

Title of Programme: BA (Hons) Performing Arts (Top Up)

Programme Code: CTHRPA

For Collaborative: University Validation at Hertford Regional College

Programme Specification

This programme specification is relevant to students entering:
01 September 2025

Associate Dean of School (Academic Quality Assurance):
Tony Rosella

Signature



A programme specification is a collection of key information about a programme of study (or course). It identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the programme, lists the modules that make up each stage (or year) of the programme, and the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff. It also describes the structure of the programme, its progression requirements and any programme-specific regulations. This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right programme of study, to current students on the programme, and to staff teaching and administering the programme.

Summary of amendments to the programme:

Section	Amendment

If you have any queries regarding the changes please email AQO@herts.ac.uk

Programme Specification BA (Hons) Performing Arts

This programme specification (PS) is designed for prospective students, enrolled students, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the teaching, learning and assessment methods, learning outcomes and content for each module can be found in Definitive Module Documents (DMDs).

Section 1

Awarding Institution/Body	University of Hertfordshire
Teaching Institution	Hertford Regional College
University/partner campuses	Ware Campus
Programme accredited by	Not Applicable
Final Qualification	BA (Hons)
All Final Award titles	BA (Hons) Performing Arts
(Qualification and Subject)	
FHEQ level of award	6

A. Programme Rationale

Hertford Regional College's Higher Education provision in Performing Arts is designed to provide students with creative performance and management skills to develop themselves as independent artists and theatre-makers in the field of entertainment. Throughout the program, students have the opportunity to develop an original character performance, explore entrepreneurship within the arts sector, and devise an original piece of theatre.

The course provides opportunities for students to engage with the art of performance through continuous practice and creative exploration, it fosters critical thinking and challenges students to generate innovative ideas, while cultivating key industry qualities such as independence, initiative, and professionalism.

Core topics covered during the top-up year include business management and financing, creative producing, character development, theatrical frameworks, and performance practice.

B. Educational Aims of the Programme

Diversity and Inclusion

Our programmes are purposefully designed to enable all students to engage meaningfully with the curriculum by being accessible and representative. We will support students to shape their learning experience, removing barriers and enabling them to succeed. The curriculum explicitly includes multiple and representative perspectives, valuing collective identities and individual diversity. Learning, teaching and assessment activities help students to understand how they can enhance outcomes both for themselves and for others. All students belong to a learning community, and during their studies we really want to hear their voices, encourage them to listen to others, and express themselves.

The programme has been devised in accordance with the University's graduate attributes of programmes of study as set out in [UPR TL03](#).

Additionally this programme aims to:

- Provide students with the knowledge and understanding to equip them for a career in the arts.
- Gain a deeper understanding of what it takes to create an original piece of theatre.
- Explore trends within the creative arts linking to specific demographics, sustainability, and marketing.
- Develop performance skills by performing in a range of different mediums to a public audience.

Graduate Attributes

Our graduates will be capable and professional, creative and enterprising, and will build their social and global awareness throughout. In addition to their subject expertise and proficiency, as a University of Hertfordshire graduate, they will be:

- Professionally focused
- Globally minded
- Sustainability driven
- Digitally capable and confident
- Inclusive and collaborative
- Evidence based and ethical

C. Intended Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes in the following areas. The programme outcomes are referenced to the QAA benchmark statements for Art & Design and the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2024) and relate to the typical student. Additionally, the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education (2021) have been used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Knowledge and Understanding	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment strategy
A1- Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the critical, contextual, historical, conceptual, economic, social environmental and ethical dimensions of the student's discipline in particular, and theatre in general.	Acquisition of knowledge and understanding is through a mixture of lectures (A1-3), seminars (A1-3), workshops (A1-3) and rehearsals (A3). Additional support is provided by Hertford Regional College's library services.	Knowledge and understanding are assessed through a combination of written assessments (A1-3) and practical performance (A1&3).
A2- Gain a thorough knowledge and understanding of the role and impact of Intellectual Property within theatre, media and the arts.	Throughout, the learner is encouraged to undertake independent study both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.	
A3- Gain a thorough understanding of the creative practitioner's relationship with audiences, clients, markets, environments, users, consumers, participants, co- workers and co-creators within a professional theatrical environment.		

