“East 15’s extraordinary legacy and its reputation for rigorous and inspired teaching ensures students consistently display an unusual degree of courage, vision and versatility that is very exciting to watch.”

Colin Firth OBE
## Contents

4    Director’s welcome  
6    About this prospectus  
7    About East 15  
8    Actor Skills at East 15  
9    Prizes and Awards at East 15  
10    Loughton Campus  
12    Southend Campus  
14    Support Services  
15    Accommodation  
16    Staff at East 15  
21    Undergraduate study at East 15  
22    BA Acting  
24    BA Acting (International)  
26    BA Acting and Community Theatre  
28    BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre  
30    BA Acting and Stage Combat  
32    BA Physical Theatre  
34    BA World Performance  
36    BA Stage and Production Management  
38    BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film)  
40    Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts  
42    Applying to East 15 as an undergraduate  
44    Undergraduate auditions  
46    Postgraduate study at East 15  
48    MA Acting  
50    MA/MFA Acting (International)  
52    MA/MFA Theatre Directing  
54    Applying to East 15 as a postgraduate  
56    Postgraduate auditions  
58    Money matters  
62    University of Essex  
63    Further information
Welcome to the East 15 prospectus

As you will read in the pages that follow, East 15 offers an extraordinary, dynamic and unique portfolio of courses that span many areas of training for actors, directors, technical theatre specialists and students of theatre practice. In addition to the carefully selected UK students, we also teach and train students from over 26 countries worldwide (www.east15.ac.uk)

Here at East 15 we draw upon our traditions of over 50 years, while combining this with a keen sense of the changing world of stage and screen today. Our training is by professionals and for professionals, allowing our graduates to work successfully across the globe. Our international, outstanding teaching faculty is made up of professionals from all areas of live and recorded performance.

We have two first class campuses in Loughton, on the edge of London, and in picturesque Southend-on-Sea. This combination of resources and locations enables us to offer a broad and diverse range of courses at BA and MA/MFA level, and make use of innovative and excellently equipped learning facilities, such as the state-of-the-art Clifftown Theatre (www.Clifftowntheatre.com) and suites of studios and technical facilities at both campuses. We have an outstanding student satisfaction rating in the UK of 97% total satisfaction in national student surveys.

As part of the University of Essex, one of the UK’s leading academic institutions (www.essex.ac.uk), we pride ourselves on placing excellence at the top of our agenda in all our work. East 15 Acting School has been named as the top drama school in the U.K. in the Times and Sunday Times Good University guide.

I look forward to meeting many of you at auditions and interviews, and working with those of you that join East 15 for your study and training.

Leon Rubin
About this prospectus

This prospectus has been prepared in Spring 2019 for courses available from September 2020.

Although great care is taken in compiling this prospectus, it is for the general guidance of prospective students only. East 15 Acting School cannot guarantee the provision of all courses and services advertised in the event of circumstances beyond its control and therefore reserves the right to make changes or cancel any course without notice, should this become necessary. The School cannot be held responsible for failure/delay in performing obligations caused by things beyond its reasonable control, such as fire, flood or industrial action. For the most up-to-date information, please contact East 15 directly.

The full Procedures, Rules and Regulations for the University of Essex are set out in the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances and in the University Regulations, Policy and Procedures. Copies are available on request from the University. In accepting the offer of a place at the University, you consent to incorporation of this notice as a term of contract between you and the University.

Quality assurance

The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) last undertook a Review of the University from 2-5 December 2014. This Review found that the University meets all expectations required of higher education providers, and commended the University’s focus on improving the student learning experience.

A copy of the full report is available on the QAA website at: www.qaa.ac.uk/reviews/reports

Further information

East 15 Acting School is part of the University of Essex

At Loughton

East 15 Acting School
Hatfields Campus
Rectory Lane
Loughton IG10 3RY

Telephone: +44 (0)20 8508 5983

At Southend

East 15 Acting School
Southend Campus
Elmer Approach
Southend-on-Sea SS1 1LW

Telephone: +44 (0)1702 328200
Fax: +44 (0)1702 328201
E-mail: east15@essex.ac.uk
Website: www.east15.ac.uk

Art Director/Editor: Kevin Wyatt-Lown
Designer: Stephen Foster Design
Photographers: Gemma Mount, Andrew H. Williams, Kevin Wyatt-Lown, Robin Little
For over 50 years, East 15 has produced actors, directors, theatre practitioners and technicians for the international stage, TV, film and radio.

East 15, based in Loughton on the edge of East London and founded by Margaret Bury, grew from the work of Joan Littlewood's famed Theatre Workshop, which broke new ground, re-interpreting the classics for a modern age, commissioning new plays from socially committed writers, and creating an ensemble capable of inventing new work.

It evolved into an outstanding ensemble that combined inspired, improvisational brilliance with method, technique, research, text analysis and the intense expression of truthful emotion. Much of the original approach was based upon the theories of Stanislavsky and over the years new training methods at East 15 have now embraced approaches from diverse practitioners, such as Michael Chekhov, Rudolf Laban, Jerzy Grotowski, Jacques Lecoq, Peter Brook and other important contemporary trainers.

In 2000, East 15 merged with the University of Essex, a leading UK research-intensive university, opening an exciting new chapter in the history of both institutions and offering more opportunities to students.

Since 2007, under the directorship of Leon Rubin, more than 13 million pounds have been spent on new buildings and facilities for East 15 in Loughton and Southend-on-Sea, including the Clifftown Theatre and Studios, once a Victorian gothic church in Southend which now enjoys a new lease of life, converted into studios, workshops and a state-of-the-art theatre and performance space. In that period several new programmes have also been developed to take the school into a new era of international and culturally diverse stage and screen performance territories.

East 15 is one of a leading group of UK conservatoires. It is now one of the largest specialist theatre schools in the UK, with a distinguished international teaching staff and an undergraduate and extensive postgraduate population of over 770 students.
Actor skills at East 15

East 15’s training emphasises a balance between personal discovery, intuition and technical skills. The aim is to give students the basic awareness and confidence that will allow them to continue to learn and perfect their craft in the years to come.

Movement
The main focus of the movement programme at East 15 is to encourage confident, focussed, flexible, imaginative, physically expressive and truthful actors. The course is based on dynamic alignment (which may include Alexander, Authentic Movement, Bartenieff, Body Centring Experiential Anatomy and Pilates), characterisation techniques (including Laban, Grotowski, Lecoq and Chekhov-based work), dance (including jazz and ballet) and stage combat.

Voice
The voice teachers at East 15 aim to equip students with the skills required to release their full vocal potential beyond the limits of “habit” voice. Students combine emotional truth with theatrical energy using techniques derived from leading physical and vocal practitioners like Laban, Chekhov, Berry and Linklater.

Singing
Actors must have a good feel for music, even if they cannot sing a note. Students at East 15 will learn to understand the rudiments of music and be able to approach a song with confidence and feeling. Students with musical theatre potential will be encouraged further although the overall emphasis is on acting through song.

Music
Students with the ability to play musical instruments can develop those talents and there are numerous possibilities to play in ensembles for private and public performances at East 15. Although instrumental playing is not part of the assessment, actors who develop such skills certainly enhance their employability.

Media
East 15 students are introduced to the techniques and disciplines of working with recorded, digital and online media.

Preparation for the industry
Guest lectures and workshops, given by industry specialists, help prepare East 15 students for the complexity of working in theatre, film, TV and related areas.
Prizes and Awards at East 15

The Laurence Olivier Bursary
This is worth up to £7,500 for a student entering the third year of BA Acting and is presented by the Society of London Theatres. East 15 students have regularly won this outstanding prize. In 2017 two awards were made: Precious Mustapha was awarded £7,500 while Jesse Jones received £4,000. Other winners have included: Paisley Fay Jackson (2016) Rebecca Saffir (2015) and Lottie Finklaire (2014) while in 2012 Nayatia Hinds and Nathalie Wain were each awarded £2000.

Lilian Baylis Award

East 15 Awards
There are several awards made which are unique to East 15.

The Jacob's Ladder Bursary was established in 2016 and makes multiple awards totalling £25,000 each year. In 2016 there were eight, and 2017 fifteen, awards made. In 2018 some twenty students benefited from the Bursary.

The £500 Tim Welling Award commemorates a past student of the school and is awarded to a BA Acting student. It was first awarded in 2014 to Ellie Moon. Subsequent winners have been Katie Neil (2015), Hadley Brown (2016) Jacob Reid (2017) and Molly Longworth (2018).

Also commemorating a past student, and again worth £500, the Thomas Bennett Comedy Award is awarded to a BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre student. Harris Allen won this in 2018.

As one of the UK’s leading acting schools, East 15 has a number of students and graduates who have won awards and competitive scholarships over the last few years.

Edinburgh Festival and beyond
Supporting career progression is an important part of the East 15 ethos. There is an on-going annual programme of awarding New Production Awards, made to new companies created by both existing and past students.

As well as supporting productions at the Edinburgh Fringe, these companies have also taken plays to the Brighton, Camden and New York Fringe Festivals. In 2018 some £48,000 was awarded to new companies.

In addition, the University of Essex hosts a no-cost crowdfunding programme which is open to all current and past students and, in many cases, also offers match funding for projects. Last year it supported some 22 productions to the tune of over £23,250.

The John Gielgud Bursary
This is worth between £2,500 and £5,000. Winning students from East 15 have included Lily Sinko (2018, £5,000) Samuel Edmunds (2017, £4,500), Gabriella Leon (2016, £4,500) and Kathleen Hood (2015, £4,500).

The Carleton Hobbs Award
This Bursary provides winning students a contract for six months work with the BBC Radio Drama Department. A long list of East 15 students has enjoyed recognition through this competition.

