

Drama

Essentials

Taught programme

MA degree

Theatre and Performance

Research programmes

MPhil, PhD Drama, Theatre and Performance

Admissions requirements

For information on overseas qualifications that meet the admissions requirements, refer to pages 156-157

MA

Normally a first- or upper second-class undergraduate honours degree in drama, performance or theatre studies, or a similar relevant degree. In exceptional cases, those with equivalent professional creative/performance experience will be considered. Applications must be accompanied by a statement of practice and a proposed research topic or area of practice. Where possible, interviews will be held

MPhil and PhD

A Masters degree in a drama-related subject or a discipline relevant to the chosen area of research and/or evidence of substantial research and/or evidence of professional performance-related experience in the field equivalent to a Masters. A first- or upper second-class undergraduate honours degree in drama, performance or theatre studies is also usually required

English language requirements

IELTS 7.0, with not less than 6.5 in each section. Internet TOEFL with 100 overall, with at least 21 in Listening, 22 in Reading and 27 in both Speaking and Writing. For more information and alternative English language requirements, refer to page 156

Fees

Refer to pages 158-159 for information on fees

Further information

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- In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) 95 per cent of our drama research was rated as recognised internationally or higher, and over half rated as internationally excellent or higher.

- Drama at Sussex is ranked 8th in the UK in *The Complete University Guide 2011-12* and 11th in the UK in *The Times Good University Guide 2012*.

- We have expertise in compositional methods and devising; plays and their staging; directing practice and dramaturgy; performance analysis; cultural performance; contemporary international rehearsal processes; British playwrighting; and politics, ideology and representation. Most of our research focuses on the 20th century and the contemporary period and we work with specialists in early modern theatre.

- Our faculty are leading practitioners and theorists engaging in interdisciplinary research in drama, theatre and performance including the fields of critical theory and philosophy, writing for performance, architecture, popular theatre, dance, live art, feminism and performance, cultural politics and policy, and visual cultures. They work professionally with organisations including Arts Council England, the Stage, The Basement, the Edinburgh International Festival and the Live Art Development Agency.

- We have strong links with professional artist-practitioners and partners in the creative industries from the UK and internationally and we curate a vibrant programme of visiting artists to enrich study, research and mentoring.

Taught programme

MA in Theatre and Performance 1 year full time/2 years part time

This programme draws on the professional and academic expertise of faculty who are interested in the ongoing conversation performance produces between practical and academic enquiry.

The development of your own creative and critical practice is at the core of this MA, which will be taught through intensive workshop periods with staff and visiting artists and scholars. You will also realise your own portfolio and develop the ability to document and present work for a range of appropriate professional contexts.

This MA prepares you for work as a theatre or performance practitioner and/or as a researcher in the field. You will also gain technical proficiency in areas such as compositional practices, mixed media performance, movement, site-responsive work, and producing/curating, and practical networking skills through hands-on experience with professional arts organisations. This programme culminates in a festival of work at a Brighton venue.

Career opportunities

This programme equips you with transferable skills for a wide range of careers including theatre, performance and live art direction; independent or collaborative artist or writer; curator/creative producer; arts administration; dramaturgy; arts-related journalism and criticism.

Programme structure

Autumn term: From Theatre to Performance, plus one option from the list below.

Spring term: Compositional Practices and Contexts, plus one option from the list below.

Summer term and vacation: you work on your dissertation, which can be a written thesis, practice, or a combination of both.

Options may include Historical Practices in Context • Performing the Body • Postdramatic Theatres • Solo Performance • Theatre and the City • Theatre: Liveness and Temporality • Theatre/Politics/Ideology • Theatre, Space and Audience • Writing and Performance.

Assessment

Assessment is by means of written and practical work and includes documentation of your work. Final assessment is through a dissertation by practice or theory or a combination of both.

This programme is under development and subject to validation.

Research programmes

Academic activities

Our postgraduate community benefits from a wide range of seminars and events and incorporates a number of different research interests. This will provide plenty of opportunity for you to interact with other researchers within the School of English. You will have access to the wide range of training programmes and seminars provided both within the School and by our Doctoral School.

Specialist facilities

MPhil and PhD students have access to three diverse state-of-the-art practical workshop spaces and equipment, and a drama technician.

Career opportunities

The MPhil/PhD will equip you with the skills for a career in academia; the fields of theatre, performance and live art direction; dramaturgy; arts-related journalism and criticism; video and cross-media performance practice; independent or collaborative artist or writer; curating/creative producing; arts administration.

Faculty research interests

Faculty research interests are briefly described below.

Sara Jane Bailes Contemporary experimental theatre; live art and visual practices; ideology and performance.

David Barnett Post-war European drama and theatre; post-Brechtian political theatre.

William McEvoy British playwrighting and directing; theatre, writing and ethics.

Professor Sally Jane Norman Theatre architectures and scenography.

Jason Price Popular theatre histories and practices; politics and performance.