence to enable them to undertake the Programme successfully. The minimum requirement is an IELTS score of 6.0 or equivalent. Where the IELTS score has been achieved but a minimum of 5.5 has not been reached in every element, candidates are very strongly encouraged to attend the University's pre-sessional preparation programme for International Students (details are available from the Admissions Office).

We normally offer places on the programme to candidates achieving 112 UCAS tariff points. Mature candidates who do not have these formal qualifications but who have commensurate experience are very much encouraged to apply.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

1. Develop autonomous, enterprising graduates able to access and shape the theatre industry and related industries.
2. Create opportunities for collaboration and partnership with industry and/or social enterprise across and beyond the programme.
3. Utilise diversity as a resource to equip students as drivers of innovation in theatre, offering a range of disciplines, skills and opportunities for specialism which place students at the forefront of emerging theatre and performance practices.
4. Produce thinking practitioners and practitioner-thinkers who are empowered to create and reflect upon theatre as a form which embraces risk, celebrates critical engagement and pushes beyond current thinking and practice.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. key processes and principles relevant to the practice and study of theatre, performance, design, technical theatre, directing and producing;
2. a diverse range of critical, cultural and historical perspectives on theatre as a live art form, and how these are applied or considered in contemporary theatre practice;
3. ethical approaches to the interpretation and communication of ideas in a creative context;

Teaching & learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

1. a structured learning experience, which supports and enables increasing levels of autonomy with students taking significant control over and responsibility for their own work in Year Three.;
2. active approaches which aim to put students at the centre of their studies, to ensure that they are involved and engaged in all aspects of their assessment and learning;
3. engagement with fellow students both individually and collaboratively. This is

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. the role of critical analysis of their own and others' creative practice through identification, appraisal and assimilation of a variety of sources; 5. their own skills and aptitudes in creative and critical practice, and how these can be applied to work in collaborative settings fostering effective teamwork; 6. key professional networks, contexts and organisations relevant to their onward employability. 	<p>encouraged and facilitated by working with other students as part of a group;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. engagement with e-learning ensuring digital literacy and learning new technologies and developing skills that are both essential for their learning and are also highly valued by employers. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by setting a range of formative and summative assessment tasks including: practice-led performance and production work, academic writing assignments (including essays, critical reviews, reflective research documents), poster presentations, portfolios, workbooks and practice journals, reflective oral interview/discussions.</p>
<p>B. Skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. interpret, synthesise and realise texts, scores, concepts and/or other sources in original performance or production work, and respond creatively to given briefs; 2. be resourceful and demonstrate autonomy in practice and learning; 3. critically evaluate their own and others' practice, and proactively seek and respond to feedback from a range of sources; 4. develop and refine a broad portfolio of skills, methods, techniques and crafts relevant to the creation and application of contemporary theatre practice(s); 5. apply individual skills and knowledge to collaborative and group processes and integrate interpersonal and professional skills that support collaborative work; 6. consider audience and context in the creation and delivery of live performance work; 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn cognitive skills through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. participation in specialist acting, design and directing modules and Project Modules in each year. These are collaborative and can be workshop-based or fully-realised public performances; 2. practical participation in workshops and skills sessions which aim to develop specific creative skills and competencies; 3. engagement with fellow students both individually and collaboratively. This is encouraged and facilitated by working with other students as part of a group. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed by setting a range of formative and summative assessment tasks including: performance/practical projects, portfolios and workbooks, practice journals and summative statements, workshop presentations, seminar presentations; including negotiated assessment methods</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7. extend and refine skills in writing, communication, digital and numerate literacy and documentation; 8. develop entrepreneurial and administrative skills required for a professional career in the creative industries; 9. develop an individually nuanced approach to delivering highly creative work underpinned by innovation and critical insight. 	<p>for work in some Level 6 modules appropriate to the student, the project and the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria of the module.</p>
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12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12.1 Overall structure of the programme

Entry award: **BA Theatre**

Year One (Level 4)

COMPULSORY

Introduction to Acting and Performance THE1001	Introduction to Design and Production THE1002	Perspectives on Theatre THE1003	Making Theatre THE1515
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Exit with 120 credits for Cert HE

Year 2 (Level 5)

COMPULSORY

Theatre Industry: Applied Practices THE2005	Performance Project THE2525
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OPTIONAL – Pick TWO modules, including at least one marked ★

The Actor and Director THE2024★	The Scenographer THE2030★	The Solo Performer THE2035	The Writer and Dramaturg THE2040	Creative Collaborations THE2045
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Exit with 240 credits for Dip HE

