Drama, Theatre and Performance

Undergraduate Degrees 2022
When you study at Lancaster, you get involved in ground-breaking performance projects that respond to the world around us. Our students push theatre in new directions to produce highly creative, thought-provoking work. We’re bold and experimental, and we’re known for our focus on cutting edge and socially-engaged practice.

Many of our teaching staff are nationally and internationally renowned theatre professionals. They currently include:

+ Professor Tim Etchells, Artistic Director of Forced Entertainment
+ Professor Andrew Quick, Artistic Director of Imitating the Dog

We’re also socially engaged, which means that we have strong connections with our local theatres, schools, and community organisations. You will learn about practices and theories that will help you to make active contributions to social change.

You’ll be taught in workshops, lectures and seminars and will learn theory through practical exploration, culminating in group performance projects at the end of each year.

The creative, practical and critical skills you’ll develop will open up possibilities for working in theatre, while making you highly attractive to a wide range of other employers.

The Department of Theatre is part of the Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts (LICA).

### Degrees and entry requirements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Degree title</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Degree Length</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Drama, Theatre and Performance</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>W440</td>
<td>ABB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre and Creative Writing</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>WW48</td>
<td>ABB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre and English Literature</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>WQ43</td>
<td>AAB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film and Theatre</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
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<td>ABB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine Art and Theatre</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>WW14</td>
<td>ABB, plus portfolio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theatre and Chinese Studies</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>W4T1</td>
<td>ABB</td>
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<tr>
<td>French Studies and Theatre</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>WR41</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Studies and Theatre</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>WR42</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies and Theatre</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>WR44</td>
<td>ABB</td>
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</table>

Previous study of Theatre, Drama, Dance or Performance is desirable but not essential and we welcome applications from those who are not studying these subjects but can demonstrate experience and interest in practical theatre.

### Facilities

+ Professional black box theatre, the Nuffield Theatre
+ £10m LICA building with three sprung-floor event spaces
+ Installation studio
+ Purpose built workshops and seminar rooms
+ Superb rehearsal and performance spaces

### Teaching, learning and assessment

Most of the practice on the degree is group based and you will learn to become increasingly independent over the three years, culminating in your final year project which takes place as a public theatre festival. You will take part in a combination of lectures, workshops and seminars, as well as group projects and an individual dissertation.

### About Covid-19

Our thoughts are with all who are affected by the coronavirus pandemic. For the latest information in relation to applying to Lancaster University, please visit: [www.lancaster.ac.uk/coronavirus/applicants](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/coronavirus/applicants)
Fundamentals: Drama
You will select a third module to complement your major studies from among the following subjects or similar:
+ Creative Writing
+ Design
+ English Literature
+ Film Studies
+ Fine Art
+ Media and Cultural Studies

The choice available will be subject to any timetabling restrictions.

OR

Joint major students take:
Joint Major Subject

Joint major students will take the core module for their second subject instead of a minor option.

In years 2 and 3, joint major students take 50% of their modules in Theatre and 50% in their second subject.

Year 2

First Term options
You will choose at least three modules from five offered, for example:
+ Devised Theatre
+ Environmental Performance
+ Dance Theatre
+ Theatre for Social Change
+ Performing Texts
+ Visual Theatre
+ Writing for Performance

The specific options available will vary each year. Through practical sessions and the study of exemplary performances, these modules combine technical training, approaches to composition, and methods of theorisation and reflection.

In the second term, you will further develop your practical skills through a major group performance project that draws on the theories and practices studied on other second year modules.

Theatre Practice
You will learn about critical theory in the arts and its application to aesthetics and arts practices. To support and inform your performance making, you will study: Form and Structure, Semiotics and Authorship, Phenomenology and Spectatorship, Gender and Sexuality, Race and Ethnicity, and Class and Society. Weekly plenary lectures make connections across the arts, and seminar workshops allow students to work together on ideas and examples specifically tailored to their discipline.

Critical Reflections (Contemporary Arts Theory)

Further Options
You can also choose from optional modules in other LICA disciplines (Art, Design, Film) or related modules in other departments.
Year 3

Year 3 builds on the learning of your second year, developing independent critical and creative skills. You can further specialise in Drama, Theatre and Performance and take some modules in other LICA disciplines, as well as the Creative Enterprise module.

Select from optional modules

You will choose from a range of optional modules such as:

+ Creative Enterprise
+ Contemporary European Postdramatic Theatre
+ Contemporary Dance and the Visual Arts
+ Community Performance
+ New Scenographies in Performance

You can also choose from optional second and third year modules in other LICA disciplines (Art, Design, Film) and related modules in other departments.

Dissertation

You will complete an independent research project on a topic of your choice. Research skills are taught via lectures/seminars and you will be supported through one-to-one supervision.

