

ITALIA CONTI

Programme Specification

BA (Hons) Musical Theatre

Academic Year 2026/27

Programme approved by University of Chichester



Italia Conti is an Associate College of
University of Chichester

Programme descriptor

Programme summary information

1	Programme title	BA (Hons) Musical Theatre
2	Programme code	UF_MUSTHICW
3	Awarding institution	University of Chichester
4	Teaching institution (if different)	Italia Conti (partner only)
5	PSRB accreditation	

6 Programme description (text for website), including information on employability

The BA (Hons) Musical Theatre is a three-year, full-time course, leading to a BA with honours qualification after successful completion of study.

Italia Conti's BA (Hons) Musical Theatre course is designed to nurture and develop innovative and individual musical theatre performers, who embody and apply specialist skills and techniques supported by grounded knowledge of industry practices, contexts, and the emerging requirements that empower graduates for a sustainable career in musical theatre.

Studying Musical Theatre at Italia Conti will fully prepare you for musical theatre performance, developing your practice and thinking in an integrated way. Through training in acting, singing and dance, you will have what it takes to become a Musical Theatre artist of the future. Consistency and creativity paired with the critical approach you need to study Musical Theatre will provide you with expertise applicable to a variety of careers in the field.

There are two pathways through the BA (Hons) Musical Theatre Course: *Musical Theatre Triple Threat Pathway* and *Musical Theatre Dance Performance Pathway*. At the point of recall, audition and offer, students are advised of the pathway they are being considered for. Students study the same terminal course, with the similar assessment components and united final projects and performances. However, the curriculum is tailored to challenge the individual performer.

- On the Dance Performance Pathway students receive more technical dance training to support and extend their dance development.
- On the Triple Threat Pathway students receive a balanced training across the three core disciplines.

Level 4 (Foundational Skills)

The foundations of dance, singing, acting techniques are embedded into the first year, with collaborative and integrated workshops beginning to draw together the disciplines. Contextual Practice is developed to stimulate reflection and critical thinking and facilitate the application of contextual and historical study to practical work.

Level 5 (Integration and Consolidation)

Further skill development in dance, singing, acting continue through into the second year to consolidate and progress the three integral disciplines. However, collaborative and integrated practice is now a more prominent focus to fully draw together the disciplines and study stagecraft in preparation for more sustained performance work and projects. Contextual Practice begins to explore practice-as-research methodology to support theatre-making and devising as key skills for the self-sufficient performing artist.

Level 6 (Professional Preparation and Performance)

The third year sees the focus of the training develop to encompass:

- professional preparation and employability for industry
- extended performance in directed musical theatre production
- independent performance contexts

Skills training continues through year three as you begin to specialise and develop a deeper understanding and practice of specific Musical Theatre genres and forms. Both transferable and employability skills will be embedded into their learning through structured collaborative practice and reflective thinking, and the increasing execution of their technical expertise. Students will gradually build self-awareness and their skillsets to be able to work towards their professional ambitions and to confidently engage with industry opportunities and challenges. This will ensure that you enter the workplace or further postgraduate study competitively.

The course aims to ensure that successful graduates:

- Synthesise the knowledge and practical understanding of practices, techniques, key components of performance and the process by which it is created to perform as a triple threat performer to professional industry standards
- Acquire specialised skills in dance, singing and acting disciplines, are able to integrate these skills in professional musical theatre practice and engage creatively and critically with the skills and processes of performance and production
- Demonstrate and inhabit transferable graduate skills, especially in communication, organisation and self-presentation, teamwork, independent research, critical analysis and reflection on action which will allow them to operate successfully in a variety of fields
- Contextualise and evaluate the historical and cultural framework of performance, text, technique and practice to facilitate intelligent engagement with critical and theoretical perspectives

7	Programme awards		
7a	Name of final award	Level	Credits awarded
	BA (Hons) Musical Theatre	6	360
7b	Exit awards	Level	Credits awarded
	DipHE Musical Theatre	5	240
	CertHE Musical Theatre	4	120

8	Exemptions from the Academic Regulations
Students on this course are expected to maintain a 90% attendance rate in order to progress effectively through the levels of study and achieve the learning outcomes. Attendance is compulsory on an intensive timetable with additional self-led study hours. Attendance of less than 90% may be considered a disciplinary matter (professional conduct) and may after due process lead to termination of studies on the course. The course runs according to specific academic regulations and policies which may diverge from standard University of Chichester frameworks in order to uphold the professional vocational standards expected and to ensure the principles of holism, integrated skills development and embodied learning are fully supported.	

