

KEY INFORMATION

BA (HONS) PERFORMING ARTS

FULL-TIME & TOP UP

Key Information for the BA (Hons) Performing Arts Degree starting in 2021/22*

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.

*Subject to validation

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:

This course will be revalidated during 2020/21, as part of the validation cycle with our awarding body UWTSD.

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.

COMPOSITION OF THE COURSE AND HOW THE COURSE WILL BE DELIVERED

The course is modular and is managed on a two-semester schedule, each of 15-weeks duration. 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.

LEVEL 4:

The course defines Level 4 as induction and core generic skills acquisition.

Students are introduced to a range of performance skills, the creative process and develop their collaboration skills. These skills are underpinned with relevant theories and an introduction to a number of relevant practitioners from 20th century. Students create and perform in a variety of different performances and locations, live and recorded. Alongside this, the students form a Company and practically experience and learn entrepreneurial skills.

Level 4 lays the foundations to ensure that students have the necessary skills, knowledge and personal attributes (including self-awareness, time-management, the ability to collaborate and be flexible, practical skills, critical and dialogic thinking, intellectual and artistic curiosity, and research and writing skills) to be successful at L5, L6 and beyond.

LEVEL 5

Applies the new skills gained at Level 4 in a range of appropriate contexts

Students continue to develop their performance making and/or performance skills and have the opportunity to perform or have their performances take place in a variety of settings, live and recorded. Students are given the opportunity to find their creative voice and to create work collaboratively in response to this. Performances are underpinned by theories and practitioners of the 21st Century and those that are emerging right now.

Students receive guidance on putting together a business plan that can become the foundation of their path into the Performing Arts Industry.

LEVEL 6

Students specialise through individual learning programmes

In L6 every student, in conversation and with support and guidance from their tutors, develops their own, personalised learning programme to include their own interests in line with their aspirations. Students are given individual tutorial time to develop their ideas. The Collaboration module gives students the opportunity to work with an external professional director on a major performance.

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 2021/22 are outlined in the table below. For more information about applying for a tuition fee loan, please visit 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	£11,200

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)

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 Prodcutions					£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

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>