

# PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

## KEY FACTS

<b>Programme:</b>	Foundation Programme in Musical Theatre
<b>Awarding Institution:</b>	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
<b>Type of study:</b>	Full Time
<b>UK Credits:</b>	120 (Level 0, i.e. non-HE credits) [NB: no formal award]
<b>ECTS:</b>	N/A

## OUTLINE

### Summary Description

Designed to provide an entry on to specialist three-year programmes in a related discipline (either degree or diploma level), this programme offers the opportunity to develop and build on your performance skills, discover more about musical theatre, and explore possibilities for your personal, artistic and professional development. The course is designed to broaden the horizons of its students, and previous students have progressed on to BA (Hons) or Professional Diploma programmes in Musical Theatre, Acting, Acting for Screen, Actor Musicianship, Music, and Dance.

The Foundation Programme in Musical Theatre is designed for aspiring artists who wish to develop their skills and techniques through a dedicated programme of study rooted in studio and practice-based activity. It is an opportunity for students to access high-quality conservatoire study and may provide an entry route to further specialist/vocational training (e.g. undergraduate degree programmes within the conservatoire or wider higher education sectors) or a platform for a dedicated period of personal study and reflection with a vocational focus.

For international students it may additionally provide a route to develop their English Language skills alongside intensive vocational training.

Students may also wish to use the programme as a platform for access to London's vibrant cultural life.

On successful completion of this programme, participating students receive a transcript including a full listing of the learning undertaken.

### What will I be expected to achieve?

On successful completion of this programme, a student should be expected to be able to demonstrate:

#### (Knowledge and Understanding)

- knowledge and understanding of the technical requirements of the different musical theatre core skills (singing, acting, dance);
- the ability to relate vocal and physical performance technique to character and style;
- the ability to deconstruct a script/song.
- musicality and musicianship;
- the ability to draw on a wide range of repertoire to support audition work;
- the ability to select and prepare appropriate audition material.
- understanding of healthy and safe practices

### (Skills)

- physical and mental stamina;
- the ability to retain simple movement sequences, repertoire and text
- the ability to respond effectively to feedback;
- evidence of the development of various strategies for personal maintenance and wellbeing;
- the ability to reflect on practice;
- the ability to research effectively and communicate findings clearly.

### (Values and attitudes)

- demonstrate confidence
- display awareness of professional conduct, including:
  - presentation
  - excellent attendance and punctuality
  - self-discipline
- demonstrate understanding of healthy and safe practices;
- work with tutors/a Creative Team and as part of a supportive company towards the shared goal of a high-quality end product;
- provide evidence of the development of various strategies for personal maintenance and wellbeing;
- manage own time and workload efficiently and effectively.

### How will I learn?

Learning takes place through a blend of formal tuition, experiential learning and personal study.

Singing, dancing and acting tuition is the central element of the provision, with the **Skills & Techniques** module consisting of a range of individual one-to-one lessons, intensive group tuition in singing, dancing and acting, and performance workshops. You will refine your audition technique during the **Preparing to Audition** module, and you will develop and contextualise your individual learning within rehearsal and performance settings during the **Preparing to Perform** module, and engage with cross-disciplinary working through participation in Trinity Laban's renowned annual CoLab festival.

Throughout the programme your learning will be consolidated through extensive self-study which is aided by access to the College's many learning resources. The programme aims to enable you to begin developing independent learning strategies for lifelong learning. Your tutors will regularly encourage you to reflect on your learning and to formulate personal programmes of study and targets for learning.

Certain modules/components in the programme will involve studying with other students in a collaborative way (e.g. creating work with other musicians, dancers and/or other artists). This may involve working alongside students from other programmes at a variety of levels. Collaboration is considered to be at the heart of professional artistic life and opportunities such as these represent valuable learning experiences.

The learning and teaching methods are designed to meet the programme aims and learning outcomes. A wide range of methods is used to support the diverse learning approaches of

the student and to provide the breadth and depth of learning experiences essential for the rigorous training of multi-skilled artists who will be able to maximise their professional opportunities in the highly competitive field.

Teaching/learning methods:

- Studio based practical classes
- Lectures and seminars
- Individual and group tutorials
- Tutor- and guest artist- led workshops
- Self-directed study
- Individual and group projects
- Self and peer feedback
- Hands-on practical task-based activities

### How will I be assessed?

#### Overview

The Foundation Programme in Musical Theatre is divided into three modules: Skills and Techniques, Preparing to Audition, and Preparing to Perform.

In the **Skills and Techniques** module, you will be assessed in the form of a mock audition on the development of your singing, dancing and acting skills and the submission of a Skills and Techniques portfolio which reflects on your progress.

For the **Preparing to Audition Module** assessment you will prepare and submit a portfolio of audition material designed to support your application for further study at Level 4-6. Your portfolio submission will be designed to support your learning by engaging you with preparatory and research activities including the development of audition repertoire.

Although the **Preparing to Perform** module will culminate in a number of public performances, only the rehearsal element of the module is formally assessed. Gradings are agreed between the Creative Team using formal assessment criteria. The rehearsal assessment will reflect your own and directed preparation; punctuality/time-keeping; the quality of your participation and contribution to ensemble; your adaptability and responsiveness to direction (from any of Creative Team).

