

LAMDA805 - Voice, Speech, Song and Classical Text

A synopsis of the curriculum

Some aspects may be delivered via digital tutorials and online workshops ('blended learning'). This module runs concurrently with the Acting in Classical Theatre and Movement and Physicality in Theatre modules and serves a two-fold purpose.

Firstly, students will learn about their individual voice, vocal support and critical and creative engagement with verse and high prose, typical of the classical texts, enhancing both the technical and creative skills necessary to support the actor in the art form. Secondly, the module works in tandem with rehearsal and performance to further the individual's vocal engagement with the piece, through text and song, enabling him/her to deliver sustained and believable characters whose thoughts and intentions are drawn from the text.

The bullet points below are the key synopsis areas that will usually be covered in classes taken online and onsite:

- Training and techniques for building the individual's voice for stage work.
- Leading a safe vocal warm up.
- Exploration of language using a variety of texts to encourage the application of pure voice exercises
- Understanding form and a developing a personal and imaginative response to the text
- Creation of a personal vocal journal (both written and oral)
- Exploration of the structure of a range of classical texts – the verse line, rhythm, rhyme, rhetoric and imagery
- Voice systems
- The range of texts studied will usually include Shakespearean, Jacobean and Restoration. Texts will be carefully selected to reflect our commitment to a decolonised curriculum.
- Singing techniques and vocal support
- Singing styles and their historic importance within the field of study
- Practical vocal support for rehearsals and performance/sharing of work

This list is indicative; the specific practitioners, modes of delivery, and techniques covered will be outlined at the commencement of study. All subject areas may be covered via blended learning incorporating both online and onsite delivery).

Students should be prepared to be assessed on a live, digital, or blended presentation following revised audience capacity guidelines. The health and safety guidelines relating to Covid-19 will determine the exact split between onsite and socially distanced/digital delivery.

Delivery
Students work with staff in tutor-led sessions that may be delivered following social distancing guidelines and online where required. The module content in 2020/21 may be delivered through a mixture of onsite delivery, online delivery and students' independent work. This module usually comprises of 350 hours of study (this may be adjusted), approximately broken down as follows:
260 hours of online/onsite class work including rehearsals and showings
90 hours of private study

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This is primarily a taught programme of study (online and onsite) with much of the learning undertaking place in online/onsite class work, and through the rehearsal process. Practice-based class work develops the student's vocal instrument and skills to be able to produce and sustain a character through speech and song. This is reflected in the balance of taught contact hours to private study time.

Assessments (performances/sharings, presentations, classes, and rehearsals may be assessed online/via recording as well as in live onsite settings)

90% Assessed practical class work (tests all the learning outcomes)

- Class Work – 45% (Autumn/ Winter/ Spring Terms)
- Workshop Productions – 45% (Autumn/ Winter/ Spring Terms)

10% Performance (tests points C2,3,4,5,6 of the subject specific learning outcomes)

- Thesis Presentation – 5% (Summer Term)
- Shakespeare and Classical Text in Performance – 5% (Summer Term)

Please note: In the Academic Year 2019-20 LAMDA has reviewed and presented alternative assessment methods for all summative assessments across all the programmes where Covid-19 affects delivery. This is to ensure that LAMDA can offer a fair and consistent assessment opportunity for all students, including those who may need to re-sit, defer, retake a module or interrupt study. This also allows LAMDA to continue to deliver assessments in a fair and consistent manner if adjusted delivery does need to be rolled out into 2020-21. Details of alternative assessments that may delivered can be found online in the [LAMDA Covid-19 Alternative Assessment Strategy 2020](#).