9	Mode of study
Full-time, onsite (Woking)	

10	Entry requirements
• Applicants must be 18+ by the 31st of August in the year of entry (17+ for Scottish applicants). • Successful audition through Italia Conti • Equivalent to 64 UCAS points (e.g. 2 'C' grades at A Level or equivalent achievement in Level 3 vocational qualifications including but not limited to BTEC, UAL, RSL, OCR Diplomas/Extended Diplomas, Access to HE qualifications and T-Levels.) • English and Maths at GCSE Grade 4 or above (or recognised equivalent Level 2 qualifications) • IELTS Level 6 (for applicants for whom English is not their first language and who do not have GCSE English or equivalent) • Legal right to reside/study in the UK for the full period of the programme Admission through recognition of non-standard entry qualifications/experience may also be considered on a case-by-case basis for candidates who demonstrate exceptional talent or who can satisfy the panel of their ability to successfully complete the programme. Non-standard entry is assessed at audition and interview. Students without a Level 2 English qualification may be asked to complete a non-standard entry written task.	
EU: N/A	
International: N/A	
Access to HE: M = 15 credits, P = 30 credits (equivalent to 64 UCAS points)	

11	Programme aims and outcomes
	Knowledge
1	Understand a range of performance practices, disciplines and styles from the history of Musical Theatre and the constituent elements of singing, dance and drama.
2	Define and discuss key methods and concepts of performance theory and their practical contemporary application in vocal, dance and acting practice.
3	Identify the history and context of the significant texts, events, practitioners and movements affecting the theory and practice of musical theatre.

4	Understand and analyse the function of vocal and physical anatomy and physiology, and demonstrate safe and healthy practice in respect of these.
5	Evaluate the historical and cultural context of any given performance.
6	Recognise and apply the technical definitions, terminology and vocabulary employed within the field of professional performance development and production.
	Cognitive skills
1	Demonstrate effective critical-reasoning and problem solving
2	Analyse, evaluate and interpret given texts and material
3	Apply theoretical concepts to practical and written work
4	Critically reflect, draw conclusions, and consider concepts for their validity, application and value
5	Synthesise information from a range of sources.
6	Formulate and test ideas.
7	Research and assimilate information, and report findings.
	Practical skills
1	Create and communicate a performance/performance text for live professional performance using improvisation, text, music, choreography or other ideational material.
2	Apply key methods, techniques and approaches drawn from vocal, dance and/or acting theory through a personal performance preparation process to realise professional performance
3	Develop, refine and apply a range of expressive, stylistic and technical skills to realise and communicate informed interpretative choices for multi-disciplinary professional performance
4	Identify, realise and communicate the expressive potential of performance
5	Respond in rehearsal and performance to professional relationships with performers, production teams, audience and space.
6	Respond to and apply verbal and written feedback on classwork, rehearsal and performance to improve own performance practice
7	Use the voice and body safely as an expressive technical creative tool.
8	Gather, sift, synthesise, and organise material, repertoire and stimuli independently.
	Transferable Skills and Professional Competencies
1	Balance and organise personal and professional priorities through self-evaluation and self-management to organise time, prepare for tasks and meet deadlines.
2	Communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
3	Work effectively, collaboratively and creatively as part of a team, negotiating and pursuing shared goals with others.
4	Identify goals and plan independently for strategic ongoing personal development of skills and competencies
5	Use information media including libraries, journals, internet resources and digital media.
6	Use and develop effective digital literacy skills including word-processing, presentation creation and performance self-taping.
7	Develop advanced verbal, physical and non-verbal communication skills
8	Demonstrate self-promotion, self-presentation and self-marketing skills for employability contexts.
12	Programme requirements (Please include optional modules / replace with L7 for postgraduate provision)
12a	Level 4: In order to complete this programme a student must successfully complete all the following modules, totalling 120 credits:

