

Practical Selection Day advice

Acting BA (Hons)

Why do we ask you to participate in a Practical Selection Day

Practical auditions are part of our selection process because Acting requires specific skills and qualities. We would like to give you the opportunity to demonstrate that you have a solid performing platform for us to work with you on your long-term development. Seeing you perform and work collaboratively with others in a workshop enables us to understand more accurately the skill level that you are currently at and whether Acting at DMU would be an appropriate choice for you. Even going through the process of an audition, with the preparation and dedication to prepare your work, shows us a level of commitment and enthusiasm for the subject area, so please remember we are on your side and want you to have a positive experience.

What are we looking for?

We are not looking for perfect, highly experienced, professional actors (you are coming here to learn), rather we are looking for evidence of competent qualities in a number of areas such as;

- Levels of focus and concentration in performance
- Ability to communicate vocally and physically
- Ability to understand and embody a theatre text
- Willingness to be open to receiving direction
- Ability to confidently express a grasp of language, pace and rhythm.

Workshop:

- Ability to take creative risk
- Ability to be open to tasks and to other people
- To be active in your participation with others
- How you communicate and interact with others
- How you respond creatively and imaginatively to instruction
- Ability to listen to and build on other people's ideas.

Relaxed Practical Selection Day

We strive for inclusivity on our course and will be running relaxed Practical Selection Days, where numbers, lighting and noise will be reduced to help you focus more on presenting the strongest and most creative you. If you feel this would benefit you, then please ask for further details.

What can you do to prepare?

Choose appropriate material remember you are choosing a character as much as a text, don't make it hard by trying to play a character many years older than yourself for example. Avoid texts with extreme, intense or heightened emotions such as anger or crying.

Prepare – make sure you learn your texts in plenty of time and have given your work a physical life, share your work with others so that you are used to presenting a monologue in front of people. Consider the shape of your performance so that the performance doesn't feel, look or sound the same throughout. It is always good advice to read the whole play, not just the scene so that you have a better understanding of the context of the character at this moment. The more prepared you are, the calmer you will be in the audition.

Perform your work in your own voice, don't put on an accent or a character voice.

On the day - warm-up vocally and physically before your audition. Try to relax and be yourself, we want to see your unique, wonderful qualities.

A note on the monologues:

You will be asked to prepare two contrasting monologues, one from the 21st Century and one from pre-21st century. Please do not be worried about performing your piece exactly as you had prepared it – we will ask you to re-try parts of your work again with supportive suggestions from our tutors so you can relax a little and develop your material. This also gives us a chance to see how you respond creatively to instruction.

Wednesday Practical Selection Day schedule:

9.00am:	Check in and refreshments, Vijay Patel Building, Design Wing, Floor 4
9.30am:	Welcome presentation by programme lead in Clephan Building
10am – 12.30pm:	10-15 minutes individual audition and Q&A with current students
12.30 – 1.15pm:	Lunch voucher will be provided
1.15 – 1.45pm:	Course presentation with a member of the Acting course team
1.45 – 2.45pm:	Group practical workshop
2.45 – 3.30pm:	Acting facilities and accommodation tours will be offered



Next steps

UK / EU applicants

- Once you have applied, if you meet our minimum entry requirements, you will be invited to attend a Practical Selection Day.

International applicants (living outside of the UK)

- Once you have applied, if you meet our minimum entry requirements you will be asked to submit your performance work digitally:
 - Please use .mp4, .MOV or .AVI format for videos
 - All performance work needs to be saved in one folder and labelled with your name, student reference number and the name of the course you have applied for
 - Files need to be compressed or zipped and not exceed 1GB in size
 - Submitted via <http://www.mailbigfile.com/dmuac>

Contact

We aim to make all of our events completely accessible. If you are unable to attend a Practical Selection Day you will be invited to an MS Teams audition review where you will be asked to share your digital audition video. Please contact the Applicant Events Team applicantevents@dmu.ac.uk who will be happy to help.

