

**KEY INFORMATION**

**BA (HONS)**

**PERFORMING ARTS**

A decorative halftone pattern consisting of a grid of small dots, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

---

# Key Information for the BA (Hons) Performing Arts Degree starting in 2022/23

## Including BA (Hons) Performing Arts Top Up Degree

**About this document:** This key Information gives you a summary of the core characteristics of the BA (Hons) Performing Arts degree at HCA. Students may have learnt about this course from multiple sources: the college website, the college prospectus, and from conversations with staff and students for example, but we want to ensure that students have this overview for reference at any time during their studies with us as a record of the service we are agreeing to provide when a student accepts our offer of a place.

**Award:** The qualification that a student will receive upon successful completion of the programme is a BA (Hons) Performing Arts. This means that the award will be a Bachelor of Arts 'with honours'.

If a student does not complete the course, they may be eligible for a Certificate or Diploma of Higher Education.

**Validating Body:** The BA (Hons) Performing Arts Degree is validated by the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. However, the course has been designed and is delivered by Hereford College of Arts.

**Regulatory Body:** Hereford College of Arts is registered with the Office for Students (OfS) to deliver Higher Education. The OfS is an independent public body which reports to Parliament through the Department for Education <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk>. (Their aim is to ensure that every student, whatever their background, has a fulfilling experience of higher education that enriches their lives and careers.)

**Length of Course:** The standard and minimum length of this course is as follows:

COURSE	STANDARD/MINIMUM LENGTH OF THE COURSE
BA (Hons) Performing Arts Full time	3 years
BA (Hons) Performing Arts Top Up Full Time	1 year

Students will need to complete the course to gain the award.

## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

All students need to be at least 18 years of age at the start of the course.

Applicants will normally have an interview where they will present a portfolio of work or perform an audition. The interview can be conducted in person or remotely. This will be a supportive process where guidance will be given on the strengths and areas for improvement.

We normally expect applicants to have achieved 80 UCAS points at entry. Whilst qualifications are important, our offers are not solely based on academic results. We may make offers based on other evidence of talent or suitability for the course.

Applicants who do not satisfy the normal entry requirement but offer other qualifications and or relevant experience will be considered on an individual basis subject to satisfactory information being provided at interview.

Applicants whose first language is not English and require a student visa must achieve Level B2 in an approved Secure English Language Test (SELT) prior to enrolment. For further guidance, please visit the UK Visa and Immigration website <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa>

Your offer letter will include any requirements specific to your offer.

Our Admissions Policy can be found here; <https://www.hca.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Admissions-Policy-Apr-2021.pdf>

## **CORE MODULES:**

All programmes of study are made up of modules. Some modules are comprised of two or more assignments. Modules have a credit value that contribute to the achievement of the qualification. Each module has its own syllabus, handbook and assessment. In order to pass each year, you need to achieve 120 credits. Modules vary in size from 20 credits to 30 credits.

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE:

From your first day at HCA you will work as a creative, developing your skills and your own voice through a series of projects. You will develop your creative practice, practical skills alongside your critical awareness and theoretical knowledge. You will study a range of modules that build your knowledge and confidence and total 120 credits each year.

<b>BA (HONS) PERFORMING ARTS Level 4 (Year 1) Full time</b>		
<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Descriptor</b>
<b>Rehearsing a Performance</b>	30	<i>Rehearsing for Performance</i> is an explorative module which acts as your foundation to all future thinking, practical exploration, interpretation and creativity. This module focuses on traditional western dramatic models which are mainly text-based: a page to stage approach. You will be directed in a workshop performance and explore various ways in which to approach both the text and the rehearsal process.
<b>Creating a Performance</b>	30	<i>Creating a Performance</i> will allow you to be experiential and integrate theories and techniques in workshop scenarios. You will explore a variety of practitioners and different approaches, including ideas devised in reaction to traditional classical models and their modern incarnations of realism and naturalism. In addition, skills such as writing for performance, directing, choreographing and devising are actively explored. You will create a performance, script or happening as the ultimate outcome of this module.
<b>Creating a Company (with work placement)</b>	20	<p>Through this module you will acquire enterprise skills and a critical understanding of traditional and innovative business models. You will also gain an understanding of how funding, business, politics and product often intersect.</p> <p>Over the course of this module, you and your peers will collectively form a Company, select an appropriate business model and each individual will take a defined role for one area of the producing performing arts company. You will acquire the skills needed to organise and fund a performance.</p> <p>You will also undertake a placement or shadowing opportunity within a business or regional company.</p>
<b>The Creative Laboratory</b>	20	<i>The Creative Laboratory</i> module lays the foundation for future creative and collaborative encounters and ventures at L5, L6 and beyond. You will have opportunities to work in small groups or partnerships to create, develop and refine creative ideas. You will be introduced to basic skills and practices for collaboration including, where appropriate, inter-disciplinary collaboration. You will develop skills in self-management, people management,

