Programme Specification

1	**Awarding body**	University of London
2	**Teaching Institution**	**Birkbeck College**
3	**Programme Title(s)**	**BA Theatre Studies and Arts Management** **BA Theatre Studies and Arts Management with Foundation Year**
4	**Programme Code(s)**	UUBATSAM_C (full-time 3 years) UBATSARM_C (part-time 4 years) UUBFTSAM_C (full-time with FY 4 years) UBFTSARM_C (part-time with FY 6 years)
5	**UCAS code (if applicable)**	NP23, NP24 (with FY)
6	**Home Department**	English, Theatre & Creative Writing
7	**Exit Award(s)**	Dip HE, Cert HE
8	**Duration of Study** (number of years)	3 years FT, 4 years PT 4 year FT with FY, 6 years PT with FY
9	**Mode of Study**	FT	X	PT	X	DL	
10	**Level of Award (FHEQ)**	6
11	**Other teaching depts or institution**	Film, Media & Cultural Studies
12	**Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details**	N/A
13	**QAA Benchmark Statement**	Dance, Drama and Performance (2019)

14	**Programme Rationale & Aims**

BA Theatre Studies and Arts Management distinctively enables students to engage comprehensively with theatre and performance with and alongside crucial themes in arts management. Birkbeck is the only provider of evening part-time and full-time study in theatre and arts management at undergraduate level in central London, and ideal for those seeking to develop their careers in the arts with and alongside their studies. The programme puts the creative, historical and conceptual investigation of theatre in dialogue with a detailed attention to how the creative industries function now. Students will encounter key disciplinary aspects of theatre and performance studies, theatre histories, theatre theory, and in-depth study of drama, theatre and performance as text and in performance. In tandem with these investigations, they will study organizational practices, cultural leadership, marketing, budgeting, creative labour, curating, and audience development and engagement, garnering a strong foundation in the material operations of the creative industries, and insights as to how to navigate that industrial context. Representation, the cultural politics of the arts, and the role of the arts in society are key themes to be addressed year on year via the programme's inclusive teaching practice. Each year, students will be invited to select an option module or modules to immerse themselves a particular area of interest, ranging across the arts, humanities, cultural studies, and languages. The programme makes use of the rich context of Birkbeck's position in Bloomsbury, in London's West End, by giving the analysis of live performance a central place in the curriculum, and by drawing on guest speakers and practitioners. Students completing this programme will be well-placed to develop their careers in the theatre and the arts

more broadly as artists, creative producers, or arts managers, or to undertake further study at postgraduate level.

Aims:

- Enable students to develop their knowledge and skills relating to theatrical performance and arts management
- Offer a balanced programme of study that combines compulsory modules and flexible option choice to enable students to engage with theatre studies and arts management in a range of contexts
- Deepen students' awareness of the practice of theatremaking and systems of management and organisation within the arts sector
- Offer a broad understanding of the relation between practices of research, interpretation and organisational practice in theatre and arts management
- Enable students to engage critically with theatre and arts management as practices
- Facilitate the development of students' independent critical judgement
- Enable students to develop work-related knowledge and skills in relation to doing and managing creative work
- Offer students a conceptual grounding in critical and theoretical literatures in theatre and arts management
- Develop students' skills of critical reflection upon individual practice and in group contexts
- Offer students the opportunity to undertake and complete a dissertation project with an option to originate a piece of creative practice

(For Foundation Year aims, see school of Arts Foundation Year programme specification)

15	**Entry Criteria**
	We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential. UCAS tariff: 96-128 points A-levels: CCC-ABB If English is not your first language or you have not previously studied in English, our usual requirement is the equivalent of an International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic Test) score of 6.5, with not less than 6.0 in each of the sub-tests. (For Foundation Year entry criteria, see school of Arts Foundation Year programme specification)

16	**Learning Outcomes**
	On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to demonstrate: 1. knowledge and understanding of the key traditions, conventions, histories, concepts and cultures that comprise theatre practices and arts organisations in the broader context of the creative industries;

2. awareness of the range and variety of key critical and theoretical debates at the forefront of the fields of theatre and arts management;