You will receive regular formative feedback in class from teachers, and written feedback (including an indicative grading) following each formal assessment point.

A wide variety of assessment methods is used to reflect the diverse learning experiences you will encounter on the programme and to give you the opportunity to demonstrate your acquisition of a broad range of skills, knowledge and understanding in the depth necessary for you to become a rounded and versatile dance artist. These include:

- Practical tasks
- Performance presentations

- Rehearsal
- Research based academic writing
- Reflective writing

### What do I have to do to pass?

To pass the year and receive a formal certificate of participation, you must satisfactorily PASS (40%) each of the modules that constitute the Programme.

The mark awarded for each assessment will be based on the module-specific assessment criteria and the Institutional Generic Marking Criteria (Level 0).

Failed assessments may be retrieved by resitting. The Assessment Board will determine resit opportunities and arrangements based on the Assessment Regulations for Taught Programmes.

### What award can I get?

This Programme of study does not lead to any formal award or the acquisition of HE level credits. However, students may, if appropriate, undertake the Associate Performance Diploma (ATCL) with Trinity College London.

The **ATCL** will be assessed by an external examiner. The assessment is divided into two parts: the performance programme (70 marks) and the viva voce (30 marks).

## CONTENT

### What will I study?

#### Structure

The Preparing to Perform module activities take place primarily during an intensive 5-week period during the Summer term.

All other programme elements contained within the Skills and Techniques and Preparing to Audition modules take place over the first two terms. Summative assessments take place at the end of the Skills and Techniques, Preparing to Perform and Preparing to Audition modules.

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Skills and Techniques	MTF1	90	Core	No	0
Preparing to Audition	MTF4	10	Core	No	0
Preparing to Perform	MTF5	20	Core	No	0

## ADMISSIONS

### Entry Requirements

The programme is designed for less experienced students and those who wish to develop their skills before pursuing additional vocational training. A wide variety of candidates may

find this pre-degree level programme to be suitable, for example: gap-year students preparing for entry to a conservatoire or university; those seeking to further develop their musical theatre skills before auditions; those wishing to consolidate their interest in musical theatre prior to university interviews; those seeking to develop their artistic identity whilst enjoying London's cultural scene; or those seeking to establish a more secure technique or understanding of the industry before making decisions about further study.

Trinity Laban places greater emphasis on its own audition than on formal qualifications. As a guide, please note that the course is aimed at students considering entry to undergraduate study at conservatoire or university, and places are offered to candidates who demonstrate the potential to reach that level within the year. The audition for the Foundation Programme in Musical Theatre takes the same form as the audition for the BA (Hons) Musical Theatre Performance degree, but the expected levels of attainment are different.

For students whose first language is not English, an English language assessment will be undertaken on application/audition, on the basis of which a recommendation for further study may be made. The normal minimum standard for entry to the programmes is IELTS 4.0 in all four areas. This is also the minimum requirement for Tier 4 student visas. Alternative English Language accreditation will be considered.

International students benefit from all the facilities and performance opportunities available at the Conservatoire and enjoy the unique experience of living and studying within our vibrant international community. Successful applicants will normally qualify for a Tier 4 (General) Student Visa. To meet visa requirements, international students will be required to sit the ATCL diploma.

## **CAREERS**

Trinity Laban's programmes of study include extensive preparation for a professional career in the performing arts; the Foundation Programme provides an introduction to such vocational training. The career trajectory of an individual student will be (in part) determined by the type of degree programme s/he progresses to on completion of the Foundation Programme.

Through our tutorial system, students receive regular advice from the Programme Leader on their potential next steps and the options available to them for further study, based on their interests and their strengths and weaknesses. During the course of the Foundation Programme, the Careers Coordinator organises talks and events, and is available for individual consultations to help students to explore possible future career options and choices for future study, and to and develop skills relevant to the conservatoire / university application process.

During an individual consultation the Careers Coordinator can offer students:

- Support in analysing career ideas and exploring other options
- Advice on finding part-time employment while studying at Trinity Laban
- Advice on the conservatoire / university application process – personal statements, application forms and interviews
- Guidance for those unsure about the most appropriate future study and/or career direction

The careers noticeboard has useful information and job opportunities and is updated regularly. In addition, students can access careers information on the Trinity Laban intranet portal including information about:

- where to find details of job vacancies
- further training and study

- possible sources of scholarship support
- sources of careers support for students with disabilities
- sources of careers information relevant to international students
- taking a gap year or volunteering

Information about job vacancies, voluntary opportunities, internships and training courses is circulated to students on a regular basis.

Outside speakers are regularly invited to deliver sessions on a range of careers related topics.

It is anticipated that graduates from this programme will develop their career based on their subject area focus, most choosing to audition for further study on three-year courses. Students from this type of programme have gone on to perform, direct/choreograph, compose, write and to teach in schools, colleges and universities.

### **STUDY ABROAD / WORK PLACEMENTS**

#### **Study Abroad options**

Not available.

#### **Placement options**

Not available.

### **ACCREDITATION AND PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION**

#### **Accrediting Body**

The programme is not accredited by any external body.