		communication skills, creativity and collaboration. Ultimately, you will create four scratch performances which may be shown to the public and to industry panels for feedback
<b>Performing to an Audience</b>	20	<p>This module is designed to introduce you to a variety of skills (such as movement, voice and/ or acting) for performance and to develop your own abilities as a performer and in an ensemble or collaborative group.</p> <p>Acquisition and development of new skills takes weekly skills classes and lead to a major directed performance project at the end of Semesters 2.</p>

### BA (HONS) PERFORMING ARTS Level 5 (Year 2) Full time

<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Descriptor</b>
<b>Contemporary Performance Practice</b>	30	In this module, you will explore emerging and current practices in playwriting, performance and directing in which <i>performance</i> is key - as opposed to <i>drama</i> . For example, what does it mean to perform in a play where you are deliberately asked not to create a character? How does autobiography play a significant part in the creative act? What happens where the audience is invited to co-write or even write the text? You will demonstrate your understanding and exploration by creating short self-directed performance pieces.
<b>Emerging Technologies in Performance</b>	30	<i>Emerging Technologies in Performance</i> will allow you to explore further the emerging trends, technologies and alternative platforms, which leads to performance. This may culminate in a performance which could be a film project, something more inter-medial or multi-media, or even completely digital.
<b>Exploring Your Future</b>	20	<p>This module is an opportunity for you to critically discuss business models to create your own business plan.</p> <p>You will be able to begin to marry your own artistic identity with your business direction. You will form your initial ideas for your own enterprise and you will be supported to form a business plan for yourself.</p> <p>You will take part in a work placement with a business/company or set up your own project that allows for insight into the running of a business in an area of specific interest to you.</p>
<b>Collaborative Encounters</b>	20	In this <i>Collaborative Encounters</i> you will formally investigate models of collaboration including inter-disciplinary collaborative models. Working in small groups or partnerships you will develop creative work and deepen your skills in self-management, people management, communication skills, leadership and collaboration. You will produce four scratch performances which may be created as a result of live briefs, external collaborations or commissions.

<b>Major Public Performance</b>	20	In <i>Major Public Performance</i> , you will undertake weekly practitioner-led skills sessions which will culminate in a major performance project at the end of the year. The focus of this module is technical proficiency, self-awareness as a performer, self-development and life-long learning. As such, the learning takes place at a somatic level as well as a critical and intellectual one.
---------------------------------	----	---

### BA (HONS) PERFORMING ARTS Level 6 (Year 3) Full time

<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Descriptor</b>
<b>Professional Focus</b>	30	<p>The Professional Focus module in the final semester of the Performing Arts Degree enables you to concentrate on one particular area of study. It might be purely creative – writing, directing, choreographing or performance orientated, or it could be a very targeted vocational activity, for example events management or marketing. In this case, assessment of the Professional Focus module will be on the elements of personal development that have been enhanced by research and practice rather than on the realisation of a business project.</p> <p>Regardless of whether the area of study is artistic or business orientated, this module is an opportunity for you to experience a guided and reflective study in self-development as a performing arts practitioner. The principle aims are self-reliance and self-confidence to be prepared for life after graduation</p>
<b>Solo Practice</b>	30	This module encourages you to engage openly and honestly with your own practice through independent research and self-analysis. It develops your abilities as a reflective practitioner and enables you to plan and develop your professional skills base. Through this process of reflection, analysis and appraisal you will be able to narrow down the focus of your practice in readiness for the Professional Focus module.
<b>Extended Research Project</b>	30	Research is an important part of innovation. This module is designed for you to explore an area of interest to you which will ultimately enhance your own personal practice. You may choose to present your findings as a written document or as a practical research project culminating in a performance of your own devising.
<b>Professional Collaborative Performance</b>	30	In this module you will develop work, present and evaluate ideas performative material that to culminates in a major public performance. This module will enable you to select appropriate methods and approaches to create original work.

