

MA Design for Performance  
Course Overview  
18 Months, Full Time

Apply Through: UCAS Conservatoires  
Institution Code: R59  
Course Code: 712F  
Application Fee: £25

Applications Close for Entry 2020: September 2019  
Applications Close for Entry 2020: 27 March 2020

This course overview provides a detailed summary of the MA Design for Performance course as offered from September 2019. Please note that whilst the information reflects the programme offered to date, it may be subject to amendment and change in future years. Students are always consulted on such change and details are made available to applicants holding offers. In order to progress through the courses students *normally* have to pass all modules and achieve 180 credits.

The courses provide a thorough, professionally recognised training for graduates with a similar degree within the field of design for performance or those who have worked in the theatre and related industries and who seek formal training

**Module Pathways:**

Performance (Set & Costume Design)  
Set Design  
Costume Design  
Costume Construction  
Puppetry  
Lighting Design  
Sound Design  
Scenic Art & Construction for Stage & Screen  
Video Design  
VR Design

**Design Practice 1**

20 Credits

Assessment: Group Installation & Presentation (10%)  
Individual Specialist Skill Project & Final Presentation (40%)  
Studio-based Design Project Final Presentation (50%)

The module will introduce you to the theatre design programme, and we will work with you to investigate and explore your potential. You will work in groups with fellow students and individually on design tasks to prepare you to engage at a professional level with an appropriate range of skills.

You will also develop a critical and reflective awareness of your work, by working within your specialist area with a group, creating a collaborative performance.

Masterclass presentations run throughout the programme, delivered by leading international practitioners. Designed to complement your individual study needs, the

classes develop an appreciation of excellence, multidisciplinary practice and performance collaboration.

### Design Practice 2

20 Credits

Assessment: Design Process (40%)  
Final Presentation (60%)

In this module, you will expand and develop your practical skill base, applied research methodology and individual identity within your area of specialism. Through tutorials, you will put together a project brief related to your specialism which is designed to challenge your current thoughts on design practices. Depending on your area of specialism, you will develop your work, in a studio, workshop or theatre based-environment. It may take the form of a conceptual/realisation project, or a role within a realised production.

Students work with the teaching staff from the Production and Design Department, as well as with visiting practitioners and companies. This allows students to apply their skills, research and design ability in the context of professional theatre and performance design practice. This module can also take the form of a placement outside of the College.

### Realised Production Module

40 Credits

Assessment: Two Realised Production Works (20%, 80%)

This module will introduce/build on your realised production work within the College environment and prepare you for independent professional practice.

Firstly, you will work collaboratively within a team, receiving supportive skills training, to develop an understanding of the practical requirements and managerial systems which are in operation within a professional production. You will then take on a senior role within your area of specialism on a College production. You will gain experience of working to a professional level, both within the context of applying your specific skills and as a collaborative practitioner.

Supporting contextual studies during this module will develop your process of recording, analysis and critical reflection on your personal practice and the practice of others in order to make effective connections between yourself and others as practitioners.

If you have a theatre design background you may choose to exchange the first part of the module for a professional placement.

### Industry Practice & Final Exhibition

40 Credits

Assessment: Design Exhibition (100%)

You will create an exhibition of your work to showcase in both Cardiff and London. You will take responsibility for planning your exhibition, selecting work to present, which you have created throughout the Masters programme, mounting your work, and ensuring it is presented at a professional level. You will also work collaboratively with other design students in the construction and installation of the complete exhibition.

You will receive supporting professional practice tuition through a series of group workshops, lectures and tutorials dealing with CV construction, business correspondence, portfolio presentation and an introduction to accountancy.

## Performance Practice Portfolio

60 Credits

Assessment: Portfolio (100%)

### Pathway 1:

You will begin by recording a critically reflective account of the research process and realisation of your practice, working in a professional context within performance creation/production.

The final aspect of the pathway is to embark upon a career as a professional practitioner and, over an agreed period of time, develop a portfolio of your working practice and development. You will receive practical and academic support and mentoring, either at the College campus or through distance learning methods. This allows you to choose employment in any location worldwide.

### Pathway 2:

This alternative pathway presents you with the opportunity to create a significant research project based around your chosen practice as individual independent artists or on a collaborative piece.

This pathway provides an opportunity for you to extend your specialist study into a field of practice, towards individual or collaborative work in installation, exhibition and performance that exists outside that of traditional professional theatre design.

You will create an advance piece of contemporary research in a creative practice and present it in the form of recorded evidence, and supported by critical and analytical commentary.