

Professional Theatre Programme Level 3

What can I look forward to in my first year?

The Professional Theatre Programme is the first step on your journey to becoming a professional in the performing arts industry. In your first year you will cover many of the basic principles of Acting: using your voice, using your body and evaluating the work that you are creating. You will devise and perform a short piece of Physical Theatre, you will shoot a short showreel film, you will perform contemporary scripted plays and you will Improvise. All of this practical work is underpinned by regular performance journals and research into the style of performance being studied. The first year is exciting, hard work and involves regular performances to an audience.

Who will be teaching me?

Your main tutor on the course is Daniel Cambridge. Daniel is an experienced drama teacher, actor and theatre practitioner who regularly performs in regional theatre productions and delivers workshops to school groups across the region.

What will happen in my first week?

Being able to work together as a group is very important in theatre. Each individual performer relies on every other performer in the cast, and becoming an ensemble is essential. Your first week is induction week. This is an opportunity to make new friends and really get to know each other so that you can become a supportive and creative group of actors where everyone is valued equally.

Which projects will I study in my first term?

The first term comprises of a devised Physical Theatre project and a regular improvisation class.

Each unit in your first year will be assessed against 4 Grading Criteria – Context, Research, Practical Skills and Evaluation.

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What will my timetable look like?

You will be in College for up to 4 days a week with at least one study day during which you may be required to attend college in order to complete independent coursework.

You will have a balanced timetable of practical and theory sessions. Practical sessions will take place in our state-of-the-art Theatre, the Cranton Playhouse.

Every week you will have a one-hour tutorial during which your personal tutor will be available to support you in your college life.

Tutorial sessions will involve regular one-to-one sessions with your personal tutor, a chance for you to reflect on your own learning via target setting.

In addition to your timetable, you will be required to engage in at least 8 hours independent study every week to complete coursework and learn lines.

Are there any books I need to buy or useful websites I should look at?

The first project is a Devised Physical Theatre project so it would be useful to familiarise yourself with the work of key performers such as Stephen Berkoff, Jerzy Grotowski, Frantic Assembly and Tmesis. You will find their websites useful, and there is plenty of material on Youtube. You will be asked to purchase play scripts as the year goes on.