### BA (HONS) PERFORMING ARTS Top Up (Year 1) Full time

<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Descriptor</b>
<b>Professional Focus</b>	30	The Professional Focus module in the final semester of the Performing Arts Degree enables you to concentrate on one

		<p>particular area of study. It might be purely creative – writing, directing, choreographing or performance orientated, or it could be a very targeted vocational activity, for example events management or marketing. In this case, assessment of the Professional Focus module will be on the elements of personal development that have been enhanced by research and practice rather than on the realisation of a business project.</p> <p>Regardless of whether the area of study is artistic or business orientated, this module is an opportunity for you to experience a guided and reflective study in self-development as a performing arts practitioner. The principle aims are self-reliance and self-confidence to be prepared for life after graduation</p>
<b>Solo Practice</b>	30	<p>This module encourages you to engage openly and honestly with your own practice through independent research and self-analysis. It develops your abilities as a reflective practitioner and enables you to plan and develop your professional skills base. Through this process of reflection, analysis and appraisal you will be able to narrow down the focus of your practice in readiness for the Professional Focus module.</p>
<b>Extended Research Project</b>	30	<p>Research is an important part of innovation. This module is designed for you to explore an area of interest to you which will ultimately enhance your own personal practice. You may choose to present your findings as a written document or as a practical research project culminating in a performance of your own devising.</p>
<b>Professional Collaborative Performance</b>	30	<p>In this module you will develop work, present and evaluate ideas performative material that to culminates in a major public performance. This module will enable you to select appropriate methods and approaches to create original work.</p>

## **COMPOSITION OF THE COURSE AND HOW THE COURSE WILL BE DELIVERED**

The course is modular and is managed on a two-semester schedule totalling in 31 weeks of tuition. The academic year begins in September and ends in June.

Performance skills, Creative and Collaborative skills, Subject Knowledge and Entrepreneurial skills form the core elements of the programme at every level.

The total length of the academic year is 33 weeks (including enrolment, induction and a reading week), with breaks for Christmas, Easter and Summer. Students will have access to College resources (studios, library, workshops, social areas) on week days during normal working hours and later on some days and at certain times of the year. Students may also have access to some of the resources in vacations, and current information on this is available by request.

Students are awarded 'credits' for the successful completion of a module, totalling 120 in each academic year. A single credit is defined as ten hours of study so a 20-credit module requires 200 hours of study in total. A student must successfully achieve 120 credits. 1200 hours of study in total.

The percentage of contact time devoted to differing learning environments depends on the individual module content, but the course seeks to use a wide variety of teaching methods wherever possible. Examples of teaching methods include, skills lessons, workshops, demonstrations, lectures, presentations, master-classes, on-line learning activities, tutorials and seminar discussion groups.

Assessment evidence takes on a number of forms including: practical performances and presentations, coursework, journal, written essays, evaluations, reviews and reports. presentations are also used. There are no timed, written examinations.



## TUITION FEES

The tuition fees for 2022/23 are outlined in the table below. For more information about applying for a tuition fee loan, please visit [www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance).

Please note that this annual fee will remain unchanged for the 3-year duration of your course. However, following enrolment, students transferring to an alternative mode of study, repeating or retaking modules or suspending their studies, will need to confirm fees with the Finance Department.

COURSE	LEVEL	YEAR	FEES
BA (Hons) Performing Arts Full Time (UK/EU students with settled or pre settled status)	4	Year 1	£9000
BA (Hons) Performing Arts Top Up Full Time (UK/EU students with settled or pre settled status)	6	Year 1	£9000
BA (Hons) Performing Arts Full Time (Overseas students and EU students)	4	Year 1	£12,000

EU students who have pre settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme will be eligible for a tuition fee loan only.

