

# BFA ACTING

## Course Overview 2024

### First Year

#### SEMESTER ONE

##### **ACT7104A Engagement with Technique A** (30 credit points)

Grounding in the self

In your first semester of training, you will be introduced to foundational skills in acting, movement, music and voice, which together form the basis of effective, sustainable and imaginative performance. Learning is mostly experiential and practical. You will also explore what it is to work safely in an ensemble of actors, to reflect on process, and to carry out independent research into texts and character.

##### **ACT7105A Application of Technique A** (15 credit points)

Grounding in the self

Throughout the first semester of training, you will apply the foundational skills acquired in acting, movement, music and voice in exercises and projects designed to develop creative and imaginative responses in the actor. You will work on your own, in pairs, and as an ensemble, to develop your collaborative storytelling skills.

##### **COM7101A Performance and Ideas A** (10 credit points)

You will engage in a theoretical and critical analysis of key forms and conventions of performance in a range of historical and intercultural contexts up until the beginning of the 21st century. You will also explore how these ideas and practices inform a range of contemporary arts practices.

### **COM7103A Performance Makers A** (5 credit points)

You will be introduced to the foundational skills, vocabularies and processes which will underlie your ongoing engagement in the BFA courses, and the development of your practice as creative storytellers. This includes processes for ensuring safe and sustainable collaborative practices and maintaining mental health and wellbeing across your academic and artistic careers.

## **SEMESTER TWO**

### **ACT7104B Engagement with Technique B** (30 credit points)

Extending from the self

You will deepen your technical skills in all four disciplines — acting, movement, music and voice — and start to consider your performance in relation to different audiences. You will find that training increasingly integrates the disciplines, there is more engagement with language, style and scale.

### **ACT7105B Application of Technique B** (15 credit points)

Extending from the self

You will be offered new challenges as an actor as the complexity of exercises increases. You will work to extend your growing skills by applying them in more complex situations that further enhance the imaginative engagement and response of the actor in storytelling, in both stage and screen contexts.

### **COM7101B Performance and Ideas B** (10 credit points)

You will explore the impact that a range of 20th century artistic movements and key performance practitioners have on contemporary creative practices. In this subject, you will also begin to contextualise your own creative and intellectual foundations as an emerging practitioner.

### **COM7103B Performance Makers B** (5 credit points)

You will further develop the skills, vocabularies and processes which support your practice as emerging arts professionals. This includes considering and actioning sustainable practices, integrating emerging technologies into storytelling practices, and developing foundational entrepreneurial skills.

## Second Year

### SEMESTER ONE

#### **ACT7204A Engagement with Technique A** (30 credit points)

The expressive character

You will extend acting, movement, music and voice technical skills. Through iterative experiential exercises and practical critical analysis, you will explore a range of expressive characterisation techniques. You will work with both found and devised texts that strengthen the individual disciplines, and increasingly integrate them across the semester.

#### **ACT7205A Application of Technique A** (20 credit points)

Moving towards other

You will be introduced to the principles of transformation and characterisation. Using your accumulated technical skills, you will engage with two workshop productions that will enable you to explore the process of bringing characters to life through your creative and imaginative responses.

#### **COM7204A Contexts of Performance A** (10 credit points)

You will continue to engage in cross-disciplinary discussion and inquiry about the ideas and practices that inform contemporary performance in a variety of forms and contexts and apply these to your own disciplines.

### SEMESTER TWO

#### **ACT7204B Engagement with Technique B** (30 credit points)

Character transformation

You will consolidate a range of technical skills in each of the four disciplines of acting, movement, music and voice. You will be challenged to transform holistically in your characterisation with imagination, specificity and authenticity. You will work with a variety of complex texts across a range of theatrical styles.

#### **ACT7205B Application of Technique B** (15 credit points)

Developing characterisation

Building upon the work completed in the previous semester, you will deepen your understanding of how to develop characters. You will apply your technical skills to create characters in both theatrical and screen contexts, with a focus on your individual creative process.

### **COM7204B Contexts of Performance B** (10 credit points)

You will engage in discussion and inquiry about the ideas and practices that inform contemporary performance in a variety of forms and contexts and apply these to your own disciplines. This subject aims to develop your knowledge and critical response to modern and contemporary performance.

### **COM7203B Student-Led Project B** (5 credit points)

In cross-cohort collaborative teams you will draw on the individual strengths, knowledge and abilities of each member, as well as techniques for devising new work, to contribute to the development and realisation of a short performance.

## **Third Year**

### SEMESTER ONE

### **ACT7302A Interdisciplinary Collaboration A** (30 credit points)

Working as a company

You will learn how to work with professional acting principles and practices in a collaborative setting. You will work with your peers from a diverse range of NIDA courses to realise staged performances. You will bring your technique and skills to the process of making, which may involve working on devised and/or contemporary performance works.

### **ACT7303A Professional Practice A** (15 credit points)

The actor and the profession

You will begin the process of preparing to enter the industry at the completion of your course. You will work with industry professionals to accumulate the skills and awareness that will aid you in the self-management of an independent career in the performing arts.

### **ACT7304A Engagement with Technique A** (15 credit points)

Synthesising skills

You will deepen your understanding of how to apply body, voice and musical skills in the development of complex theatrical forms. Your work will explore both existing text and repertoire along with self-generated material that seeks to holistically integrate multiple disciplines into a synthesised, coherent and expressive form of performance. You will be encouraged to embody specific techniques, and simultaneously celebrate your individuality and unique qualities as an actor.

## SEMESTER TWO

### **ACT7302B Interdisciplinary Collaboration B** (30 credit points)

The actor and the audience

You will further prepare yourself for entering the industry by developing greater awareness of the relationship between the actor and their audience. You will work on both screen and live works in order to skilfully manage the performance requirements specific to each audience.

### **ACT7303B Professional Practice B** (15 credit points)

Honing your professional skills

You will meet and engage with industry professionals and gain further knowledge and understanding of the working processes in the industry. You will hone your skills through a series of exercises designed to increase your confidence and readiness to enter the industry.

### **ACT7304B Engagement with Technique B** (15 credit points)

The creative actor

You will deepen your understanding of how to apply voice, body and musical skills in selected acting scenarios for the stage and screen. Your work is encouraged to couple self-generated material with existing physical and written texts, in order to generate complex and integrated skills in performance scenarios that meet the standards of the professional entertainment industry.