Past winners and commended nominees have included BA Acting graduates Patricia Allison (2017) Joseph Ayre (2016) and Andrea Valls (2015). However, for the first time, 2018 saw East 15 secure recognition in every single category of the competition with this year’s overall bursary prize going to Alexandra Constantinidu.

Postgraduate Scholarships
There are a number of Bursaries and Scholarships available to Postgraduate Students.
East 15 has three sites in Loughton: Hatfields, Roding House and Unit Four. Each is just a five-minute walk from the nearest London Underground station, Debden, on the eastern branch of the Central Line and only thirty minutes by tube from Central London, West End theatres and all other major tube and mainline stations and termini including Eurostar. Additionally, East 15 often presents students’ own work at theatres and studios in London.

The campus offers a perfect balance between access to the rich, cultural diversity of London while also providing an environment in which to study in an attractive and peaceful setting. Loughton is situated on the edge of Epping Forest, a 6,000 acre ancient woodland which is ideal for leisure pursuits including walking, running, cycling and horse riding. The residential area around Loughton offers a rich variety of shops, restaurants, pubs and cafés and has a Leisure Centre providing gym and pool facilities.

Hatfields

There are 28 rehearsal studios at Hatfields, including a dance studio, radio recording room, Mac editing lab and screening room.

In the Summer of 2017 work began on a major set of new buildings and facilities that will make this the best equipped single campus drama school in the UK.

The Corbett Theatre

Hatfields is also home to the Corbett Theatre, named in honour of Harry H Corbett, a key Theatre Workshop member and early benefactor of East 15. The building is a medieval tithe barn that was dismantled and transported to Hatfields in the 1960s. These unusual origins create a unique performance space with a unique environment for students to perform in. Combined with full technical facilities, tiered seating for 125 people and fitted dressing rooms, the theatre provides an excellent resource for public productions. Lectures, rehearsals and technical classes also take place here, while the adjacent Theatre Foyer Bar and Café provides a social meeting point for students and staff.

Just a short walk from Hatfields is Roding House, a £1.3 million facility containing rehearsal spaces, the Littlewood Studio and East 15’s costume department.

Unit Four is a £1.5 million facility which is home to the Stage and Production Management department and it is situated next to Roding House.

The hub of Hatfields is a beautiful Georgian dower house, set in six acres of lawns with orchards, flowerbeds and a small lake, providing an idyllic atmosphere for study, relaxation and performance. The site also offers a range of rehearsal spaces, a Dance Studio and the school’s own, fully equipped theatre. The Corbett Theatre was built inside a medieval tithe barn and is used extensively for student productions.

Roding House contains ten rehearsal rooms, a green room/café, a sound recording studio and a video editing suite. East 15’s extensive costume department is also based here.

Unit Four

Unit Four is situated next to Roding House and is home to East 15’s Stage and Production Management department. The Unit contains a large workshop, paint shop, prop shop, prop storage facilities and teaching spaces.

Student resources

Loughton Campus

Computing facilities and the library

As part of a multi-million pound investment in the further development of resources on the Loughton Campus, 2017 saw the opening of a new IT suite and extended Campus library. In addition, there are also computer facilities at Roding House and at Unit Four, all providing internet access, printing and photocopying. There is also wireless connectivity throughout the site.

Students can also use the library resources at the Southend Campus and the University of Essex’s Colchester Campus library, which has holdings of over one million books and microfilms, as well as some 7,300 current periodicals. Books are delivered to Loughton via a daily route.
Southend Campus

The Southend Campus is sited in the heart of Southend-on-Sea and is served by excellent transport links. Southend Central railway station, with journey times to central London taking less than one hour, is adjacent to the Gateway Building and Southend Airport, offering budget flights to many European and UK destinations, including Edinburgh, is just three miles away.

Southend is the largest town in Essex and a vibrant seaside resort with a cosmopolitan atmosphere. In recent years it has been transformed by a redevelopment and enhancement scheme. It has seven miles of award-winning beaches and the longest pleasure pier in the world.

Other social amenities and facilities in the town include three theatres, museums, numerous art galleries and libraries. There are over 650 acres of parks and gardens, a fun park and a watersports centre, a bowling alley, leisure centres, pubs, clubs, cafés and restaurants.

Student resources

The Gateway Building

The Gateway Building houses a purpose-built suite specifically for East 15 students. This includes fully-equipped, state-of-the art rehearsal studios with panoramic views across Southend-on-Sea, plus seminar rooms, computer labs and media production resources including an Apple Mac edit suite.

The Forum

Opened in September 2013, The Forum Southend-on-Sea offers a brand new resource to enhance your student experience. East 15 students have round the clock, secure access to the Learning Hub, which provides innovative IT and study spaces. The Forum also houses an integrated public and academic library, carrying books and other materials to support East 15’s course at Southend. In addition, students have access to the East 15 Loughton Campus library and the University’s Colchester Campus library, if required.

The Students’ Union

The Students’ Union facility at the Southend Campus provides a dedicated space for students to meet, have a coffee, relax and watch films or sport. It runs a wide variety of entertainment throughout the term, such as international nights and open mic nights.

Clifftown Studios and Theatre

Following the purchase of this magnificent Victorian former church in the heart of Southend’s conservation area, it has been converted into a variety of unique spaces for rehearsals, technical and practical work and performances. The church nave, with its original organ and stained glass windows now provides an inspirational and atmospheric environment, re-designed to accommodate the needs of a 21st century performance space.
Support Services

We offer a range of support services designed to help you to achieve your full potential and to get the most out of your studies. These form a coordinated network of support, and are an important part of the overall student experience. Support Services aim to be accessible to you and responsive to your individual needs.

We offer confidential advice and information on many issues, including finance and funding, entitlement to benefits and immigration issues.

There are Student Support Advisors available at the Loughton and Southend Campuses who can offer initial advice and information. You may be referred to other services for specialist advice. Helpful information is also available on the website at www.essex.ac.uk/students and the Students Union Advice Centre website at either www.essexstudent.com/loughton or www.essexstudent.com/southend

Dyslexia and other learning difficulties

We have a strong tradition of encouraging and supporting students with dyslexia and other specific learning difficulties. Provision includes: screening and/or referral for a diagnostic assessment and advice on the Disabled Students' Allowance.

Disability

We aim to create an accessible and enabling environment. We would encourage you, before you arrive, to contact the relevant disability service to discuss access to the University and to your course. These discussions are confidential. Students may qualify to apply for the Disabled Students’ Allowance and can contact us for advice.

www.essex.ac.uk/students/contact/

Student administration

At the Loughton Campus, we are able to provide students with official letters and documentation, such as bank letters, confirmation of enrolment and council tax exemption forms, as well as authenticating documents by providing a University stamp for specific forms. General, non-academic advice can also be given about other services provided by the University of Essex and the Students’ Union.

At the Southend Campus, all of the above services are available from the Student Administration Team located on the second floor of The Forum.

Pastoral system

Conservatoire training can be demanding and, in response to this, the School has developed a network of support to help with any academic and personal pressures. A personal tutor is appointed to each student and they are a channel for any enquiries or anxieties that the student may have.

Graduate support

East 15 and the University are committed to helping graduates enter their chosen career with confidence. This support is given in the second and final year of undergraduate courses and throughout the year for postgraduate students. It includes career guidance, planning of audition pieces and advice from working professionals.

www.east15.ac.uk
Accommodation

Loughton Campus
Those who wish to live close to the Loughton Campus can choose from a wide range of shared student properties offering both Joint and Individual Tenancies. There is also the option to live with Resident Landlords who can provide a more flexible tenancy.

The Students’ Union provides a property finding service, SU Lets, at our Loughton campus. They specialise in helping students secure local, private accommodation. All the properties they work with in the area are accredited by Epping Forest District Council. There are rooms in shared houses, living with a resident landlord or letting an entire house. Click on the “view our listings” area at www.essexstudent.com/sulets and select Loughton area to see what’s available.

Southend Campus
Our state-of-the-art student residences in University Square offer 561 modern en-suite rooms arranged in flats, within seven houses around a central enclosed courtyard. You apply for accommodation directly to the University which aims to guarantee accommodation to all first-year undergraduates.
Professor Leon Rubin
Director
Leon Rubin is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and the Royal Asiatic Society. He has an Honorary Professorship of the GITIS University, Moscow and Honorary Degree from UNATC, Budapest. He is a former Associate at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, who began his career as Assistant Director at the Royal Shakespeare Company and has been Artistic Director of three major UK theatre companies including Bristol Old Vic. He is author of The Nicholas Nickleby Story (the making of the RSC production) and Performance in Bali, published by Routledge. He has directed productions throughout the world, including Canada, China, Thailand, Japan, Greece, USA, Ireland, Chile and Hong Kong, as well as throughout the UK. He has also trained and lectured actors and directors in Russia, Spain, Korea, France, Holland and the Philippines. In the last few years, he directed a series of Shakespeare productions for the Stratford Festival Theatre, Canada, and a major Japanese theatre company, Bungaku-Za. He is director of a major show in Thailand, which has been performed in a 3,000 seat theatre for the past 16 years. He has also directed in the West End and in New York.

Dr Chris Main
Associate Director (Southend)
Chris Main holds an MA in Theatre Practice and a PhD in Elizabethan/Jacobean Theatre from Exeter University. He is a Certified Teacher of stage combat with the BASSC, a fight examiner for Stage Combat Germany and holds a black belt in Aikido. Chris has worked for many theatre companies including: the Orange Tree, Stephen Joseph Theatre, Royal & Derngate, Crucible Theatre, Graeae, The Northcott, and the BBC. He has directed several shows for East 15 – including a Martin Lynch premier and has also directed numerous productions for the Royal Armouries at the Tower of London. He was the fight arranger for the feature film The Roundabout and Assistant Fight Arranger on the feature, Faintheart. In what feels like a past life, he performed in Conquest, a series for the History Channel.