Year 3 (Level 6)

COMPULSORY

Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio THE3005	Theatre Festival* THE3535 THE3536 THE3537
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OPTIONAL – Pick TWO modules, including at least one marked ★ for named exit award

Performance: Body and Training THE3025★	Design: Scenography and Technology THE3030★	Solo: Stand-up Comedy / Performance Art THE3035	Directing: Practices and Philosophies THE3040★	Theatre Laboratory THE3045
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Exit award:
BA Theatre (Acting)

Prerequisites: THE3025, THE3535

Exit award:
BA Theatre (Design)

Prerequisites: THE3030, THE3537

Exit award:
BA Theatre (Directing)

Prerequisites: THE3040, THE3536

Students take four 30-credit modules at each level, comprised of a compulsory programme at level 4 and two compulsory modules plus two optional modules at levels 5 and 6. Compulsory modules engage students in an integrated study of the processes and contexts of theatre-making, while optional modules allow students to pursue areas of specialist interest.

The programme is designed to encourage an increasing degree of specialism as students progress. At Level 6, students may opt on to one of the following three specialist exit awards:

- **BA Theatre (Acting)**
- **BA Theatre (Design)**
- **BA Theatre (Directing)**

Each exit award and its prerequisite modules reflect at least 50% of a student's credit at Level 6 in the relevant specialist discipline.

Alternatively, students may retain the non-specialist exit award **BA Theatre**, and pick any two of the optional modules at Level 6.

The third-year module ***Theatre Festival** comprises of three module codes with distinct Learning Outcomes aligned to the student's chosen exit pathway:

Pathway	Code	Title	Other Level 6 prerequisite
Acting	THE3535	Theatre Festival	THE3025
Design	THE3537	Theatre Festival (Design)	THE3030
Directing	THE3536	Theatre Festival (Directing)	THE3040

However, the module is delivered as a shared collaborative project with no distinction in its delivery, resourcing or assessment.

Students not aligned to a specialist pathway will typically take THE3535.

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 4		
COMPULSORY		PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<i>Students must take all of the following:</i> THE1001 Introduction to Acting and Performance THE1002 Introduction to Design and Production THE1003 Perspectives on Theatre THE1515 Making Theatre		120 Credits
Level 5		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<i>Students must take all of the following:</i> THE2005 Theatre Industry: Applied Practices THE2525 Performance Project	<i>Students must also choose TWO from the following:</i> THE2024 The Actor and Director THE2030 The Scenographer THE2035 The Solo Performer THE2040 The Writer and Dramaturg THE2045 Creative Collaborations <i>NB: All students must take at least ONE out of THE2024 and THE2030.</i>	240 Credits

Level 6		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<p><i>Students must take:</i></p> <p>THE3005 Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio</p> <p><i>Plus ONE out of:</i></p> <p>THE3535 Theatre Festival</p> <p>THE3536 Theatre Festival (Directing)</p> <p>THE3537 Theatre Festival (Design)</p>	<p><i>Students must also choose TWO from the following:</i></p> <p>THE3025 Performance: Body and Training</p> <p>THE3030 Design: Scenography and Technology</p> <p>THE3035 Solo: Stand-up Comedy / Performance Art</p> <p>THE3040 Directing: Practices and Philosophies</p> <p>THE3045 Theatre Laboratory</p>	<p>360 Credits</p> <p>The following prerequisites apply for the exit award of BA Theatre (Acting): THE3025, THE3535</p> <p>The following prerequisites apply for the exit award of BA Theatre (Design): THE3030, THE3537</p> <p>The following prerequisites apply for the exit award of BA Theatre (Directing): THE3040, THE3536</p>

12.3 Compensation

All modules are non-compensatable except where marked C in 12.2. Compensation will be applied at the discretion of the Assessment Board. In all other cases, students have an opportunity to re-sit any/all assessment tasks before the following academic year, except where they have failed a practical task and no suitable alternative assessment can be provided without necessitating repetition of the module. Upon passing the resit task(s), the student will progress; if not they will re-take the module.

13. Curriculum map

See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

The Programme conforms to the Middlesex University Regulations. In view of the developmental and collaborative nature of the work on this programme, there is a 75% attendance requirement on all modules. Self-deferral of assessments is not permitted.

Failure or deferment of an assessment is normally allowed a resit at the next available opportunity. In the case of practical work particularly group practical work, and individual practical work where the material is developed through the process of a taught module – your reassessment may need to be planned as part of the next scheduled run of the module. This may mean that your resit has to happen in the following academic year and involve you attending classes and workshops for part or all of the module to support the reassessment.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support

All students are offered the opportunity to participate in a work placement as part of the compulsory Level 6 module THE3005 Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio.

