

**Welcome 2021**



**BA (Hons) ACTING**

# Welcome to the University of Northampton

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to your studies at the University of Northampton. The purpose of this document is to help you prepare for coming to study with us and give you an opportunity to meet members of your programme team as well as other students who've chosen the same course. We want to make sure that you are inspired, anchored, prepared, and enabled to succeed.

Through engaging with our welcome and induction activities you will get to know your super-supportive tutors, have a chance to make new friends and be able to access what you need to know and do to start studying successfully. Ultimately, we want you to feel confident about how you will learn.

This Welcome Pack covers the following key areas:

- A welcome message from your Programme Leader
- Details of online Welcome and Induction sessions scheduled during the second half of August and the first three weeks in September
- Technical information to make joining these sessions as easy as possible
- What happens during Welcome and Induction Week – meeting with your Personal Tutor and other University-wide events

## Welcome – Your Programme Leader

Congratulations on making it onto the course. On behalf of the staff here, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to your studies at the University of Northampton, and onto the BA (Hons) Acting programme in the Faculty of Arts, Science and Technology (FAST).

This programme is designed to give you the necessary knowledge, proficiencies and skills to become a performance professional in the performing arts sector. If you apply what you have been taught with the necessary dedication and passion, then you should be able to make a career out of doing what you love most.

I hope you really enjoy the next three years in Northampton. It will be hard work but both fun and rewarding too. You will make life-long friends and learn life-long skills.

The course will:

- ✓ Give you a foundation that positively impacts the rest of your life
- ✓ Prepare you for the future with valuable employability skills
- ✓ Build on your creative strength, ability and technical performance skills

- ✓ Expose you to Real World Application - Understanding of the world of work and society
- ✓ Develop your leadership and other valuable transferable skills

Your audition day will have provided you with a good insight into the positive working environment you will experience as a student. We are very proud of our very successful graduates and this journey begins from day one.

You can access further detailed information with regard to resources you need to obtain prior to commencing studies on: [Introduction – Welcome to Acting \(northampton.ac.uk\)](http://northampton.ac.uk)

This site contains details of any timetables and information about Welcome Week which we would advise you to read before the start of term.

To help you prepare for the academic year ahead below is a list of materials that you will require for your first term:

- Writing paper/note pads
- At least 2 A4 ring binders for workshops/seminars
- Pens, pencils (fitted with eraser)

*You will need to have appropriate clothes for your classes, we recommend:*

- 3 x Plain black, comfortable fitting t-shirts (not baggy)
- 2 x Plain black, comfortable track/dance bottoms (not too tight but not baggy)
- Females will also need a long black rehearsal skirt

For your dance classes:

- **Females** - leotard combined with tights/dance shorts/dance leggings. Sports bras are essential.
- **Males** - unitards or dance vests & men's dance tights/shorts.
- Completely flat soled ballet shoes (leather or canvas), jazz shoes which have a small heel are not permitted.
- Close fitting cover-ups/warm-ups are permitted as layers but must be removable.
- **Males** will also require a dance belt for support when wearing a unitard/tights (essential)
- All items required are available from [www.dancedirect.com](http://www.dancedirect.com) or [www.dancewear.co.uk](http://www.dancewear.co.uk) or any dancewear retail store.

You are not permitted to wear outdoor shoes in any of the studios; instead you can either work in bare feet, black plimsolls or black jazz shoes. Outdoor trainers are not permitted.

**Jewellery and fake nails are not permitted** for health and safety reasons.

For Stage Combat:

If you do not wish to work in plimsolls for stage combat you should purchase some indoor trainers to wear for this class.

For Movement Classes:

It is advisable that you all purchase your own yoga mat for the floor work you will do as part of

these classes.

For Voice Classes:

**It is essential that you purchase your Level 1 and 2 Estill Workbooks prior** to beginning in October. Information on purchasing these books can be found via the welcome week NILE page above.

They are an inclusive fee of **£55** for both books. We are lucky enough to be one of only 8 institutions in the world to have the prestigious Estill voice training recognition and the workbooks are an essential part of this.

### **Year 1 Acting Books suggested for purchase:**

**We would like you to purchase and read the following books in preparation for the start of your training:**

Below you will find a list of books that we suggest you purchase for each module. These are texts that are essential you read prior to commencing the course and re-read during the modules to aid your success within each module. They are books we as Academics believe you will find of great benefit to own and therefore if you can purchase them we strongly recommend that you do.