Matthew Lloyd
Associate Director (Loughton) and Head of MA/MFA Theatre Directing
After graduating from Oxford, Matthew went on to study at Harvard and Columbia Universities. Whilst Artistic Director at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester his productions included the award-winning An Experiment with an Air-Pump, and Waiting for Godot with Richard Wilson. As Associate Director at Hampstead Theatre his work included the multi-award-winning The Fastest Clock in the Universe by Philip Ridley, Slavs! by Tony Kushner and the Olivier Award winning The Lucky Ones by Charlotte Eilenberg. Freelance credits include the Olivier-nominated Duet for One with Juliet Stevenson and productions at the Almeida, Royal Court, the Bush, most of Britain’s leading regional theatres, plus Off-Broadway and Parco Theatre, Tokyo.
Andrea Brooks
Head of MA Acting
Andrea Brooks was Artistic Director of Zygo Arts, an award-winning theatre and arts company working in the UK and internationally, most recently in Georgia. She trained at the Drama Centre and has worked as a freelance director and business trainer and mentor. She is an Associate Artist at BAC, London.

Dr. Margaret Coldiron
Deputy Head of BA World Performance
Margaret Coldiron is a specialist in Asian performance and masks. She is a member of the Directors Guild of Great Britain and a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society and is widely published. After taking a degree in English and Comparative Literature she trained as an actress at the Drama Centre. She holds an MA in Text and Performance Studies from King’s College and RADA and a PhD in Drama from Royal Holloway.

She has studied Topeng masked dance drama and mask carving in Bali and has worked with Japanese Noh masters Matsui Akira (Kita school), Umewaka Naohiko (Kanze school) and Michishige Udaka (Kongoh school). Since 1997 she has been Associate Director of Thiasos, a theatre company specialising in intercultural productions of ancient Greek plays.

She has also undertaken extensive fieldwork on masked performance in India, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Stephen Douse
Head of Music (Southend)
Stephen Douse studied at the Royal Academy of Music and has been a professional musician for 30 years. His work has embraced cabaret, jazz, music theatre, opera and world music and he has made many TV and radio recordings. He has worked throughout America, Europe and Japan, and with companies including Academy of Ancient Music and D‘Oyly Carte Opera Company, Hilliard Ensemble, Kent Opera and Welsh National Opera. Previously Head Of Music at ALRA he has also taught at LAMDA and City Lit.

Steffany George
Head of Movement (Southend)
Steffany George has been working with actors for over seventeen years; first as a movement director and choreographer, and most notably, teaching movement for actors, coaching, and directing plays at The Stella Adler Studio of Acting in New York City. Steffany has received a commission from The Nagouchi Museum with Topaz Arts for her own work Gone Bye. She performed as a contemporary dancer in numerous productions in both New York and Germany.

Christina Gutekunst
Head of Voice
Christina Gutekunst has been teaching and coaching for nearly 20 years in Germany and the UK. She trained in acting and voice at schools in Stuttgart, Bremen and Berlin in Germany and also in London, and gained an MA Distinction in voice studies at the Central School of Speech and Drama. She taught voice in various drama schools and has been Head of Voice at East 15 since 2003.

Christina has coached for both theatre such as Night Breath by Brian Oliver and Sleeping Dogs by Philip Osment; and TV productions such as Ant and Dec and The Bill. She has worked as a voice over artist as well as directed voice overs at Les Frogs and for Foreign Versions.

She was a founder member of Beyond Words Theatre Company and Re: Actors Theatre Group.

Her book, Voice into Acting, is published by Bloomsbury Methuen Drama.

Simon Hunt
Head of BA Physical Theatre
Simon Hunt is an actor, theatre director and acting teacher who has worked in the Performing Arts Industry for the last 20 years.

Having worked with some of the most exciting International companies, including De La Guarda, and taught at some of the top drama schools in the UK, Simon emigrated to Sydney in 2003, where he was Course Director of the Full Time Acting Course at Actors Centre Australia. In addition to over 50 shows and projects he has directed and created for drama schools, he has also worked professionally as both a Director and Movement Director for TV and theatre projects. As an actor he has worked at many theatres across the UK including The Young Vic, Victoria Palace in the West End, Nottingham Playhouse, the West Yorkshire Playhouse, Theatre Royal, Plymouth and The Gate, Notting Hill. Simon trained at the Guildford School of Acting.

Dr Adrian James
Course co-ordinator for Certificate in HE (Southend)
Adrian James initially trained as an actor and for 12 years worked in theatre across England and Europe.

He has taught at many of the leading British acting conservatoires, having learned his craft at East 15, working for nine years during the 1980s with Margaret Bury, the founder of the school.

He was the Associate Director of the School of Acting and the Course Leader of the M.A. in Acting at Arts Educational School of Acting and the Course Leader for eighteen years and has taught regularly at The Actors Centre and lectured at the Dramatiska Institutet in Stockholm.

Gordon Kemp
Head of BA Acting and Stage Combat
Gordon holds an MA (Hons) in Political Science from the University of Dundee and a Postgraduate Diploma in Classical Acting from the London Academy of Performing Arts. He is a certified teacher of stage combat with both the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat (BASSC) and the British Academy of Dramatic Combat (BADC) serving a 5 year apprenticeship at Shakespeare’s Globe.
Staff at East 15

Dr. Tara McAllister-Viel
Head of Voice (Southend campus)
Tara McAllister-Viel worked for some 20 years as an actress, voice director and voice-over artist.

Before joining East 15, she taught at Central School of Speech and Drama and has been Visiting Professor for Voice at The Korean National University of Arts, School of Drama in Seoul.

Voice workshop credits include: Punchdrunk (UK), Centre for Performance Research (Wales) National Drama School of Castilla and Leon (Spain), and University of Halle Institut für Sprechwissenschaft und Phonetik (Germany).

She studied a traditional Korean vocal art form called p’ansori, has published several articles regarding her intercultural approach to training actors’ voices and has presented her work at international conferences and symposiums.

Zois Pigadas
Head of Contextual Studies and Course coordinator for BA Acting (International)
Zois Pigadas is from Athens, Greece and has studied Theatre at an undergraduate level at York University in Toronto, Canada, followed by Post-Graduate Studies at Goldsmiths College, University of London. He has been teaching actors and theatre students for more than 15 years at, among other institutions, E15 Acting School, Goldsmiths College, University of Kent and Rose Bruford College. He specialises in workshopping and devising Forum Theatre and has developed a methodology of Active Analysis based on the teachings of Jurij Alschitz.

Alex Purser
Head of Stage and Production Management
Alex Purser holds a BA (Hons) in Drama with English and an MFA in Theatre Directing.

He has spent the past 14 years working in industry as Project, Production and/or Stage Manager in a variety of contexts including musical theatre, opera, ballet, tours and events.

Alex has worked both in the UK and internationally, working on projects in China, France, Italy, Spain, Holland and Germany. His industry experience is varied and wide ranging from local theatre productions, through large West End musicals to events at the Royal Palaces and even a Disney Theme Park ride!

Professor Rosemary Klich
Professor of Research
Rosemary specialises in multimedia, immersive, and participatory theatre. Prior to joining East 15 in 2017, she was Head of Drama and Theatre at the University of Kent where she taught since 2007. Her current research investigates media, sound, and spectatorship, and her teaching expertise is in the theory and making of contemporary performance practice. Her co-authored book Multimedia Performance was published with Palgrave in 2012 and she has since published in journals such as Contemporary Theatre Review, Performance Research, International Journal of Performing Arts and Digital Media and Body Space Technology. She has also undertaken various practice-as-research projects working in collaboration with performers, videographers, sound designers and photographers.

Rosemary holds a PhD from the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia and has presented keynote talks at conferences and symposia in Poland, Korea, Belgium and the UK.

Ainslie Masterton
Head of BA Acting and Community Theatre
Ainslie Masterton worked as an actor, director and voice coach in Australia, before focusing on community theatre and film projects based around Sydney and outback aboriginal communities. Since 1998 she has been involved in actor training at Bretton Hall and East 15.
Uri Roodner
Head of BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre

Uri has an extensive career as a performer, director and mentor working in theatre, film and TV.

He has appeared in major British theatres including The Royal Court, National Theatre Studio and The Arts Theatre West End, and collaborated with leading companies including The RSC, Gecko and The Clod Ensemble. He appeared in films by major directors such as Michael Winterbottom, Jose Pedilha and The Brothers Quay. He appeared in TV, on radio and in TV commercials in more than 15 countries, and worked as a documentary film maker for The BBC, Channel 4 and The Discovery Channel USA. His award winning Theatre Company ‘Tottering Biped’s’ toured to many venues in Britain including The Lyric Hammersmith, Sadler’s Wells, Sheffield Crucible, Edinburgh Traverse and Plymouth Theatre Royal. The company toured abroad and their work was filmed for a dedicated BBC2 documentary.

Uri’s eclectic training includes The Drama Studio London, École Philippe Gaulier Paris, Monika Pagneux, Pierre Byland, Desmond Jones School and the National Film School. He has taught actors in London, New York, Shanghai, Amsterdam, Madrid and Tel-Aviv.

Marcin Rudy
Head of Movement

Marcin is a movement director, actor and lecturer in movement. Between 2000 and 2012 he collaborated with a multi-award winning physical theatre company Song of the Goat Theatre (Poland) as a performer/deviser. He has performed in 22 countries on 5 continents, at venues including the Barbican, Sydney Opera House, Taipei National Theatre and La MaMa New York. After leaving the company he focussed on creating training for actors with special emphasis on the physical/emotional connection. His credits as a movement director include LOVE (National Theatre, London), Britannicus (Wilton’s Music Hall, London), Doing the Idiots (National Theatre Studio, London), Black Battles with Dogs (Southwark Playhouse, London), Disco Dementia (Bananenfabrik, Luxembourg) and Romeo and Juliet (Teatro Mercadante, Naples).