3. knowledge and understanding of how the key elements and processes of theatrical performance are created and realised;

4. knowledge and understanding of the interplay between practice and theory;

5. ability to describe, theorise, interpret, analyse, historicise and evaluate theatrical performance, organizational practices, creative projects, and aspects of the creative industries from a range of critical perspectives;

6. research skills, including the ability to gather, sift and organise material independently and critically and to present it in the form of an essay, report, presentation or creative piece

7. ability to discuss and evaluate the work of fellow students, established theatremakers and arts practitioners;

8. the ability to work efficiently and constructively within a group and on an individual basis to realise an appropriate practice piece or presentation of a specified length;

9. the ability to present and sustain arguments and engage in debate;

10. the ability to act as a reflective, self-directed learner, recognizing and employing a range of strategies to support independent learning, including an awareness of strengths/weaknesses.

11. the ability to communicate in public and in working groups with expressive clarity and sophistication;

12. the ability to apply the expressive, critical and evaluative skills acquired during the programme to varied kinds of work;

13. the ability to communicate ideas and arguments clearly in a variety of oral, written, visual and performance media;

14. some IT skills; the use of libraries and electronic sources of information, online discussion groups, web-based research, e-learning, word-processing;

15. bibliographical skills appropriate to the discipline, including accurate citation of sources and consistent use of conventions in the presentation of scholarly work.

(For Foundation Year learning outcomes, see School of Arts Foundation Year programme specification)

17	**Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

Learning and teaching on BA Theatre Studies and Arts Management makes use of a mix of techniques and strategies, including:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Practice-based workshops
- One-to-one tutorials by arrangement
- Tutorial support and theory and practice-based supervision for the final year project
- Independent visits to theatrical performances
- Independent study and research
- Group-based study and research
- Access to public events hosted by the Birkbeck Centre for Contemporary Theatre.

On theatre studies modules, students will be taught primarily through the three key pedagogical practices central to the subject at BA level: lectures, seminar discussions and group workshops. Workshops will function to enable students to explore the concepts they

are introduced to in seminars and lectures through practice. This enables students to take a 'laboratory' approach, where they hypothesise on an aspect of theatre, and test this hypothesis through practice. They are then assessed, not on their practical skills, but rather on their reflective and analytical engagement with the concepts they have explored. This process of learning will be supplemented by independent research, independent group work and theatre visits.

Arts management modules broadly comprise a combination of lectures and seminars with a strong emphasis on peer collaboration and a range of individual and group-based assignments that span academic and practice contexts. These will include both theoretical essays and specific assignments in areas such as project development and strategic management. For their dissertation, students will have the opportunity to produce a real-world project related to their chosen specialism or conduct empirical research on the contemporary arts industries. Specific modules may incorporate blended learning elements; opportunities for work-based learning; seminars; guest 'masterclass' lectures; and site visits.

Assessment methods include:

- Research essays
- Research exercises
- Creative practice projects and exercises
- Creative practice portfolios
- Group presentations
- Performance presentations
- Group vivas
- Individual vivas
- Written portfolios

18	**Programme Description**
	BA Theatre Studies and Arts Management builds students' skills and knowledges in theatre and arts management incrementally through a programme which offers training in key skills of interpretation, critical analysis, creative practice, and professional skills development applicable to arts and creative industries. At level 4, students engage in theatre history, performance analysis, an introduction to the creative industries, and take an option module drawn from the selection on offer across the School of Arts, including modules in theatre or arts management. At level 5, students develop more advanced knowledge in theatre theory, creative labour, and curatorial praxis, and take an option module in theatre. At level 6, students develop their own dissertation projects and self-led critical projects engaging with live performance, in tandem with a compulsory module addressing audience development, and an option module drawn from the selection on offer in the School of Arts.