Advanced Theatre Practice

This practical module stands at the pinnacle of the whole theatre programme. You’ll work in a group on an intensive practical project that will lead to a public performance in the Nuffield Theatre as part of the LICA degree show.

Creative Enterprise module

You will learn about innovative ways creative practitioners produce and deliver their work, alongside the challenges they face. You will develop a working understanding of the key management and enterprise skills involved in delivering creative projects. Working in groups you will put your learning into practice through the delivery of your own live creative arts project. This will enable you to understand the skills, knowledge, attributes and behaviours relevant for employment in the arts and creative industries.

We keep our degree programmes under constant review, and regularly introduce and update modules. In any academic year, the modules offered may therefore differ from those presented here. Similarly, the structure of our degrees may change, in response to curricular developments and following consultation with students. Please check our website for the latest information www.lancaster.ac.uk/study.

A career in theatre

Former student Sarah says, “I had heard great things about the Department’s reputation for contemporary theatre practice, and liked the mixture of analysis and making on the course.” The best part of the course was “having access to the Nuffield Theatre and the array of acclaimed contemporary artists performing and working in the building. Through my course I gained varied and integral experience for my current practice.”

Sarah offers the following advice for future students, “Use the resources that LICA has to offer, and gain as much ‘real world’ career experience as possible through the professionals connected to the organisation.”

Sarah Wilson-White
Theatre Producer
Former BA Hons Theatre student
Twitter: @swe_theatre
sewtheatre.com

Photo by Alice the Camera

Connections

Lancaster Arts

The campus is brimming with culture and boasts its own theatre, art gallery and concert series; there’s also a fully equipped, student-run cinema. The Nuffield Theatre is one of the largest professional studio theatres in Europe. It hosts public performances of theatre, contemporary dance and live art from some of the best-known and respected companies from the UK and abroad.

Societies

Lancaster University Theatre Group (LUTG) is one of the biggest and most active societies on campus. It is dedicated to performing high quality shows, and it stages at least three shows every year – all directed, produced, managed and performed by students, giving you the opportunity to bring your favourite shows to life. There are many student-run societies you could get involved in including a TV station (LAI:TV), cinema (Take 2 Cinema) and newspaper (Scan).

www.lutg.org/

Visiting speakers and trips

LICA hosts a number of visiting speakers; they represent a range of professions, practices and positions in theatre theory and practice. There is an annual Alumni Panel with graduate speakers drawn from a range of professions. There are various opportunities to go on theatre trips or career related trips to other cities.

The City of Lancaster

The city’s theatres and arts venues including the Dukes and the Grand Theatre provide an all-year-round calendar of cultural shows, films and performances. Venues regularly play host to major comedy and theatrical tours, too.
Your future career

Throughout your degree we will support you in developing skills and gaining experience that will give you a head start in your chosen career.

Placements and internships
Placements and internships are great ways to gain work experience, make professional contacts and help you decide your career path. A wide range of opportunities are available and many placements are paid. Places are not usually guaranteed but we will help you prepare for the competitive application process.

The majority of our degrees are also available as placement year degrees that you can apply to via UCAS. With specialist support, you apply for a professional, paid work placement in Year 3 and return to Lancaster to complete your degree in Year 4. We also offer summer internships and school volunteering placements.

www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass-placements

Study abroad and vacation travel*
You can apply for a study abroad year when you arrive at Lancaster. On our three-year study abroad degrees you spend Year 2 studying at one of our international partner universities. There are also exciting possibilities for short vacation travel. These opportunities provide you with a chance to travel, experience new cultures, and make life-long friends.

www.lancaster.ac.uk/your-global-experience

Careers
Many of our graduates find jobs within theatre - as performers, directors, writers, dramaturgs, producers, designers, technicians or administrators - and in associated fields such as journalism, the media, publishing and advertising. You may also be interested in jobs relating to social applications of theatre and drama such as teaching, social work, community arts and drama and dance therapy. The skills you gain during your degree will also prepare you for graduate roles such as in Human Resources and the Civil Service.

Throughout your degree a wealth of career guidance and support is available from the Department and the University’s Careers Service, which has subject specific Careers Consultants. We have connections with some of the world’s top graduate recruiters and employers across every sector, and organise careers fairs, workshops, and networking opportunities throughout the year.

www.lancaster.ac.uk/careers

*Please note that overseas opportunities may be impacted by international travel or Government border restrictions.

Get in touch
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www.lancaster.ac.uk/theatre
Message a student: www.lancaster.ac.uk/chat

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Important information
The information in this booklet relates primarily to 2022/23 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of publication in May 2021. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after publication. You are advised to consult our website at www.lancaster.ac.uk/study for up-to-date information before you submit your application. Further legal information may be found at www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice.

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