Dr. Ramiro Silveira
Head of BA World Performance

Ramiro Silveira is a director, lecturer, actor trainer and researcher.

He holds a PhD in Theatre Pedagogy - Theatre Artist Training from University of São Paulo (Brazil) and an MFA in Theatre Directing from University of Middlesex. He also trained with Eugenio Barba, Philippe Gaulier and Genadi Bogdanov.

He is known for his innovative theatre rehearsal process called Theatre Playground, a study of presence and relation based on rhythm, movement and multicultural references in order to inspire creative live theatre. Since 2001 he has been using his technique to direct plays and run acting and directing workshops all over the world.

He works with a wide range of global performance styles, many drawn from African and Brazilian Drums, Music and Rituals.

Robin Sneller
Head of MA/MFA Acting (International)

Robin Sneller trained at East 15. He has tutored and directed at Arts Educational, East 15, the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, where he directed Richard III, touring to the International Shakespearean Festival in Poland, and at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. As an actor he has worked in the West End with Sir Peter Hall in Mind Millie for Me by Feydeau, at the National Theatre, with Stephen Daldry at the Gate Theatre and the Crucible, as well as many seasons at the Glasgow Citizen’s Theatre and Edinburgh Royal Lyceum theatres.

Neil Somerville
Head of Music

Neil Somerville has been a Musical Director and Vocal Coach for 15 years and has worked across the UK, Scandinavia and North America. He toured the UK with The Wind In The Willows, conducted the Scottish Premiere of Ragtime and has been Musical Director for award-winning productions of Sweeney Todd, West Side Story, Oklahoma! and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Many of his singing students currently work in the West End, on cruise ships and on UK tours. Neil regularly accompanies cabarets, master classes and concerts with some of the best performers in the industry. He has been a visiting Portfolio Coach at London School of Musical Theatre, Lecturer in Singing at Colchester Institute and Head of Music at Ridley Studios.

Philip Weaver
Head of BA Acting

Philip Weaver trained at The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and Goldsmiths’ College, University of London.

Philip has worked as an actor and director for theatres including BAC, Birmingham Rep, Colchester Mercury, Glasgow Citizens, The Kings Head Islington, The Lyric Hammersmith, Nottingham Playhouse, The Oval House, RSC Summer Studio, Salisbury Playhouse, The Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Theatr Clwyd, Wolsey Ipswich and The Young Vic, as well as BBC Radio Four. He has also worked in Holland, Belgium, Slovakia and Scandinavia.

He is co-founder and Associate Director of Spinning Wheel Theatre Company.
East 15 currently offers the following courses for undergraduate students:

**Loughton Campus**
- BA Acting
- BA Acting (International)
- BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre
- BA Stage and Production Management
- Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts

**Southend Campus**
- BA Acting and Community Theatre
- BA Acting and Stage Combat
- BA Physical Theatre
- BA World Performance
- Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts
- BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film)
About BA Acting
BA Acting offers a step-by-step process that begins in the first year by introducing students to the basic methods and theories of acting technique in small groups, then culminates in a final professional preparation year in which students perform full-scale productions to public audiences.

Applicant information
BA Acting provides a thorough preparation for a career in acting and aims to develop each individual student’s talent, extending existing skills in voice and movement for professional life.

First Year
The first year curriculum covers acting, voice, singing, movement and contextual studies. Students explore their own creativity through work focused on co-operation, responsiveness to others and the ensemble, fostered by group-shared experiences. Acting on this course begins with objective self-assessment, development of observational skills and imagination: recreating through observation, research and improvisation. First-year work ranges from individual character study through to larger community-based projects and the emotional upheaval of British realism. The first year culminates in a large scale Living History Project, in which students study, understand and live the lives of others through periods of conflict.

Second Year
The second year offers a journey of maturation. The focus of study moves from improvisation to text and from the examination of self to the exploration of character. Technical skills, such as movement, voice and singing are integrated into the work and students start to build their characters independently. They are also introduced to screen and radio work which then runs throughout the second year.

They are asked to adapt to the differing demands of project and director, encouraging them to take responsibility for their own creative work. Students experience a wide variety of challenging roles from nineteenth-century naturalism, to exploring the textual and psychological complexities of Shakespeare. Additionally, through the Brecht cabaret and Commedia dell’Arte projects, students learn to devise, breaking the fourth wall.

Third Year
The third year requires students to meet the demands they will face in professional performance industries. They deliver a wide variety of plays to extend their performance repertoire and work with industry professionals in recorded media. Plays and performance projects are chosen to meet the needs of the individual group as far as possible. All productions demand research, advanced skills and commitment. Theatre productions place a particular emphasis on ensemble work and actor contribution. Through specialised professional development workshops students are introduced to the administrative aspects of their future profession: including audition technique, CV and letter writing, tax and self-employment, self-marketing and promotion. Additionally, students undertake a showcase performance which is presented in a major West End theatre for an invited audience of influential agents, casting directors, film, voice over, TV and theatre directors.

After East 15
Graduates of BA Acting regularly appear in stage, film, TV and radio productions throughout the world. Recent graduates have gone on to work with major companies such as the Royal National Theatre, Royal Shakespeare Company, Shakespeare’s Globe, Manchester Royal Exchange, BBC, ITV and in the West End. Students are consistently successful in the BBC Radio Drama Carleton Hobbs competition, resulting in a professional contract. They have also been consistent winners of both The John Gielgud and The Laurence Olivier Bursaries. For the past eight years BA Acting students have represented East 15 at the Globe Theatre’s Sam Wanamaker Festival.

They are known, and often cast, for their courage, originality and drive!
Daniel Ezra

Before graduating, Daniel had already been cast in two BBC TV productions. His agent at Curtis Brown reported; “His tapes are some of the best I have ever seen and he’s already making a buzz in America! He is one of the most committed and professional drama graduates I’ve ever worked with and I really think he’s going to have a mighty career.”

Coming to East 15 was one of the best decisions I ever made. Growing up, I could never keep still, was always full of energy and excitement and East 15 provided the perfect outlet.

It is a thriving institute, everyone here has something positive to offer and East 15 allows everyone, no matter who they are, to express themselves and contribute to their art.

Throughout my time on the BA Acting course, I was pushed far beyond my comfort zones and asked to explore areas of myself I hadn’t been conscious of. I fell in love with Shakespeare, tested myself in a variety of forms from Commedia Dell Arte to stage combat and historical dance and upon leaving, I felt confident that I had an immense amount of experience to draw upon to help me navigate this daunting industry.

I am incredibly proud to be an East 15 graduate. We are known for our boldness, our fierce determination and commitment to our work, anybody entering East 15 should expect to have that commitment tested on a constant basis. It is not easy, but should you prevail the rewards are incredible. My career has begun like a dream since leaving East 15 and I will be forever grateful to every student and staff member for aiding me on my journey.
About BA Acting (International)

Built on the methodologies that have helped establish East 15 as one of the most internationally respected drama training establishments in Europe, BA Acting (International) is influenced by the Acting course that has always been at the core of the school’s programmes.

It offers a step-by-step process that begins by introducing students to the basic methods and theories of acting technique in small groups and culminates in a final professional preparation year in which students perform full-scale productions and graduate with a professionally produced showreel.

Applicant information

BA Acting (International) not only provides a thorough preparation for a career in acting while aiming to develop each individual student’s talent, but also offers the added benefit to international students of gaining invaluable insights into British culture and its influences on the global stage.

First Year

The first year curriculum covers acting, voice, singing, movement and contextual studies. Students explore their own creativity through work focussed on co-operation, responsiveness to others and the ensemble, fostered by group-shared experiences.

Acting on this course begins with objective self-assessment, development of observational skills and imagination, re-creating through observation, research and improvisation. First-year work includes Verbatim Theatre and Contemporary Scene Study with the study of British Plays from 1956 to 1978.

The first year culminates in a large scale Living History Project, in which students study, understand and live the lives of others through periods of conflict.

Second Year

The second year offers a journey of maturation. The focus of study moves from improvisation to text and from the examination of self to the exploration of character.

Technical skills, such as movement, voice and singing are integrated into the work and students start to build their characters independently. They are asked to adapt to the differing demands of project and director, encouraging them to take responsibility for their own creative work. Students explore the textual and psychological complexities of Shakespeare and Elizabethan Verse Drama. Additionally, students are introduced to the challenge of adapting their skills for film, television and radio work.

Third Year

The third year requires students to meet the demands they will face in professional performance industries. They extend their performance repertoire and work with industry professionals in recorded media. Plays and performance projects are chosen to meet the needs of the individual group as far as possible. All productions demand research, advanced skills and commitment. Theatre productions place a particular emphasis on ensemble work and actor contribution.

Through specialised professional development workshops students are introduced to the administrative aspects of their future profession: including audition technique, CV and letter writing, tax and self-employment, self-marketing and promotion.

Additionally, students will undertake to complete their own, professionally produced, showreel.

After East 15

Graduates of East 15 regularly appear in stage, film, TV and radio productions throughout the world.
Miguel Angelo

This course benefits from a clash of cultures, a clash of stories and a clash of experiences.

Working in an environment with great talented people has pushed me as a creative being and person, in striving to be better. The struggles they had to go through, has motivated me. Their skills as artists, unique to their native countries has inspired me in my own work. First two years of skills and acting teaching, alongside incredible tutors and teachers, has prepared me to face one of our final projects: The IF festival. This event allows you to explore your skills not only as an actor but also a writer and director. Being able to be part of that, with such an amazing group of people and artists, has been a rewarding experience that reflects the quality of the course and my amazing classmates. For that I'm grateful.
BA Acting and Community Theatre
Southend Campus

UCAS code: W496

About BA Acting and Community Theatre

This course is for students who believe theatre is for all and wish to train for a career in theatre practice focused in the community.