### **Acting Methodologies 1:**

Stanislavski, K. (2010) *An Actor's Work*. (Translated by Jean Benedetti) Oxon: Routledge. ISBN: 978-0-415-55120-5

Hagen, U. (1991) *A Challenge for the Actor*. U.S.A.: Scribner. ISBN: 0-68419040-0

### **Vocal Technique for Actors 1 Module:**

Houseman, B. (2002) *Finding Your Voice - a step-by-step guide for actors*. Bodmin: Nick Hern Books. ISBN: 978-1-85459-659-8

Estill, J. *Level 1 and 2 Workbooks*. Please see the welcome week page for how to purchase these essential books.

Estill, J. (2017) *The Estill Voice Model: Theory and Translation*. United States of America. ISBN:978-0-9859023-0-8

### **Improvisation for Actors 1 Module:**

Clements, Paul (1983) *The Improvised Play*. ISBN:9781854597823

Johnstone, Keith (1981) *Improv: Improvisation and the Theatre*. ISBN-13: 978-0713687019

### **Actors Body and Movement Module:**

Snow, J (2012), *Movement Training for Actors*. ISBN-10: 1408128578

### **Theories and Histories of Acting Module:**

Please note many of these texts are playtexts which can be found very cheaply via Amazon.

Sophocles. (2010) *The Complete Sophocles*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Balme, C. (2008) *The Cambridge Introduction to Theatre Studies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Marlowe, C. (1962) *Doctor Faustus*. Jump, J. (ed.) London: Methuen.

Shakespeare, W. (1982) *Hamlet*. Jenkins, H. (ed.) London: Methuen.

Shakespeare, W. (1921) *The Tempest*. Wilson, J. (ed.) Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Ibsen, H. (2008) *Four Major Plays*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Chekhov, A. (2008) *Five Plays*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Brenton, H. (1986) *Plays: 1*. London: Methuen.

Brecht, B. (1962) *Mother Courage and Her Children: A Chronicle of the Thirty Years War*. London: Methuen.

Odets, C. (1982) *Six Plays*. London: Methuen.

Friel, B. (1981) *Brian Friel: Philadelphia, Here I Come!, Translations, Making History, Dancing at Lughnasa*. London: Faber and Faber.

Miller, A. (1968) *The Crucible: A Play in Four Acts*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Pinter, H. (1966) *The Homecoming*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. London: Eyre Methuen.

I hope this helps you to prepare and should you have any further questions or queries please feel free to contact myself as your PAT tutor.

I look forward to learning with you.

**Gemma Boaden, Programme Leader and Year 1 Tutor**

Email: [gemma.boaden@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:gemma.boaden@northampton.ac.uk)).

## Welcome and Induction Online Sessions

We would like to invite you to join members of your subject and programme team, and other students joining you at the University of Northampton this year for an online welcome and induction experience in the weeks leading up to the start of term. The details of your programme specific experience are as follows:

<b>Getting to Know You</b> Session 1	Date:	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
	Time:	10am – 11am
	Link:	<a href="https://uon.webex.com/meet/owain.rose">https://uon.webex.com/meet/owain.rose</a>
<b>Introduction to Learning and Teaching on your Programme</b> Session 2	Date:	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September
	Time:	10am – 11am
	Link:	<a href="https://uon.webex.com/meet/owain.rose">https://uon.webex.com/meet/owain.rose</a>
<b>Supporting Your Success</b> Session 3	Date:	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> September
	Time:	10am – 11am
	Link:	<a href="https://uon.webex.com/meet/owain.rose">https://uon.webex.com/meet/owain.rose</a>

## Preparing you for Learning and Teaching at Northampton

Learning and teaching at the University of Northampton is designed to help you take control of your own learning, using small group teaching, team-working and one-to-one tutorials that allow learning to take place in face-to-face environments and using carefully crafted digital experiences. To help you prepare for this personalised approach to learning, our welcome and induction activities are designed to introduce you to our learning technologies so that you are ready to go for the start of term. Through engaging in some preparatory work before our live sessions, you can think about some of the questions you might have and have opportunities to explore the many ways in which you are supported. You can also meet the other students on your programme.

## Technical Support

As part of our welcome and induction, we would like you to engage with us using our online tool, Blackboard Collaborate. It is broadly similar to using Skype or Zoom, which you may have come across before. You will be able to join your Welcome and Induction sessions as a guest, meaning that you do not need to create an account in order to participate.