Intellectual skills	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment strategy
<p>B1- Generate ideas, concepts, proposals, solutions or arguments independently and/or collaboratively as self-initiated activity and/or in response to set briefs.</p> <p>B2- Employ both convergent and divergent thinking in the processes of observation, investigation, speculative enquiry, visualisation and making.</p> <p>B3- Select, experiment with and make appropriate use of materials, processes, technologies and environments showing understanding of quality standards and attention to detail.</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are developed through a combination of lectures (B1-3), seminars (B1&2), tutorials (B1-3), coursework (B1-3) and rehearsal (B1-3). Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop intellectual skills further by independent study.</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are assessed through a combination of written assessment (B1-3), performance (B1-3) and peer assessment (B1).</p>
Practical skills	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment strategy
<p>C1- Initiate, develop and realise sustained creative theatrical work, and associated business and professional practices.</p> <p>C2- Undertake the development and pre-production of a theatrical project.</p> <p>C3- Produce work showing competence in theatrical production and performance.</p> <p>C4- Perform a compelling character in a theatrical piece, to a professional standard.</p>	<p>Practical skills are developed through a series of workshops (C1-4), seminars (C1&2), tutorials (C1) and rehearsal (C1-4). Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop practical skills further by independent study.</p>	<p>Practical skills are assessed through written assignments (C1-4), performance (C1,3&4) and practical assessment such as presentations (C1&3).</p>
Transferable skills	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment strategy
<p>D1- Be resourceful, ethical and entrepreneurial.</p> <p>D2- Present and communicate effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences in oral and written forms, and in performance.</p>	<p>Transferable skills are developed through rehearsal (D1-4), tutorials (D1,2&4), lectures (D1,2&4) and seminars (D1-4). Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop transferable skills by maintaining a record of evidence and</p>	<p>Transferable skills are assessed through a combination of written assignments (D1-4), performance (D1-3) and peer assessment (D1,3&4).</p>

D3- Contribute as part of a team, in a variety of roles and negotiate and pursue goals with others.

D4- Work independently, manage time, personnel and resources effectively, by drawing on planning and organisational skills.

completing a personal development plan.

D. Programme Structures, Features, Levels, Modules, and Credits

The programme is offered in full-time (one year) mode and leads to the award of a BA (Hons) Performing Arts. Intake is normally semester A (September).

Professional and Statutory Regulatory Bodies

No accreditation

Work-Based Learning, including Sandwich Programmes

This programme does not include work-based learning or sandwich opportunities.

Student Exchange programme

Incoming Exchange

N/A

Study Abroad

N/A

Programme Structure

The programme structure and progression information below (Table 1a and 1b) is provided for the Honours award. Any interim awards are identified in Table 1b. The Programme Learning Outcomes detailed above are developed and assessed through the constituent modules. Table 2 identifies where each learning outcome is assessed.

Table 1a Outline Programme Structure

BA (Hons) Performing Arts – Level 6	
Semester A	Semester B
<p>Developing a Business Concept for the Performing Arts</p> <p>6FTC2214 30 Credits</p>	<p>Final Major Performance</p> <p>6FTC2094 60 Credits</p>
<p>Advanced Character Performance</p> <p>6FTC2092 30 Credits</p>	

Mode of study Full time

Entry point Semester A

Level 6

Compulsory Modules

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	% Test	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Developing a Business Concept for the Performing Arts	6FTC2214	30	0	0	100	0	A
Advanced Character Performance	6FTC2092	30	0	0	70	30	A
Final Major Performance	6FTC2094	60	0	0	70	30	B

The award of an Honours degree requires 360 credit points passed. As this is a Level 6 top-up programme, students join with 240 credits of approved prior certified learning (APCL). Following the completion of the 120 credits of study within the programme at level 6, students then have sufficient credits for Degree level certification.

Honours classification

The University has approved structure and assessment regulations common to all programmes. Full details are provided in [UPR AS14](#), Section D.

Table 1b Final award available

The programme provides the following final award:

Final Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of Level	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
BA (Hons)	Performing Arts	120 credit points	6	All programme learning outcomes (see Table 2)

Interim Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of Level	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
BA	Performing Arts	300 credit points including 180 at level 6/5 of which 60 must be at level 6. A minimum of 75 credits must be awarded by UH.	6	All programme learning outcomes (see Table 2)

Programme-specific assessment regulations

The programme complies with the University's academic regulations (in particular, [UPR AS11](#), [UPR AS13](#) and [UPR AS14](#)).

E. Management of Programme & Support for student learning.

Management

The programme is managed and administered through:

- A Programme Leader, who is responsible for advising students on the course/programme structure as a whole and chairing the programme committee
- Student representatives on programme committees
- A designated administrative team to deal with day-to-day administration associated with the modules within the programme
- Collaborative Partnership Leader
- Module Leaders
- A designated administrative team to deal with day-to-day administration associated with the modules within the programme.

Support

Students are supported by:

- An induction period at the start of each new academic session. Activities include all new students completing the 'Herts Digital Checklist', and creating a 'Herts Learner Profile' via <https://ask.herts.ac.uk/digital-skills>
- A Personal Tutor who will be an important point of contact, able to help with wider understanding of the school and programme of study.
- A substantial Student Centre that provides advice on issues such as finance, University regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support, etc
- Office of Dean of Students, Student Wellbeing (incorporating Counselling, Mental Health and Disability Support), Chaplaincy, and Day Nursery
- A versatile on-line inter-active intranet and learning environment
- Guided student-centred learning on Canvas module sites
- Student Assistance Programme
- Access to extensive digital and print collections of information resources
- Attractive modern study environments in 2 UH Learning Resources Centres, open 24 hours
- Student Success Hubs, which include a Mathematics Drop-in Centre
- Medical Centre
- An Equality Office
- University Disability Advisors
- Careers and Employment
- Hertfordshire Student's Union
- Collaborative Partnership Leader
- Dedicated programme site

F. Other sources of information

In addition to this Programme Specification, the University publishes guidance to registered students on the programme and its constituent modules:

- A dedicated programme site
- A Definitive Module Document (DMD) for each constituent module;

The [Ask Herts](https://ask.herts.ac.uk) website provides information on a wide range of resources and services available at the University of Hertfordshire including academic support, accommodation, fees, funding, visas, wellbeing services and student societies.