BA Acting and Community Theatre graduates will be professional performers who also have additional skills as workshop leaders and project managers, with the musical, technical, video and web-based experience needed for community theatre practice today.

Applicant Information

BA Acting and Community Theatre is a dynamic and active course for people who want to influence their world through theatre. In an intensely practical, professionally-oriented course, a broad range of acting, performance and workshop facilitation skills are developed through projects with people in the local community and in partnership with leading external organisations. This is a professional route into the world of participatory theatre in which actors can create theatre for, with, and about the communities in which they will live.

First Year

The first year curriculum embraces acting technique, voice, singing, movement and contextual studies. Students explore their creativity through work that explores self and responsiveness to others.

Acting on this course begins with objective self-assessment, development of observational skills and imagination, recreating through observation, research and improvisation. First year work begins with individual character study, develops through study and adaptation and culminates in the Living History project.

Development of voice, movement and singing skills is offered across the three years.

Second Year

Second year students work in conjunction with practicing professionals to create theatre based on the stories of local people, make new work with young people, make and edit videos, learn clowning, puppetry and circus skills and develop workshop facilitation skills. Students also manage our annual Southend Street Theatre Festival. During this year students are also placed with a professional company as an intern to develop an understanding of the community theatre industry and to forge professional links.

Third Year

In this year, students help facilitate theatre projects in health, social services and the justice system, develop a political theatre project, a site-specific performance and create their own community play. Students further develop their skills in the production, marketing and evaluation of projects. Students work extensively with communities and professionals throughout their training, making for a seamless transition to a professional career. At the end of the year, students showcase their graduation projects to theatre companies and industry professionals.

After East 15

Since the course was established in 2005, graduates have worked as actors, project leaders and facilitators in communities all over the world. Several companies formed by graduates are now well established, respected and funded in an increasingly competitive industry.
Ashton Owen

The BA Acting and Community Theatre course encourages you to use theatre as a tool to enrich people’s lives.

Since graduating I have worked with a number of TV/Theatre companies including, Quantum Theatre, Divergent, Stratford Circus, Omnibus Theatre, Little Angel Theatre, Theatre-Rites and ITV. This course introduced me to skills I never knew I had, one of which includes puppetry. I have now worked with two established puppetry theatre companies, Little Angel Theatre and Theatre Rites. Our show Zeraffa Giraffa which was a co-production between Little Angel Theatre and Omnibus Theatre won an Off West End Award. Being a part of this show wouldn’t have been possible if I wasn’t given the opportunity to learn the skill of puppetry. I couldn’t have been happier with my three years at East 15. The tutors will support you during your training and beyond! I highly recommend this course if you want to become a well-rounded artist.
BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre
Loughton Campus
UCAS code: W441

About BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre
This course is renowned not only as an innovative and highly influential training program but also as a creative hub that produces original, bold theatrical work. Alumni are known in the industry as versatile actors who can join a creative process as innovative partners.

The BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre course offers a unique and highly challenging pathway dedicated to training multi-talented actors who have the competencies necessary to create vital new work and to realise their own artistic inclinations. This approach is underpinned by a philosophy that sees the actor as an independent, creative and entrepreneurial ‘artist’. While developing their skills as actors, students experiment with European physical theatre, devising, creative writing, composition and cross-media art. The training relates in methodology to contemporary international companies such as Complicite, the Schaubühne and the Wooster Group.

Applicant Information
The BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre course strives to respond to emerging industry demands with an immediate and dynamic methodology. It offers eclectic teaching inspired by Lecoq, Grotowski, Boal and their followers. The training is tailored around multi-talented performers wishing to experiment, explore and participate fully in the creative process.

A unique policy of specialisation allows some students to expand in such roles as actor/musician, actor/writer, actor/choreographer and so on.

First Year
During the first year students share their work with peers on the parallel BA Acting courses, following the traditional East 15 training and focus on the development of methodical characterisation based on the work of Stanislavski.

Attention is given to knowledge of self and the development of a neutral starting point as part of rehearsal process and preparation. Classes are given regularly in voice, singing, movement and research. These will continue throughout the course.

Second Year
During the second year the focus shifts to familiarisation with form and style. Students experiment with visual impression, contemporary text, Commedia Dell’Arte, the theatrical clown, script writing, music and parody.

They explore the relationship between film and theatre as well as theatre as a tool for social change, and the year ends with a site-specific production of a classical text.

Third Year
The final year focuses primarily on staging new work. Led by visiting practitioners from the industry, students develop ideas and produce their own work including new plays, devised shows, physical comedy and short films. Preparation for post-training career is given such as guidance in forming companies as well as casting exercises.

Opportunities are given to stage students’ work in the public arena including a showcase event for agents, producers and casting directors.

After East 15
Alumni of the BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre course are participating in the industry not only as actors in theatre, film and TV, but also by staging their own work to audiences worldwide. Recent graduates have gone on to work with major companies such as The National Theatre, Complicite, Cirque Du Soleil, The Globe, Frantic Assembly, BBC and ITV.

A highlight of the graduate year is the staging of the acclaimed Debut Festival, dedicated to staging new work written, directed, devised and performed by students. Many past works have transferred to professional production and some major awards received by graduates including: ‘Spotlight Best Actor’, ‘Scotsman Fringe First’, ‘Eddies Comedy Award’, ‘Sky Arts’, ‘Olivier Bursary’, ‘Soho Theatre Young Writer of the Year’, ‘BFI Best Short Film’, ‘BBC Films Screenplay First’ and ‘Cape Town Best Play’ and ‘Total Theatre Award for innovation’.

Most recently, alumni and theatre companies formed on this course have been staging original work in major venues including: The Royal National Theatre, The Royal Shakespeare Company, BAC, Birmingham Rep, Manchester Royal Exchange, National Theatre of Wales, Soho Theatre and West Yorkshire Playhouse. Work created in this course has also been staged Australia, Belgium, Cyprus Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, Mexico, Poland, South Africa and the USA.
Beatrice Grannò

You will develop individuality as a performer and as an independent artist while making artistic partnerships for life. This course’s unique work method will provide a clear map to your artistic identity.

After graduation I was invited to Italy to play the lead role "Luce" in the TV series "Il Capitano Maria" and then in the Disney Channel sit-com "School Hacks". I am currently working on the set of my first Italian Feature Film where I’m playing the lead.

As a pianist, this course gave me the opportunity to expand my musical skills and encouraged me to develop my own original sound which then led to signing up with a music label.

Throughout my training I had the opportunity to meet and work with fellow students who shared my artistic ambitions. We constructed the “Superglue Assembly Line Theatre Company” and after graduation took our Debut production “Juice Straws Are Bleak” to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. It followed with numerous invitations and commissions to perform in venues in London and elsewhere.

While my filming career is flourishing I always maintaining strong connection with my “Superglue Assembly” roots, soon embarking on a new show.

This course taught me that being an actor doesn’t always mean working for immediate gain and instant recognition, but mainly constructing a unique path that will become consistent over time. The course is now imitated by many but no other course can offer the level of experience, enthusiasm and tenacity this team will put in to the development of your original work. Most importantly, no other place can offer you the convergence of such a collection of multi-talented fellow students.
About BA Acting and Stage Combat

This course offers professional and vocational training in stage combat and performance. Students prepare to follow a career path in theatre, film and television where they may choose to become actors, action performers or action directors, movement specialists or continue their training to become instructors in related fields.

BA Acting and Stage Combat draws on the East 15 philosophy of training and is focused on training actors through a variety of demanding physical performance skills. This includes use of multiple weapons systems, martial arts, acrobatics and tumbling.

It aims to create a performer who is emotionally connected, focused, disciplined and can use his/her voice and body as a tool of expression. It will give students professional skills to work creatively and safely. As specialists in their field, students will study in an historical as well as contemporary context, learning research skills required to develop their work within the industry.

Applicant information

BA Acting and Stage Combat has no comparable training course, either in the UK or in the rest of the world. Applicants must be able to face the rigours of the course, which typically include gymnastics, martial arts and strenuous physical effort. It may suit those who already experience of martial arts, gymnastics or similar physically demanding pursuits and have the potential to use these skills in a creative context as an actor/performer. Additionally, East 15 looks for performers with a physical background who learn through, and wish to express character and story with, their whole body.

First Year

During the first two years, the course is structured into six modules in which students acquire and practice skills. In stage combat they study at least four weapon systems; in physical skills they train in aikido, ballet and gymnastics. The acting training in the first year follows the East 15 philosophy, which is rooted in Stanislavski principles, character work and the creation of a fictitious yet truthful world. Students experience methods of acting from the traditional inside-outside methodology, as well as exploring outside-in approaches. This traditional performance training is supplemented with voice, movement, Commedia dell’Arte and devising. Classes are supported with modules in contextual studies, which sets the training in a wider context.

Second Year

The second year builds on the skills acquired in Year One as well as introducing new strands to the training. In stage combat they explore further, advanced weapons systems. Film is introduced and students continue to work towards higher belts in Aikido.

In their physical skills they continue with gymnastics, and are introduced to the principles of acrobatics, tumbling, and social dance. In acting, they explore different methods of rehearsal and further exploration into the scenic unit. Skills such as voice, singing, and movement for actors continue to be developed. Through performance projects in Shakespeare, animal/mask and devised work the core elements of their training are integrated and refined. In the final term, students have the opportunity to apply their skills in a professional performance environment. This is supported with classes in contextual studies that cover health and safety, fights in the cinema and theatre history.

Third Year

In the third year, students harness and develop their talent in further study of stage combat in performance, looking specifically at choreography. They perform in a number of public productions, which include a text-based show, and a devised performance. They also perform scenes for camera and are given the opportunity to create their own work through the graduation project. Graduating students are prepared for entry into the professional arena with sessions in audition technique, personal management skills, and study into the process of production preparation.

As part of the preparation for the performance industry, students are guided through research and the planning of a theoretical production. Students are given assistance in marketing themselves.