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19	Programme Structure			
Full-Time programme – 3 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREN256S4	Storytelling: Narrative Archetypes, Forms and Techniques	30	Compulsory
4	ENHU001S4	Theatre in London Now: Histories	30	Compulsory
4	ARMC119S4	Creative Organisations	30	Compulsory
4		Option Module: School of Arts	30	Option
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	ENHU001S5	Theories of Theatricality and Performance	30	Compulsory
5	ENHU001Z5	Theatre in London Now: Theories	0	Compulsory
5	N/A	Option Module: Theatre Studies	30	Option
5	AREN198S5	Performance, Culture and Politics	30	Compulsory
5	ARMC249S5	Curating Culture	30	Compulsory
Year 3				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
6	ENHU103S6	Independent Research Project in Theatre and Performance	30	Core
6	ENHU001S6	Theatre in London Now: Student-Led Project	30	Core
6	N/A	Level 6 option module: School of Arts	30	Option
6	ARMC036S6	Understanding Audiences: Engagement, Education and Development	30	Compulsory
Part-Time programme – 4 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREN256S4	Storytelling: Narrative Archetypes, Forms and Techniques	30	Compulsory
4	ENHU001S4	Theatre in London Now: Histories	30	Compulsory
4	ARMC119S4	Creative Organisations	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4		Option Module: School of Arts	30	Option
5	ENHU001S5	Theories of Theatricality and Performance	30	Compulsory
5	AREN198S5	Performance, Culture and Politics	30	Compulsory
5	ENHU001Z5	Theatre in London Now: Theories	0	Compulsory
Year 3				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
6	ARMC036S6	Understanding Audiences: Engagement, Education and Development	30	Compulsory
5	ARMC249S5	Curating Culture	30	Compulsory
5	N/A	Option module: Theatre Studies	30	Option

Year 4				
Level	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Credits**	**Status***
6	ENHU103S6	Independent Research Project in Theatre and Performance	30	Core
6	ENHU001S6	Theatre in London Now: Student-Led Project	30	Core
6	N/A	Option module: School of Arts	30	Option
Full-Time with Foundation Year programme - 4 years				
Foundation year (0)				
Level	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Credits**	**Status***
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study: Learning through the Global City	30	Core
3	CASE001S3	Breaking Boundaries of Knowledge	30	Core
3	ARAR008S3	The Arts: Perspectives and Possibilities	30	Core
		One Option from:		
3	ARAR09S3	The Arts: Questioning the Contemporary World	30	Option
4	AREL062S4	French 1	30	Option
4	AREL067S4	French 2	30	Option
4	ARCL105S4	French 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL106S4	French 4 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	AREL065S4	German 1	30	Option
4	AREL074S4	German 2	30	Option
4	ARCL107S4	German 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL108S4	German 4 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL039S4	Italian 1	30	Option
4	ARCL040S4	Italian 2	30	Option
4	ARCL103S4	Italian 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL104S4	Italian 4 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARMC161S4	Japanese 1	30	Option
4	ARMC164S4	Japanese 2	30	Option
4	ARCL101S4	Japanese 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL102S4	Japanese 4 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARIB106S4	Spanish 1	30	Option
4	ARIB115S4	Spanish 2	30	Option
4	ARCL112S4	Spanish 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL113S4	Spanish 4 (Level 4)	30	Option
Year 1				
Level	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Credits**	**Status***
4	AREN256S4	Storytelling: Narrative Archetypes, Forms and Techniques	30	Compulsory
4	ENHU001S4	Theatre in London Now: Histories	30	Compulsory
4	ARMC119S4	Creative Organisations	30	Compulsory
4		Option Module: School of Arts	30	Option

Year 2

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	ENHU001S5	Theories of Theatricality and Performance	30	Compulsory
5	ENHU001Z5	Theatre in London Now: Theories	0	Compulsory
5	N/A	Option Module: Theatre Studies	30	Option
5	AREN198S5	Performance, Culture and Politics	30	Compulsory
5	ARMC249S5	Curating Culture	30	Compulsory

Year 3

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
6	ENHU103S6	Independent Research Project in Theatre and Performance	30	Core
6	ENHU001S6	Theatre in London Now: Student-Led Project	30	Core
6	N/A	Level 6 option module: School of Arts	30	Option
6	ARMC036S6	Understanding Audiences: Engagement, Education and Development	30	Compulsory

