

**ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE  
OF MUSIC & DRAMA  
COLEG BRENHINOL  
CERDD A DRAMA CYMRU**

**BA (Hons) Stage Management  
Course Overview  
3 Year Programme**

<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>
<b>Production Placements</b> <i>Credits:</i> 40	<b>Productions</b> <i>Credits:</i> 40	<b>Productions</b> <i>Credits:</i> 60
<b>Stage Management 1</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20	<b>Stage Management 2</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20	<b>Production Studies</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20
<b>Technical Studies 1</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20	<b>Technical Studies 2</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20	<b>Industry Studies</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20
<b>Stagecraft 1</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20	<b>Stagecraft 2</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20	<b>Dissertation</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20
<b>Theatre Studies 1</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20	<b>Theatre Studies 2</b> <i>Credits:</i> 20	

**Year 1**

**Production Placements**

Credits: 40

Assessment: Production 1 (25%), Production 2 (75%)

Students undertake two production placements; one in the Autumn Term and one in the Spring Term. They will work with a range of creative and technical staff attending rehearsals and meetings as required in advance of the production week and performance run.

**Stage Management 1**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Coursework (25%), Props Project (75%)

A series of lectures, seminars and workshops carried out in the classrooms, studios and theatre introducing the basic principles of stage management and production organisation. The module will focus on the work of the Assistant Stage Manager (ASM) in prop sourcing and management, and their work during production and performance, and the Deputy Stage Manager (DSM) in the use of the prompt book in rehearsal and cueing performance.

### **Technical Studies 1**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Coursework (40%), Practical Test (60%)

A series of lectures, practical demonstrations and workshops introducing students to the work of the theatre technician. Students will study theatre lighting including rigging and focusing, lighting board operation and an introduction to lighting design. Students will also study sound design, sound engineering and hard disc editing systems. Classes in basic electrical systems and related health and safety will also be included.

### **Stagecraft 1**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Coursework (50%), Practical Test (50%)

Workshops introducing the practical skills associated with the roles of stage management. These classes will instruct the student in safe working practice and the areas of study will include: rope use and knots; flying and rigging for theatre; plans, drawing and working to scale; theatre design and prop making; wardrobe maintenance; scenery construction; basic tool use and the use of access equipment and scaffolding.

### **Theatre Studies 1**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Written Character and Analysis (50%), Presentation (50%)

Students will study the theatre with reference to its origins and its relevance to contemporary society. They will conduct a survey of theatre companies and venues, investigating their mission, management structures and method as well as their funding mechanisms.

## **Year 2**

### **Productions**

Credits: 40

Assessment: Practical (100%)

Students adopt a role in the team producing a public performance. Duties will include working with a range of artistic, managerial and technical staff. The student will attend rehearsals, meetings and discussion groups as required before the production period in the theatre and subsequent performance schedule.

As an alternative to a Production Placement, a student may undertake up to two work experience placements. The student undertakes work experience for a period of up to six weeks. Typically this will entail joining an established theatre/production company in one of the production departments and working alongside their staff to gain experience of the professional work place.

### **Stage Management 2**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Coursework (40%), Planning Project (60%)

This module will focus upon financial planning and scheduling for production, and include a planning project for an international tour.

## **Technical studies 2**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Coursework (60%), Project (40%)

In this module students will further develop their skills and understanding of the roles of the Lighting Designer and Sound Designer including the introduction of digital sound desks. Students will also study electrical theory in the context of theatre installations and distribution for temporary installations.

## **Stagecraft 2**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Practical (100%)

A series of workshops develop the student's practical skills associated with the roles of stage management. Classes will continue to instruct the student in safe working practice and management skills. The areas of study will also include further construction and rigging skills, use of stage weapons and pyrotechnics and an introduction to production management.

## **Theatre Studies 2**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Presentation (50%), Research Report (50%)

Students will examine modern theatre institutions, legislations and associations e.g. the TMA and ITC. Students will also be given the opportunity to conduct an independent study of their choice.

## **Year 3**

### **Production**

Credits: 60

Assessment: Practical (100%)

The student adopts a role in the team producing a public performance. Duties will include working with a range of artistic, managerial and technical staff. The student will attend rehearsals, meetings and discussion groups as required before the production period in the theatre and subsequent performance schedule.

As an alternative to a Production Placement, a student may undertake up to one work placement. The student undertakes work experience for a period of four to six weeks. Typically this will entail joining an established theatre/production company in one of the production departments and working alongside their staff to gain experience of the professional work place.

### **Production Studies**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Coursework (50%), Project (50%)

A series of lectures, seminars and projects will develop the students' technical and production skills. The course will focus upon the students creative application of the technical abilities learned in year 2 and introduce them to the wider career opportunities in event management and production.

**Industry Studies**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Coursework (Pass/Fail), Essay (50%), Presentation (50%)

Students will focus on advancing their knowledge and understanding within their intended industry. Specifically the module will focus upon four main areas; Innovative Practitioners, Theatre Architecture, Industry Institutions and Career Development.

**Dissertation**

Credits: 20

Assessment: Dissertation (100%)

A self generated study of a topic within the scope of the course as agreed with the Module Leader. This study should represent the most significant piece of research undertaken by the student on this course. Tutorial support at regular intervals will monitor progress and provide guidance where required.

This course overview provides a summary of the BA (Hons) Stage Management programme as offered from September 2011. Please note that whilst the information reflects the programme offered to date, it may be subject to amendment and change in future years.