Please note that the Higher Education Student Finance portal normally opens in mid-February. The College would encourage students to submit their student finance application as soon as possible so funding is in place for when they start their course

**All students need to ensure that the funding is in place for their tuition fees and living costs prior to enrolment.**

## PAYMENT, SERVICE DELIVERY AND PERFORMANCE ARRANGEMENTS

- If the tuition fee is paid to the College via the Student Loans Company, it will be paid in 3 instalments – 25% in term 1, 25% in term 2 and 50% in term 3.
- If a student is paying their own tuition fees, students can pay in instalments by direct debit only. Students will be required to pay 1/3 of their annual tuition fees each term.
- Overseas students are required to pay their tuition fees in full by June prior to the commencement of their course.
- Any of the additional costs (see additional costs section) are collected via an online secure payment system.

## **ADDITIONAL COSTS**

Additional costs are directly related to your study but exclude accommodation and student's personal living costs. Further information about halls of residence and other accommodation available in Hereford is available on our website.

In addition to the tuition fees charged, the nature of creative arts practice means students will need to allow for some additional costs, for example, materials that they choose to use in the production of work and activities such as trips to external events and exhibitions. The courses at HCA have been designed to minimise the impact of additional costs; some trips and materials will be fully funded by the college or heavily subsidised. However, typically, a student will choose to spend around an additional £250 in the first year, £375 in the second year and £400 in their final year, depending on scale of work and materials chosen or other related costs. Students spend different amounts depending on the areas in which they specialise and individual choices. We appreciate that not all students will be able to invest the same money in their work and staff assessing it will not judge work by the cost of materials or other resources.

The college shop stocks specialist materials at competitive prices and digital equipment can be loaned from the media stores at no extra cost to students.

Students on all courses will also have the chance to take part in optional trips that require additional payment. Non-attendance on the trips will not incur assessment penalties, though trips are designed to help students develop their practice. There is an optional annual cross-course overseas residential trip. During the academic year 2019-20, the planned destination was Copenhagen and the cost to students was £385 for shared dormitory rooms which included UK airport transfers, overseas airport transfers and insurance.

Places on the optional trips are allocated on a first come first serve basis.

The College is committed to ensuring that students considering studying at HCA are fully aware of the possible additional costs, please don't hesitate to contact us if you'd like further information. ([registry@hca.ac.uk](mailto:registry@hca.ac.uk))

Following enrolment, students that face genuine financial hardship may apply to the College Hardship Fund.

## AVERAGE ANNUAL COST BREAKDOWN

This table is an estimate of the costs a typical student may face during each of the three years on the course.

The blue figures represent realistic costs for students who purchase materials at their average costs. The Yellow figures are hypothetical costs for those who are able to invest in additional resources pertinent to their emerging practice.

These are estimated annual figures unless specified.

LEVEL OF STUDY	LV4		LV5		LV6	
Adobe CC subscription for use outside of college hours (discounted by 70%) NB Adobe CC is free to use for any student working within the college.	£16.24 per month		£16.24 per month		£16.24 per month	
Print charges for course work	£10	£25	£10	£25	£15	£35
Transport costs on city visits*	£20	£50	£20	£50	£20	£50
Purchasing tickets for Theatres & Shows	£20	£50	£20	£50	£20	£50
Web hosting and domain name registration					£0	£50
Books, magazines, subscriptions	£30	£50	£30	£50	£30	£50
Resources for Final Year Productions					£30	£50 plus

\*students are made aware of reduced ticket pricing available through 16-25 National Rail card. Most local/countywide trips are funded through the course budget.

## **LOCATION OF STUDY**

Our degree courses are all based at our College Road Campus but several specialist workshops and performing spaces are located nearby on our Folly Lane Campus and degree level students often work between both sites. Much of a student's study will also involve working in different locations in the city and surrounding area.

## **LOCATIONS AND CONTACT DETAILS**

- **College Road Campus:** Hereford College of Arts, College Road, Hereford. HR1 1EB.
- **Folly Lane Campus:** Hereford College of Arts, Folly Lane, Hereford. HR1 1LT.
- **Telephone:** 01432 273359
- **Fax:** 01432 341099

If you have any enquiries please contact our registry department: [registry@hca.ac.uk](mailto:registry@hca.ac.uk)

## **COMPLAINT HANDLING PROCESS**

Our full complaints policy can be found here; <https://www.hca.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/student-complaints-policy-and-procedure.pdf>

Information relating to all academic regulations, including complaints procedures can be found via the UWTSD public website. <https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/academic-office/academic-quality-handbook>