Part-Time with Foundation Year programme - 6 years

Foundation year (year 0A)

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study: Learning through the Global City	30	Core
3	CASE001S3	Breaking Boundaries of Knowledge	30	Core

Foundation year (year 0B)

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
3	ARAR008S3	The Arts: Perspectives and Possibilities	30	Core
		One Option from:		
3	ARAR09S3	The Arts: Questioning the Contemporary World	30	Option
4	AREL062S4	French 1	30	Option
4	AREL067S4	French 2	30	Option
4	ARCL105S4	French 3 (Level 4)	30	
4	ARCL106S4	French 4 (Level 4)		
4	AREL065S4	German 1	30	Option
4	AREL074S4	German 2	30	Option
4	ARCL107S4	German 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL108S4	German 4 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL039S4	Italian 1	30	Option
4	ARCL040S4	Italian 2	30	Option
4	ARCL103S4	Italian 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL104S4	Italian 4 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARMC161S4	Japanese 1	30	Option
4	ARMC164S4	Japanese 2	30	Option
4	ARCL101S4	Japanese 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL102S4	Japanese 4 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARIB106S4	Spanish 1	30	Option
4	ARIB115S4	Spanish 2	30	Option

4	ARCL112S4	Spanish 3 (Level 4)	30	Option
4	ARCL113S4	Spanish 4 (Level 4)	30	Option

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREN256S4	Storytelling: Narrative Archetypes, Forms and Techniques	30	Compulsory
4	ENHU001S4	Theatre in London Now: Histories	30	Compulsory
4	ARMC119S4	Creative Organisations	30	Compulsory

Year 2

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4		Option Module: School of Arts	30	Option
5	ENHU001S5	Theories of Theatricality and Performance	30	Compulsory
5	AREN198S5	Performance, Culture and Politics	30	Compulsory
5	ENHU001Z5	Theatre in London Now: Theories	0	Compulsory

Year 3

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
6	ARMC036S6	Understanding Audiences: Engagement, Education and Development	30	Compulsory
5	ARMC249S5	Curating Culture	30	Compulsory
5	N/A	Option module: Theatre Studies	30	Option

Year 4

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
6	ENHU103S6	Independent Research Project in Theatre and Performance	30	Core
6	ENHU001S6	Theatre in London Now: Student-Led Project	30	Core
6	N/A	Option module: School of Arts	30	Option

Indicative list of option modules

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREN096S4	Performing Theatre Histories (Critical Practice I)	30	Optional
4	AHVM091S4	Debates in Art History	30	Optional
4	ARMC120S4	Visual Art: Histories, Networks, Organisations	30	Optional
4	FFME025S4	Screenwriting	30	Optional
4	ARCL126S4	Reading Transnational Cultures (Level 4)	30	Optional
4	AREN257S4	Production of the Human: Decolonising the Canon	30	Optional
4	ARCL039S4	Italian 1	30	Optional
4	AREL065S4	German 1	30	Optional
4	ARMC161S4	Japanese 1	30	Optional
4	AREL062S4	French 1	30	Optional
4	ARIB106S4	Spanish 1	30	Optional
5	AREN198S5	Communities in Theatre and Performance	30	Optional
5	AREN097S5	Space and Performance (Critical Practice II)	30	Optional
5	AREN247S5	European Drama and Theatre: Gods, Ideas and Adaptations	30	Optional

5	AREN157S5	Tragedy	30	Optional
5	AREN126S5	Connecting the Arts	30	Optional
6	AREN245S6	Finding a Leg to Stand On: clinical, critical and creative approaches to the human body	30	Optional
6	AREN221S6	The Creative Critical Seam	30	Optional
6	ARMC230S6	Memory, Media and Digital Culture	30	Optional

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student

COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board

OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

[20]	**Programme Director**	Louise Owen
[21]	**Start Date** (term/year)	Autumn 2022
[22]	**Date approved by Education Committee**	Autumn 2021
[23]	**Date approved by Academic Board**	Autumn 2021
[24]	**Date(s) updated/amended**	11 May 2023