



# Acting & Creative Practice.

**Audition guidance.**

**University of Northampton**

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Congratulations, you have successfully been selected for an audition at the University of Northampton. The audition process will be kept as informal as possible and is aimed at helping us to get to know you and help you decide whether this is the right course for you.

**[interviews2019@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:interviews2019@northampton.ac.uk)**



# How to accept your audition.

Please accept your audition date through UCAS.

If you have extenuating circumstances which means you cannot attend on the day we have scheduled, please email [interviews2019@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:interviews2019@northampton.ac.uk) prior to your audition date and include your UCAS ID. A new date, if available, will be scheduled for you within two working days. Please check your UCAS Track for updates.

## Checklist.

| To do  | Done |
|--|------|
| Read this document thoroughly as important instructions are included.  |      |
| Respond to your audition invite (as detailed above).   |      |
| Make a note of your audition date and time in your calendar.   |      |
| Check which location you need to attend on the day.  |      |
| Bring along any documents you've been asked to.  |      |
| Bring a passport size photo of yourself.   |      |
| Let us know about any requests for reasonable adjustment.  |      |
| Plan your journey, make sure you know where you're going and how you're getting here and where you will park |      |



# Audition details.

## Location.

The University of Northampton  
Innovation Centre  
Green Street  
Northampton  
NN1 1SY

## Travel information.

### Travelling to your audition.

#### Car Parking

Please note that there is no parking available at the Innovation Centre. There is a car park at the train station which is directly opposite the Innovation Centre and a number of others within easy walking distance.

#### By Train

The Innovation Centre is directly across the road from the train station. Please ensure that you use the appropriate pedestrian crossing points.

#### By Taxi

If you are catching a taxi to the Innovation Centre, please make sure you tell the driver the following postcode – NN1 1SY.

Please click [here](#) for further directions.

## Arrival and structure of the day.

The time listed on your audition invite is your **arrival time**. This is set as 30 minutes before your audition start time, so you can complete registration and have a chance to get settled before you are taken for your audition.

Should you be running late / unable to attend on the day please let the [Interviews Team](#) know as soon as possible.

Please register in Reception at The Innovation Centre.

- Please bring a **passport size photo of yourself** for us to add to your application details and give it to staff at the Registration Desk when you arrive for your audition.
- Please wear suitable clothing and little or no make-up. Any casual clothing that does not limit your movement is acceptable. Jeans are not suitable. Be prepared to work in bare feet or plimsolls/jazz shoes. Outdoor shoes are not permitted in our studios.
- Do bring a bottle of water with you to all your sessions.

We know that an audition can be an alarming experience. We make allowance for nerves and we try to make the process as enjoyable as possible. In a small number of cases some candidates may be invited back for a full recall day. Selections to our programmes are made on a rolling basis and we aim to advise UCAS within two weeks of your audition.

The audition day is designed with you, the applicant in mind however parents and guardians are very welcome to come along. Our Welcome Team will be happy to provide information on visiting the Town Centre but **parents/guardians should be prepared to spend their time independently**.

Please also note that it is not possible for individual tutors or Programme Leader to provide you with an individual assessment of your audition, either verbally or in writing.

**Food and beverages are available for purchase on site or at locations within easy walking distance.**

## The Audition process.

- There will be a physical and vocal warm-up after registering and then we see both your monologues and one is repeated with direction. There will also be an information session giving further details about the programme.
- The panel will see you in various workshop situations and conduct an interview with you. The day ends with a question & answer session with members of the academic staff team and current students from the programme.

**You will receive the day's full timetable upon arrival.** Auditions finish around 4.00pm on Saturdays and around 7.00pm Wednesdays. You will need to make appropriate travel (and if required) accommodation arrangements.

## Preparing for your audition.

Please read carefully the following information and instructions, which are intended to help you with your audition.

Our auditions are friendly and largely active. We find that most applicants manage to relax and actually enjoy the experience. We hope that you will too!

You must thoroughly prepare and memorise TWO short solo excerpts from contrasting plays – this can be your choice – either two contemporary pieces (late 19th Century onwards) or two classical monologues or one classical and one contemporary.

- Your selected monologues should be contrasting pieces, chosen to show different aspects of your abilities
- Each monologue should be approximately 1½ minutes (2 minutes max)
- Choose the monologues from published play texts
- Do not choose poems

The two monologues are a very important part of the audition. Please prepare thoroughly.

## How to prepare.

- Try to read the whole play in order to understand the context of the monologue and be ready to discuss it during the audition if asked
- Select characters about the same age as you
- Choose scenes that you believe will show your abilities
- Present them clearly with interesting physical action
- Do not think of them as 'speeches'

Remember, **this is your audition** and your opportunity to convince the panel that you have what the programme demands. While it is useful to test out your monologue on a friend, do not worry and don't let anybody tell you how to act it. This is not an acting exam. There is no right or wrong way. Prepare your audition pieces carefully and have the courage to do them in the way you want to do them.

## Requests for reasonable adjustment.

It is the policy of the University of Northampton that candidates should not be prejudiced as a result of any disability and reasonable adjustments will be made to mitigate unfair discrimination.

Therefore all candidates with disabilities are encouraged to identify and/or request support for actual or potential circumstances in advance. Please contact [admissions2019@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:admissions2019@northampton.ac.uk).

Please note you will be required to provide suitable medical evidence that confirms the nature of your condition and the need for adjustment.

# **Criteria used for assessing BA (Hons) Acting & Creative Practice candidates at Audition.**

- 1) Candidates must be able to respond to movement direction and therefore able to undertake a simple co-ordination routine without difficulty. This will be taught to candidates in the audition.
- 2) Candidates must be able to deliver a prepared text with understanding of the meanings within that text.
- 3) Candidates must be able to deliver a prepared text with an understanding of appropriate characterisation and with inner life.
- 4) Candidates must be able to respond to direction given by a member of the auditioning panel.
- 5) Candidates must be able to improvise a scene either by themselves or with others under the direction of the auditioning panel.
- 6) Candidates must be able to respond appropriately and constructively to other candidates when working on a group task.
- 7) Candidates must be able to respond appropriately and constructively to tasks set by a panel member in a workshop situation evidencing the ability to listen and learn, be individual and interesting to watch.
- 8) Candidates must evidence a desire to work hard in their training and be committed to working as a professional actor/creator upon graduation.
- 9) Candidates must be thoughtful, original and articulate in response to questions they are asked in an interview.

Candidates who do not show the capabilities required for the Acting & Creative Practice programme may be then offered the opportunity to have a discussion with the team from the Drama programme. Information about this course can be found on the University website.

**Good luck, and remember that *we want you to succeed!!***