After East 15

Over the years, a number of East 15 graduates have gone on to become leading actors, fight directors and specialist stunt performers. This work extends from performing and choreographing fights on film, television, in the theatre, opera and ballet, as well as motion capture and green screen performance for the film and games industries. This course intends to draw upon this expertise and put stage combat and related specialist performance skills into a coherent context and improve practice in this area.
Annabel Brook

I actually started my training for the industry in musical theatre, but I didn’t feel there was enough focus on the acting and decided to look for other places to train and gain these skills.

When I came across the BA Acting and Stage Combat course at East 15, it was exactly what I was looking for. It had the professional acting training I was after, as well having the combat element, which meant I could still use my physical skills that I loved so much. I could not have made a better choice than to join the East 15 combat family. All the tutors on the course brought warmth and professionalism to our classes which created an open and creative environment.

The class sizes were perfect to get a good balance of individual learning as well as being able to work as a company ensemble. On the combat course you get to work very closely with your classmates, from partner and group fight work (my favourite was sword and shield!) to group singing lessons, and devised theatre. Because of the huge variety of training this course offers over the three years, I have been able to transfer all my newly learnt skills into many aspects of the industry, using both the acting and fight training, sometimes combined and sometimes separately, depending on the job at hand. I’ve gone on to work on theatre productions, acting for tv and film, as well as being a member of some incredible stunt teams for tv and film, including Game of Thrones, Disney, BBC and ITV. If I could honestly tell you how fantastic this course is for anyone entering the industry as an actor or fight performer, both, or anything between, I think I’d need several pages to cover everything!
About BA Physical Theatre

East 15’s BA Physical Theatre combines the best of traditional British drama school training with exciting, modern European acting and physical performance methodologies.

What is physical theatre?

Physical Theatre is the name given to a wide range of performance work that doesn’t fit the traditional idea of theatre. It is the increasingly popular and mainstream style of work that includes the physical, visual, devised, ensemble, circus, mask and puppetry theatre traditions.

The BA Physical Theatre provides students with opportunities to acquire a wide skills base to be able to work in all areas of the Industry. Alongside the core Acting, Voice, Singing and Movement classes, the students produce major projects in Devised Storytelling, Aerial Circus, Mask, Mime, Puppetry and Clowning, leading towards full scale public performances in third year. Practitioners covered include: DeCroux, Gaulier, Grotowski, Johnstone, Lecoq, Meyerhold, Spolin and Stanislavski.

Applicant information

This course appeals to actors, creators and performers interested in devising physical and visual work, who are excited about creating new shows as well as re-imagining traditional pieces. We are looking for actors who are passionate about physical performance working in parallel with the traditional intellectual approach to acting.

First Year

During first year students will develop the basic skills that will be used throughout their career. Alongside the fundamental voice, movement and singing classes you will be studying acting, improvisation, neutral mask, expressive mask, mime, Poor Theatre, bouffon, acrobatics, devising, storytelling and contextual studies. Many of the modules culminate in a classroom based performance; these include Contemporary Scenework, Poor Theatre, Narrative and Story Theatre, Mime and Expressive Mask. A major strand through both first and second year is Theatre Café, where students present their own work to their peers.

Second Year

The second year extends and builds on the skills developed through first year. The core acting, voice, movement and singing classes continue, with the addition of more technically demanding subjects, such as Aerial Circus, Object Theatre and Puppetry, Commedia Del Arte, Melodrama and Biomechanics. Again, students perform two major classroom projects per term.

Third Year

The third year of training is all about professional preparation and performance. Students work with Industry professionals on a number of full productions in our state of the art theatre, including an Ensemble Devised Performance, a scripted play and a self-created small group devised Performance. Students also study Acting for Camera and shoot a Showreel.

Since 2016 we have collaborated with the David Glass Ensemble to create shows that can be professionalised and taken beyond East 15.

The core classes continue as well as an introduction to acting for camera. Through the year students meet Industry professional from the major companies for employment talks and workshops – companies have included Frantic Assembly, Complicite, Told by an Idiot, Gecko, Tangled Feet and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Students also present a Showcase to an invited industry audience of agents, casting directors and major theatre companies.

After East 15

As well working as actors and performers on stage, film, television and commercials in the UK and across the world, the BA Physical Theatre graduates have worked as puppeteers, street performers, aerial specialists, clown performers and have set up their own theatre companies creating and touring new work including the award winning Outbound Project, Ditto and Moth Physical Theatre. Graduates have gone on to work on shows such as War Horse and A Comedy About a Bank Robbery with companies such as the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre, Improbable, Les Enfant Terribles, Tangled Feet, Tall Stories, Graeae, La Fura Dels Baus, The Globe, Theatre Royal – Stratford, the Barbican, Contact Theatre and the National Theatre of Scotland.
Farrell Cox
Farrell Cox is an actor, physical performer and aerialist. Since graduating from East15 she has been worked constantly across an array of productions using many disciplines including UK tours, International events, commercials. Most recently in RSC’s West End Production of Don Quixote, Mimbre’s The Exploded Circus and Les Enfant Terrible’s Olivier Award nominated Alice’s Adventures Underground.

I left East15 with a multitude of skills and methods in how to approach a range of work, but perhaps the most valuable skill has been how to market and present myself as a multi-skilled performer within the industry.

All the teachers were, and are, so supportive; they allowed us to explore, discover and question our work. Giving us the freedom to push boundaries and ourselves further within our work.

I’m so grateful for Theatre Café, a performance lab where, every fortnight, you create work from a stimulus from any medium. This has allowed me to develop the skills to devise in the audition or rehearsal room either with an ensemble or creating solo work. Voice has been extremely important so I haven’t been defined as just a physical performer and allowed me to branch out into many areas. I can always refer back to my training and still learn from it. I owe a big thank you to all at East15.
About BA World Performance
This is a unique course designed for creative students who wish to combine practical performance skills with advanced understanding of global performance approaches. It extends the western-centred teaching and learning processes at East 15 into a diverse and more global context.

BA World Performance offers a hybrid practice-based and theoretical study that explores historical, theoretical and skill-centred approaches to performance forms across the world. It will deal with selected aspects of performance forms, traditions and styles from Europe, Asia, Africa and North and South America.

The course looks at theatre, dance-drama, masks, music and dance within different cultural environments, concurrently developing a broad range of creative skills in media, writing, performing and directing. It owns, in addition to other world instruments, a complete Balinese gamelan.

Students are involved in devising, researching, creating and performing projects that reflect the influences of styles of performance worldwide. Work develops into practical projects allowing students to explore creatively in a performance environment, drawing on the styles and forms of performance introduced during the three years.

Applicant information
BA World Performance is aimed at students who have an interest in performance but want to go beyond the definition of “professional actor” in the traditional sense. Typically, it will interest students who are drawn towards complimentary performance art tradition in a world context.

First Year
The first year offers a foundation of skills for study and performance, as well as the key academic tasks of assimilating and recording information. There is a study of the role of music in world performance, allowing students to engage from the outset with a range of cultural influences and to experiment with their own performance interests and abilities, and to broaden their knowledge of different cultural contexts of performance. Students gain a foundation in Western performance practices as a strong point of relation to the more intensive multicultural performance training they experience in the second year.

Second Year
In the second year, work is centred on a set of case studies which allow students to gain and demonstrate a broad base of knowledge of different traditions, approaches and issues in world performance, while at the same time developing and applying a significant level of performance skill. There is an opportunity to work intensively with a visiting practitioner(s), resident in Southend, in a non-Western or intercultural performance form. This work culminates in a major performance. During this year students also increase their competence and confidence as independent researchers, conducting independent study and presenting the results orally and in written form.

Third Year
In the third year, students continue their study of context and analysis through research projects, while skills work continues and is focused on a series of major independent group performance projects, in which students have increasing autonomy and freedom to pursue their own aesthetic, intellectual and professional priorities. The emphasis is on collaborative working and evolving a professional practice, supported by teaching in organisational and entrepreneurial skills and by substantial independent research tasks.

After East 15
Graduating students will be equipped as performers and could also be producers, writers or researchers because they will have add-on skills that “traditional actors” do not possess. They will also have knowledge of different cultures that will prepare them for working anywhere in the world.
Mikaela Ruddell

BA World Performance is a course that is ahead of its time, focusing on the fusion between Western-world acting methodologies and alternative world art forms.

In studying numerous forms of performance, I’ve found that there have been times where I have immediately clicked with a certain style and other times, not so much. However, I have learnt a lesson from every single one. Now, in my third and final year, I am applying these skills to my own work. With so many devising opportunities, the World Performance course naturally encourages you to be not just an actor, but also a theatre maker who can blend styles and use their body as well as their mind. That's the 'Worldie' spirit.
BA Stage and Production Management
Loughton Campus
UCAS code: W453

About BA Stage and Production Management

BA Stage and Production Management is a full-time vocational course that prepares students to become versatile professionals in a wide range of production roles in theatre and related industries. The course develops the individual’s qualities and transferable skills of communication, presentation and analysis necessary for employment.

The course has a strong emphasis on learning through practice. Students become part of a creative production team within the first six weeks of starting the course.

The course is based in a specially equipped building, containing workshops, an IT suite and seminar rooms. East 15’s close proximity to London is one of the great advantages of this course as students are exposed to the latest creative and technical developments in one of the world’s greatest theatre capitals.

Applicant information

BA Stage and Production Management offers students multiple opportunities for creative and practical problem solving. Students come to this course at East 15 with a range of backgrounds, interests and skills including performance, technical theatre, art and design; these mirror the many and varied roles that make up a production team. Some understanding and experience of a performance environment is desirable, but not essential.

First Year

During the first year, students acquire a range of established core stage management and related skills whilst working on a number of public productions each term. These will include an understanding of: Budget Management, Construction, Costume, Design, Event Management, Health and Safety, Lighting, Prop making, Sound, Specialist Software and Stagecraft.