As a condition of registration, all students of the University of Hertfordshire are required to comply with the University's rules, regulations and procedures. These are published in a series of documents called 'University Policies and Regulations' (UPRs). The University requires that all students consult these documents which are available on-line, on the UPR web site, at: <http://www.herts.ac.uk/secreg/upr/>. In

particular, [UPR SA07](#) 'Regulations and Advice for Students' Particular Attention - Index' provides information on the UPRs that contain the academic regulations of particular relevance for undergraduate and taught postgraduate students.

In accordance with section 4(5) of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017 (HERA), the UK Office for Students (OfS) has registered the University of Hertfordshire in the register of English higher education providers. The Register can be viewed at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/the-ofs-register/>.

G. Entry requirements

The normal entry requirements for the programme are:

For current entry tariff point requirements, please refer to the relevant page for the Course on the University website or on the online prospectus.

The programme is subject to the University's Principles, Policies and Regulations for the Admission of Students to Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Programmes (in [UPR SA03](#)), along with associated procedures. These will take account of University policy and guidelines for assessing accredited prior certificated learning (APCL) and accredited prior experiential learning (APEL).

If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact:

Email: consortium@herts.ac.uk

If you wish to receive a copy of the latest External Examiner's Report for the programme, please email a request to aqo@herts.ac.uk

BA (Hons) Performing Arts

Table 2: Development of Intended Programme Learning Outcomes in the Constituent Modules

This map identifies where the programme learning outcomes are delivered and assessed in the constituent modules. It provides (i) an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the programme aims (ii) a checklist for quality control purposes and (iii) a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the programme progresses.

Module Title	Module Code	Programme Learning Outcomes (as identified in section 1 and below)													
		Knowledge & Understanding			Intellectual Skills			Practical Skills				Transferable Skills			
		A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4
Developing a Business Concept for the Performing Arts	6FTC2214	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Advanced Character Performance	6FTC2092	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Final Major Performance	6FTC2094	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

KEY TO PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

- A1. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the critical, contextual, historical, conceptual, economic, social environmental and ethical dimensions of the student's discipline in particular, and theatre in general.
- A2. Gain a thorough knowledge and understanding of the role and impact of Intellectual Property within theatre, media and the arts.
- A3. Gain a thorough understanding of the creative practitioner's relationship with audiences, clients, markets, environments, users, consumers, participants, co-workers and co-creators within a professional theatrical environment.

Intellectual Skills

- B1. Generate ideas, concepts, proposals, solutions or arguments independently and/or collaboratively as self-initiated activity and/or in response to set briefs.
- B2. Employ both convergent and divergent thinking in the processes of observation, investigation, speculative enquiry, visualisation and making.
- B3. Select, experiment with and make appropriate use of materials, processes, technologies and environments showing understanding of quality standards and attention to detail.

Practical Skills

- C1. Initiate, develop and realise sustained creative theatrical work, and associated business and professional practices.
- C2. Undertake the development and pre-production of a theatrical project.
- C3. Produce work showing competence in theatrical production and performance.
- C4. Perform a compelling character in a theatrical piece, to a professional standard.

Transferable Skills

- D1. Be resourceful, ethical and entrepreneurial.
- D2. Present and communicate effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences in oral and written forms, and in performance.
- D3. Contribute as part of a team, in a variety of roles and negotiate and pursue goals with others.
- D4. Work independently, manage time, personnel and resources effectively, by drawing on planning and organisational skills.

Table 3: Development of Graduate Attributes in the Constituent Modules

This map identifies where the Graduate Attributes are delivered in the constituent modules. It provides (i) an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the development of the Graduate Attributes (ii) a checklist for quality control purposes and (iii) a means to help students monitor their own personal and professional development as the programme progresses. [Note that there is no requirement for the Graduate Attributes to be assessed through these modules]

D = Delivered

	Module Title	Module Code	Professionally Focused	Globally Minded	Sustainability Driven	Digitally capable & confident	Inclusive and collaborative	Evidenced based and Ethical
Level 6	Advanced Character Performance	6FTC2092	D	D		D	D	D
	Developing a Business Concept for the Performing Arts	6FTC2214	D	D	D	D	D	D
	Final Major Performance	6FTC2094	D	D	D	D	D	D

Section 2

Programme management

Relevant QAA subject benchmarking statements	Art & Design
Type of programme	Undergraduate
Date of validation/last periodic review	May 22
Date of production/ last revision of PS	November 2024
Relevant to level/cohort	Level 6 entering September 2025
Administrative School	School of Creative Arts
Language of Delivery	English

Table 4 Course structure

Course details			
Course Code	Course Description	HECOS	UCAS
CTHRPA	BA (Hons) Performing Arts (Top Up) HRC	100071, 100%	W204