Module code	Module name – Triple Threat Pathway	Credit value
ICW441	Foundation Dance Skills	20
ICW442	Foundation Singing Skills	20
ICW443	Foundation Acting Skills	20
ICW444	Foundation Musical Theatre Performance Practice	40
ICW445	Contextual Practice (Musical Theatre)	20
Module code	Module name – Dance Performance Pathway	Credit value
	Foundation Dance Skills	40
	Foundation Singing and Acting Skills	20
	Foundation Contextual Practice	20
	Foundation Musical Theatre Performance Practice	40
12b	Level 5: In order to complete this programme a student must successfully complete all the following modules, totalling 120 credits:	
Module code	Module name – Triple Threat Pathway	Credit value
ICW541	Advanced Technical Skills	60
ICW542	Advanced Musical Theatre Performance Practice	40
ICW543	Advanced Contextual Practice (Musical Theatre)	20
Module code	Module name – Dance Performance Pathway	Credit value
	Advanced Technical Skills (DPP)	60
	Advanced Musical Theatre Performance Practice	40
	Advanced Contextual Practice	20
12c	Level 6: In order to complete this programme a student must successfully complete all the following modules, totalling 100 credits:	
Module code	Module name – All students	Credit value
ICW641	Professional Musical Theatre Performance Practice	40
ICW642	Professional Preparation and Employability (Musical Theatre)	40
ICW643	Professional Technical Skills (Musical Theatre)	20
12d	Level 6: In order to complete this programme a student must successfully complete one of the following modules, totalling 20 credits:	
Module code	Module name	Credit value
ICW644	Independent Performance Project (Musical Theatre)	20
ICW645	Professional Performance in Employment (Musical Theatre)	20

13	Structure diagram (Please include optional modules)					
Level 4	Induction					
	T1	ICW441	ICW442	ICW443	ICW444	ICW445
	T2	ICW441	ICW442	ICW443	ICW444	ICW445
	T3	ICW441	ICW442	ICW443	ICW444	ICW445
Level 5	T1	ICW541	ICW542	ICW543		
	T2	ICW541	ICW542	ICW543		
	T3	ICW541	ICW542	ICW543		
Level 6	T1	ICW641	ICW642	ICW643		
	T2	ICW641	ICW642	ICW643	ICW644 or ICW645	
	T3	ICW642	ICW643	ICW644 or ICW645		

14	Overall student workload
We promote the combination of conservatoire-style training with the benefits of a multi-disciplinary arts university education. As conservatoire-style training relies upon expert-led tuition and activity, you will have a high number of weekly contact teaching activities with staff. You will also be required to further your learning through guided independent study, reading, practice and rehearsal. As the course, and profession, require intensive physical training and practice, you will be encouraged to maintain healthy nutrition, develop physical conditioning, technique and protective practices, and most importantly to monitor your mental and physical wellbeing as a performer. Overall student workload consists of directed and independent learning, with each credit equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. Whilst actual contact hours may depend upon the modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities. Directed learning includes scheduled lectures, practical classes, workshops and studio rehearsal time specified in their timetables. This also includes placements, work-based learning, visits, online activity and peer learning. Independent learning includes private study and preparation for assessments and examinations.	

Level 4	
Activity	Hours
Directed learning	900
Independent learning	300
Total hours	1200

Level 5	
Activity	Hours
Directed learning	900
Independent learning	300
Total hours	1200

Level 6	
Activity	Hours
Directed learning	900
Independent learning	300
Total hours	1200

15	Other information	
A1	Start date	September 9 th 2024
A2	Institute/Department	
A3	Programme leader	Dan Fulham
A4	UCAS code	N/A
A5	JACS/HECoS Code	
A6	Language of study	English
A7	Subject benchmark statement	Dance, Drama and Performance (2024)
A8	Date initial programme approval	July 31 st , 2023
A9	Additional programme costs	

		• Audition fee for selection onto the programme £45. Audition fee waivers may be available. • Refundable Course Deposit Fee – £275, fee waivers may be available • Studio / rehearsal wear: estimated around £100- £200 with a detailed kit list provided upon enrolment. • Purchasing of relevant books/play-texts (approximately £25 per term) • Cost of Excursions (appx £30 per annum. Costs depend on show selections and frequency). • Basic costume, props, or rehearsal materials (varies according to student preference) • Locker hire (approximately £40 per year) • Stationery and printing (appx £20 per term) • Travel between sites for sessions and performances – variable. This includes travel into London to attend the Industry Showcase each year. • Theatre visits • PC / laptop / IPAD or tablet capable of running Microsoft 365, with webcam and microphone (if not already built into the webcam. This is necessary for research and coursework, with associated printing costs. • Headphones • Optional Accreditation/Classes (Level 5): around £200 per specialism for additional classes/external exams e.g. Stage Combat. • Professional Headshots (End of Level 5): essential for marketing; costs vary based on photographer selection. Costs usually exceed £250 • Marketing Materials/Registrations (Level 6): costs can exceed £250, including directory entries and professional membership
A10	Accreditation	Council for Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre (CDMT) Affiliated to FDS: Federation of Drama Schools.