Students will work on productions in these areas to gain a firm professional grounding for their future stage management careers. Students also undertake a design project to support their work with professional directors and designers. Students will take on full stage management roles in public productions throughout their first year.

Second Year

In the second year, students begin to take on more responsibility for the productions, developing their managerial and organisational skills and developing further their stage and production management skills. Students become fully responsible for production budgets and the collaboration with professional directors and designers.

Third Year

In the third year, students will be working at professional level and taking full responsibility for the organisational and financial aspects of all public productions in a number of different venues. Students also undertake a professional industry-based work placement.

After East 15

Employment prospects for graduates are excellent. In addition to the widespread opportunities offered in the stage, film and television industry, suitably qualified staff are in huge demand across an events sector worth over £39 billion to the national economy and which embraces the Corporate, Cultural, Exhibition, Festival, Music, Outdoor and Sports markets. Students often gain employment through successful work placements. Recent graduate employment has included: BBC TV’s Holby City, The Entertainment Business Management Company, Royal Shakespeare Company, Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, Stage Electrics and Unusual Rigging (Dubai).
Jack Popay

I have really enjoyed my time at East 15 on this course, I originally chose it because it is such a practical and hands on course.

I’ve had the opportunity to work on over 10 shows a year so there are always new opportunities to learn and improve your skills, and not just stage management skills but we also cover lighting, sound, costume and construction in our show roles which makes us much more rounded and employable in the industry. One of the best things is that we are constantly working with different freelancers from the industry so there’s always learning from different perspectives. I would recommend this course to anyone who is practical, hands on and ready to learn, it’s intense but all the hard work definitely pays off in the end.
About BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film)

BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film) is a full-time course that has been designed to provide a vocationally-centred programme in producing theatre and film that draws together broad disciplines of the theatre (such as, writing for performance, lighting and sound, directing, dramaturgy, prop and digital set design and creation) with business-focused aspects of the creative arts and the associated industries (including marketing, web-design and arts management). The programme is aimed at entrepreneurial artists with an interest in creating, producing, administrating and promoting theatre and short films.

With a strong emphasis on learning through both practice and theory, students work individually and as part of creative teams from the first year onwards and begin working with actors, directors and designers, to develop, manage and promote projects for public performance.

Building on East 15's already proven track record for helping create International award-winning companies, the course prepares students to become versatile professionals in a wide range of production roles in theatre and related industries. The course develops the individual's qualities and transferable skills of communication, presentation and analysis necessary for employment or, indeed, to become employers themselves through their own creative endeavours.

The course is based at our Southend Campus, affording the opportunity to not only be working alongside students in training across a wide range of acting disciplines but to also have direct access to the state-of-the-art Clifftown Theatre.

Applicant Information

BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film) offers students multiple opportunities for creative and practical problem solving while also developing their business and entrepreneurial skills. Applicants to this course at East 15 are likely to have a broad range of interests and skills including directing, filmmaking, scriptwriting, performance, production arts management, arts funding, budget and account management, business and marketing.

Some understanding and experience of a performance environment is desirable, but not essential.

First Year

In the first year there are modules that build the foundations of knowledge and skills that students will need to progress to more creative modules in years 2 and 3. In these units they will learn how to create both objects and scripts for theatre productions; develop the basic skills for producing and develop their understanding of how to turn an artistic endeavour into a feasible, marketable product; they will also work behind the camera to make short videos (that can exist on their own as a narrative or support larger work as marketing material). These largely practical modules are complimented by two further modules that develop requisite research skills and provide a historical and cultural context to theatre making.

Second Year

Throughout this year students develop their new skills by focusing on more specific tasks. Students will also engage in writing for film and theatre and develop their understanding of location management, fundraising, preparing grant proposals, touring a production, editing for a trailer and filming live events.

Third Year

The Third year has one core unit, a dissertation project, in which the students bring together all their ideas by planning a project that they could feasibly achieve in the future. Alongside this, there will be a number of options that permit them to practically engage with their chosen pathway. Through these project-based exercises, students will be able to come together to work in groups, or to work individually.

After East 15

The UK’s creative industries are now worth over £84 billion to the UK economy. While there has never been a shortage of creative talent to originate work across the digital, live event, music, publishing screen and stage sectors, all of this talent needs to be managed and employment prospects for well-trained graduates in this field are excellent.
BA Creative Producing
(Theatre and Short Film)
Southend Campus
UCAS code: W900
Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts
Loughton and Southend Campus

UCAS code: W410

About Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts
This course provides a foundation in acting and can prepare students for further study, either at East 15 or other acclaimed acting schools. The intention is to help create actors who will have an intellectual as well as a vocational life in the theatre. It will provide a sound foundation in theatre; introducing students to concepts and mechanics behind each.

The Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts aims to demonstrate to students the relationship between theatre and other art forms, in addition to the cultural context which gives each era its distinctive identity. It is a highly-focused exploration of acting techniques. This includes (on a practical level) movement, music, improvisational skills and acting. Overall, it is an intensively practical scheme.

Applicant information
The Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts provides a broad cultural and practical education. It prepares students for entry to full-time training in theatre in one form or another, either at East 15 or elsewhere. It gives students confidence, motivation and an understanding of the art of theatre. During the first two terms at the Southend Campus students are also introduced to the acting courses which specialise in Stage Combat, Physical Theatre, Community Theatre and World Performance.

First Term
Throughout the three terms, students undertake a number of compulsory modules. These cover audition technique, movement, voice and singing. During the first term, additional acting modules encourage students to explore imaginatively through various means of communication and learn about the roots of theatre. Students also begin to study themselves in the same way as they will learn to study a character, deepening their understanding of what it means to be human. The term culminates in an assessed studio-based show to a small invited audience of staff and students.

Second Term
Within acting modules in the second term, heightened, poetic and classical texts and characters will be studied. Students begin to establish approaches to textual analysis and are introduced to the use of improvisation. Again the term culminates in an assessed studio-based show to

Third Term
An acting module in this final term brings together all the work over the last year. The course then culminates in two showings in campus theatre spaces.

After East 15
During the year, students may audition for places on one of the acting courses at East 15. Many students are also accepted at other drama schools or at university drama departments. Students will be helped to choose and prepare scenes for audition purposes.
Joshua Church

The need to recognise what the industry want from you is an imperative starting point, but none more so than beginning to understand the peculiarity of human behaviour. East 15’s Certificate of Higher Education is a wonderfully thrilling and advantageous form of opening those curtains.

The course offers a wealth of endearing experiences, all driving towards enhancing and applying your ability to theatrical forms with a professional attitude. You will even have an informed glimpse of East 15’s barrage of creative degrees, each with inspired approaches to theatre, to discover your desired creative path. Entering sessions with an open mind, a willingness to work, and being prepared to take constructive feedback is crucial for the training. With that said, it’s also imperative to remember that you will work as a company, meaning there is no room for inflated egos. Demonstrating your talent begins with giving yourself, not showcasing yourself.

East 15’s foundation year ensured that my ‘foot in the door’ of the acting profession was finely polished, but not too brazen.
Applying to East 15 as an undergraduate

All undergraduate applicants to East 15 must demonstrate their suitability for entry.

There is no upper age limit for applications, although applicants who do not hold academic qualifications equivalent to the entry requirements will need to provide evidence of their suitability to undertake undergraduate study (for example, completion of an Access course, Open University qualification or relevant work-based experience). It is a requirement that all students on the BA Acting and Community Theatre course are required to undertake an enhanced DBS check because they will come into contact with children and/or vulnerable adults through a work placement undertaken as part of their course. DBS checks must be completed prior to commencement of the relevant work placement or activity. Students are required to declare a criminal record at the time of applying for the course and/or prior to completing a DBS check application. A student with a DBS disclosure certificate containing details of a criminal record will be referred to the University’s DBS Review Panel who will determine whether or not the student can be admitted to the course or permitted to continue on the course.

Undergraduate entry requirements

BA Acting and BA Acting (International) must be successful at audition and achieve CDD at A-level or the equivalent in UCAS tariff points, to include 2 full A-levels. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

BA Acting and Community Theatre must be successful at audition, and achieve CDD at A-level or the equivalent in UCAS tariff points, to include 2 full A-levels. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre must be successful at audition, and achieve CDD at A-level or the equivalent in UCAS tariff points, to include 2 full A-levels. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

BA Acting and Stage Combat must be successful at physical workshop audition, and achieve CDD at A-level or the equivalent in UCAS tariff points, to include 2 full A-levels. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

BA Physical Theatre must be successful at physical workshop audition, and achieve CDD at A-level or the equivalent in UCAS tariff points, to include 2 full A-levels. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

BA World Performance must be successful at audition, and achieve BBC at A-level, or the equivalent in UCAS tariff points, to include 2 full A-levels. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

BA Stage and Production Management must be successful at interview and technical aptitude workshop, and achieve CDD at A-level or the equivalent in UCAS tariff points, to include 2 full A-levels. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film) must be successful at interview, and achieve BBC at A-level, or the equivalent in UCAS tariff points, to include 2 full A-levels. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

The Certificate in Higher Education (CertHE) must be successful at audition, and achieve A-level grade E or equivalent qualification. In addition all applicants require GCSE English at grade C or above (or equivalent).

English language

Applicants with English as a second or other language may be asked to provide evidence of their ability to understand and express themselves in English for academic purposes. This is important to ensure that students derive full benefit from their studies and meet the Home Office Tier 4 visa requirements. Details of any additional requirements will be made clear to successful applicants within their offer.

Undergraduate application

All students who wish to be considered for a place on an undergraduate programme at East 15 will need to apply through both the East 15 direct application system and the online APPLY system organised by UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service).

Students are able to apply for more than one course, if interested. Full details of the process can be obtained from: www.ucas.com

Applicants who do not apply through UCAS will not be eligible for UK government funding, tuition fee support or university bursaries.