### Using Collaborate

- 1) [Test whether your browser will work with Collaborate](#)
- 2) Review the [student guide to using Collaborate](#)

3) Test Collaborate by visiting our test 'classroom' to address any technological challenges. This classroom will be available 24/7 from now until the end of September. You can [join the classroom now](#) and follow the instructions to test your audio and video functions.

**If you are still experiencing difficulties, please call our on-site team for further help: +44 (0)1604 893333.**

## **LinkedIn Learning**

Once you become a student at the University of Northampton, you will also have access to a wealth of online technical support through [LinkedIn Learning](#) so you can improve your digital skills any time, any place.



## What Happens in Welcome Week?

The first week of the semester is devoted to a range of activities that will help you to meet the rest of the students on your course, the people who will teach you and allow you to familiarise yourself with what you will be studying and the facilities you will use.

A separate timetable of events is provided for this week which will tell you where you need to be and at what time. There will also be plenty of other staff and student ambassadors around to make sure that you find your way to the right things.

Each student is allocated to a [Personal Tutor](#) (PT) and you will have an opportunity to meet with them during the first week. If you are a Joint Honours student, you will be in a tutor group with other students who share one of your subject areas. The PT meeting would be a good opportunity for you to discuss any questions you may have about personalised support if you haven't already contacted those teams directly. Please know that you can also get in touch with your Personal Tutor directly should you need to. Your PT will tell you more about how to do this.

At the University of Northampton, our Personal Tutors meet regularly and frequently with their tutees, both in group and in 1-to-1 sessions. They will help you to reflect on how your studies are going and explore actions you can take to maximise your chances of success.

## BA (Hons) Acting

Welcome Week Timetable 27<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

*(Subject to change. Please check programme NILE site after enrolment for the latest version)*

Time	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> October
09.00- 10.00	<b>Welcome to Acting: Introduction to course and ethos</b>  <b>9.00 – 10.00</b>  <b>UNIC 1</b>  <b><i>ALL STUDENTS TO ATTEND</i></b>	<b>Personal Tutor Session 1</b>  <b>9.00 – 10.00</b> <b>OR and GB</b>		<b>Equity Talk</b>  <b>09.00 – 10.00</b> <b>Ian Bayes</b>  <b>VENUE TBC</b>	<b>Performance Prep Time</b>  <b>In your groups</b>
10.00- 11.00	<b>Intro to Improv/ Intro to Acting</b>  <b>10.00 – 12.00</b>  <b>UNIC:1 &amp; 2</b>  <b><i>ALL STUDENTS TO ATTEND</i></b>	<b>Learning how to Warm- up Session</b>  <b>10.00 – 11.00</b> <b>Mary O'Brien</b>  <b>Group 1</b>	<b>Library Video, Equity Applications &amp; Timetables , groupings etc</b>  <b>10.00 – 11.00</b> <b><i>ALL STUDENTS TO ATTEND</i></b>  <b>Venue TBC</b>		
11.00- 12.00		<b>Learning how to Warm- up Session</b>  <b>11.00 – 12.00</b> <b>Mary O'Brien</b>  <b>Group 2</b>	<b>Face to Face Health &amp; Safety Briefing/ Studio Etiquette/code of conduct</b> <b>11.00-12.00</b> <b><i>ALL STUDENTS TO ATTEND</i></b>		

12.00-13.00	LUNCH	Intro to Buddy System 12.00 – 12.30  LUNCH with your buddy 12.30-13.30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
13.00-14.00	Intro to Improv/ Intro to Acting  13.00 – 15.00  UNIC 1 & 2	Intro to Movement Session  13.30 – 14.30 – Group 1	Vocal Workshop Group 2  13.00 – 14.00 UNIC 1	Performance Prep Time In your groups	*Performances  13.00 – 16.00  <i>ALL STUDENTS TO ATTEND</i>
14.00-15.00	<i>ALL STUDENTS TO ATTEND</i>	Intro to Movement Session  14.30 – 15.30 – Group 2	Vocal Workshop Group 1  14.00 – 15.00 UNIC 1		
15.00-16.00	Performance Task 3.00 - 5.00  <i>ALL STUDENTS TO ATTEND</i>	Intro to Movement Session  14.30 – 15.30 – Group 2	Performance Prep Time In your groups		
16.00-17.00		Performance Prep Time In your groups			