The department has an extensive portfolio of long-established placement providers. These are supported in-house by a Placement tutor in conjunction with the University's MDXworks team, which provides extensive resources and support for placements.

16. Future careers (if applicable)

Students have access to the University's Careers service, MDXworks, and careers development and planning is one of the University's Graduate Skills. Specialist tutors on the programmes address employment-related issues as they arise in the course of teaching, and they are embedded in the compulsory Theatre Industry modules THE2005 and THE3005.

Theatre students typically graduate to diverse career paths directly in the theatre industry as well as its many peripheral industries. Students typically progress to careers in performance and performance-making, directing, dramaturgy, producing and arts management, scenography-related careers in set, lighting, sound, costume and video design, art direction, technical and production management; as well as careers in arts administration, teaching and non-theatre based careers within film, media, events, fashion and other creative industries.

A large number of graduates go on to form their own companies, collectives and arts organisations, while many also opt to continue study at post-graduate level. Middlesex offers postgraduate routes such as MA Theatre Arts, MA Arts Management.

Recent industry reports describe Theatre as an excellent subject area for academic study, and we flag here that the revised programme aims address all five Middlesex graduate employability skills directly.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Students on this programme have access as needed to specialist studio and performance space and equipment, workshops, and tutors.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	W400 (Drama), W440 (Theatre Studies) (HECoS: 100069/100698)
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Drama, Dance and Performance

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing the Programme:

- Middlesex University Corporate Plan
- QAA Subject Benchmark and Qualifications Level Descriptors
- Middlesex University Learning and Teaching Strategy
- Middlesex University Regulations

21. Other information
N/A

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for BA Theatre

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Skills	
A1	Key processes and principles relevant to the practice and study of theatre, performance, design, technical theatre, directing and producing	B1	Interpret, synthesise and realise texts, scores, concepts and/or other sources in original performance or production work, and respond creatively to given briefs
A2	A diverse range of critical, cultural and historical perspectives on theatre as a live art form, and how these are applied or considered in contemporary theatre practice	B2	Be resourceful and demonstrate autonomy in practice and learning
A3	Ethical approaches to the interpretation and communication of ideas in a creative context	B3	Critically evaluate their own and others' practice, and proactively seek and respond to feedback from a range of sources
A4	The role of critical analysis of their own and others' creative practice through identification, appraisal and assimilation of a variety of sources	B4	Develop and refine a broad portfolio of skills, methods, techniques and crafts relevant to the creation and application of contemporary theatre practice(s)
A5	Their own skills and aptitudes in creative and critical practice, and how these can be applied to work in collaborative settings	B5	Apply individual skills and knowledge to collaborative and group processes, and integrate interpersonal and professional skills that support collaborative teamwork
A6	Key professional networks, contexts and organisations relevant to their onward employability	B6	Consider audience and context in the creation and delivery of live performance work.
		B7	Extend and refine skills in writing, communication, digital and numerate literacy and documentation
		B8	Develop entrepreneurial and administrative skills required for a professional career in the creative industries
		B9	Develop an individually nuanced approach to delivering highly creative work underpinned by innovation and critical insight

Highest level achieved by all graduates														
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Module title	Module code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9
Introduction to Acting and Performance	THE1001	✓						✓								
Introduction to Design and Production	THE1002				✓					✓	✓			✓		
Perspectives on Theatre	THE1003		✓		✓											
Making Theatre	THE1515	✓		✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓
Theatre Industry: Applied Practices	THE2005			✓			✓						✓		✓	
The Actor and Director*	THE2024	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓						✓
The Scenographer*	THE2030	✓			✓			✓		✓	✓					✓
The Solo Performer*	THE2035				✓			✓		✓	✓					✓
The Writer and Dramaturg*	THE2040				✓				✓					✓		
Creative Collaborations*	THE2045					✓	✓		✓						✓	
Performance Project	THE2525	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓			✓
Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio	THE3005			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	
Performance: Body and Training*	THE3025					✓			✓		✓					
Design: Scenography and Technology*	THE3030		✓		✓						✓	✓				
Solo: Stand-up Comedy / Performance Art*	THE3035	✓	✓						✓				✓			
Directing: Practices and Philosophies*	THE3040	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓				✓				✓
Theatre Laboratory*	THE3045		✓		✓				✓							✓
Theatre Festival	THE3535															
	THE3536	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
	THE3537															

*Optional module