Please note that applicants who are engaged in full-time education when applying to East 15 will need to obtain
a reference from their current school, college or university. Applicants who are no longer in full-time education should try and obtain a reference from their previous educational establishment. If this is from more than three years ago a reference from a current employer would be appropriate. Referees should be able to comment on an applicant’s attitude to work and/or study, reliability, enthusiasm, relevant interests, time management and suitability for the course.

Applicants are required to pay a non-refundable audition fee of £55. Details of the audition process and the ‘terms & conditions’ for the audition fee are available from our website.

Students applying for BA Stage and Production Management and BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film) will be interviewed, not auditioned, and therefore do not have to pay an audition fee.

For further, detailed information about our admissions process and links to our online application system and UCAS, please visit: www.east15.ac.uk/how-to-apply
Undergraduate auditions

Auditions are required for all students undertaking degree or certificate schemes that involve acting.

Auditions and interviews generally take place at the campus where the programme is based, either the Loughton Campus or the Southend Campus. The auditions run from December through to June.

The audition day consists of a general address, followed by a warm up and the presentation of audition speeches. The audition groups will generally receive feedback and suggestions during the audition. Each course recalls some students for a specific workshop during the second half of the day (see below).

The East 15 audition process is very thorough and has been commended for the opportunity it provides for applicants to demonstrate their full potential. The audition lasts from four to six hours, including opportunities to ask questions and engage with staff and current students.

Candidates for all acting courses must prepare two contrasting speeches
• One speech from a Shakespearean or Jacobean play, lasting no more than one and a half minutes
• One speech from a contemporary (post 1970) play lasting no more than two minutes

International applicants may submit audition material via the web if they cannot attend an audition in the UK. Applicants wishing to submit digital/online audition material will have the opportunity to do so via our direct online application form.

East 15 also auditions internationally each year. Dates, venues and availability can be found on our website: www.east15.ac.uk/how-to-apply/international-auditions.

Please also note the additional audition requirements for each course.

BA Acting
BA Acting(International)
BA Acting and Community Theatre
Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts (CertHE)
Please prepare a third speech, lasting no more than two minutes, that contrasts well with the contemporary (post 1950) speech. Applicants may also take part in a group workshop.

BA Acting and Contemporary Theatre
Please prepare a third piece that is preferably something you have created (be it a piece of writing, music or visual art). Applicants may also take part in a group workshop.

BA Acting and Stage Combat
BA Physical Theatre
Applicants may be asked to participate in a physical workshop in which their fitness and agility will be assessed.

BA World Performance
Applicants will participate in a workshop and discussion group.

BA Stage and Production Management
Applicants for BA Stage and Production Management must attend an interview and technical aptitude workshop with members of staff involved in technical theatre tuition at East 15. They will be asked about their interests in theatre, relevant experience and reasons for applying.

Students should bring with them a portfolio of their work, demonstrating their experience thus far.

BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film)
Applicants for BA Creative Producing (Theatre and Short Film) must attend an interview and will be asked about their interests in creating stage, screen and live event productions, their relevant experience and reasons for applying.

Students are invited to bring with them a portfolio of their work, demonstrating their experience thus far.
East 15 currently offers the following courses for postgraduate students:

Loughton Campus

- MA Acting
- MA/MFA Acting (International)
- MA/MFA Theatre Directing
MA Acting
Loughton Campus

About MA Acting
MA Acting is a challenging course that gives students a personal methodology based upon East 15’s unique practices.

On one level it is a thoroughly practical, highly intensive, vocational course. On another level, it is a thought-provoking, life-changing reflection on the function and art of the actor – exploring techniques from some of Europe’s most influential practitioners as well as innovative professional practice from the UK and internationally.

Applicant information
MA Acting is a specialist course of one academic year with additional work on marketing students to the industry in a Showcase. Participants will need discipline and motivation to work at an advanced level. Beyond these, the requirements are abundant energy, insatiable curiosity and a robust sense of humour.

Some students may already possess a university degree (not necessarily in a related discipline) whilst others will have established themselves in other career paths and now seek to change the direction of their lives towards that of a professional actor.

This course also attracts professional actors who feel the need to reflect on their practice, extend their range, refresh their creativity, increase their professional contacts and gain academic recognition for their skills.

First Term
In the first term, there are classes in movement, voice and singing, as well as contextual studies. The entire programme of teaching across the course coheres to lead the actor from an exploration of personal self to that of the body in time and space and from there to the creation of character and the realisation of text.

Acting classes promote the development of intuitive, creative responses which are then framed by the introduction of techniques to build character and play actions. Showings of short naturalistic scenes give opportunity to integrate and apply technical voice and movement work in the context of an acting exercise.

Second Term
In the second term, skills classes continue. The second term acting work begins with an intensive Shakespeare module which develops and strengthens the integration of technical skills with acting technique. This is followed by the Research Performance Project in which students engage with specific time in history and experience East 15’s distinctive Living History Project.

This signature project is a long-form, non-performative improvisation in which the actor can, through rigorous ‘actor-centric’ research and a residential period away from the campus environment, experience and identify with the practical and visceral realities, as well as the psychological and emotional attributes, of the character.

Subsequent to this, participants devise a studio performance based on their intellectual, emotional and sensory experience. They are also given responsibilities in stage management and production to enhance their overall understanding of what it is to make theatre and to prepare them for the realities of the industry.

Towards the end of term 2 participants begin to research and develop their MA project and begin to work in recorded media.

Third Term
The first part of term 3 focuses on acting for recorded media. The acting classes address the skills of acting for the camera and provide material for the actor’s show reel. The radio drama project teaches radio skills and microphone technique.

At the same time, students begin work on their MA Projects. The MA Projects involve working in small groups on self-generated projects, in which participants are given independence and autonomy as company members. These are performed in East 15’s Corbett Theatre or in other venues as appropriate.

The second half of term 3 sees a full production of an ensemble text-based play.

Showcase
In September students return for a short intensive rehearsal preparation before the Industry Showcase, held in a Central London venue for agents, casting directors, film, television and theatre directors and other industry professionals.

After East 15
On completion of the MA Acting programme, participants are qualified as actors and recognised as graduates of East 15 training. They are equipped to pursue acting careers in theatre, film, TV and radio. Graduates also have an understanding of how to create their own work, including how to form companies and gain funding, as well as a variety of methodologies for developing their own artistic practice.

Graduates are encouraged to remain in touch with the school, to watch the development of succeeding students and to benefit from informal support and mentoring as they continue in their careers.
Lucy Kitson

The MA Acting course has fundamentally changed the way I see myself as a human being and, therefore, as an actor.

It taught me a great deal in regard to the actor training process and living and playing in this world. I’ve learnt about the values of compassion and self-worth and it was a game changer in providing me with a clearer understanding of this world we all co-exist in. It equipped me with a vast range of tools that an actor requires to go full steam out into the industry. I now feel stronger and more fully aware of what is it to ‘be enough’. I write this from a two month tour of The Gingerbread Man in Dubai, a mere 6 weeks after finishing all the training, all the lines learnt, all the feedback received, all the knockbacks heeded and all the places visited that were so, so invaluable. Thank you East 15.
MA/MFA Acting (International)
Loughton Campus

About MA/MFA Acting (International)
This is a unique professional course that has been designed specifically for overseas students. MA/MFA Acting (International) offers the full spectrum of acting skills, including voice, movement and singing, and approaches to rehearsal and public performances. It draws on existing practice but supplements this work with specific teaching and learning processes especially suitable for overseas students.

The course focuses on advanced practical acting skills and also takes in the study of Shakespeare and other classical traditions.

The MA runs for 1 year on a full-time basis and the MFA for 2 years. MA and MFA students take the same modules in their first year. In their second year, MFA students work within a repertory company format to present a range of fully-staged productions in each of the three terms, followed by a written dissertation or practical project.

Applicant Information
MA/MFA Acting (International) offers regular classes, during the year, for English first-language and English second-language students. The English first language students (USA, Canada, Australia etc.) will concentrate on accent/dialect and Received Pronunciation (RP), while the second-language students will work towards RP but with a greater focus on accent, rhythm, clarity, stress and diction.

All students will participate in public performances during their study. By the end of the course, graduates will be able to work in accurate English dialect and be able to perform sophisticated texts with confidence.

First Term
The first term includes the module Acting Technique based on the Stanislavsky approach, which addresses the key physical and vocal skills for acting, enabling students who are coming from a variety of training traditions to identify and achieve the required level of preparation for the subsequent modules. It also allows tutors to make a diagnostic assessment of students’ skills and potential, and identify and implement any additional work in these core areas.

The module on Shakespeare enables students to develop their understanding of the meaning and mechanics of Shakespeare’s text. It will introduce students to specific vocal techniques for the performance of Renaissance text and allow them to consider how a range of archaic and contemporary performance settings influence the actor’s and director’s approaches to Shakespeare in performance. In addition, students will study a range of analytical and experimental approaches to Shakespeare to develop students’ clarity, accuracy, and expressiveness in speaking Renaissance text. The Shakespeare module normally includes a two-week residency at Shakespeare’s Globe, where they have an opportunity to perform one-hour ensemble versions of a Shakespeare text on the Globe stage.

Second Term
The second term includes the Character and Scene Study module which extends the work begun in Acting Technique. It uses a Realist approach to acting as its base, allowing students to pursue longer and more challenging acting explorations. Scene work is undertaken on scripts by, for example, Ibsen, Strindberg, Chekhov, Rattigan and other Realist texts from the last 50 years. The module extends and applies Realist acting techniques, and includes a study of theories and assumptions underlying Realism.

A module on Contemporary UK Texts introduces students to key contemporary texts from the UK theatre, and to scripts from the twentieth-century that continue to have a place in and to influence contemporary UK theatre. It allows students to extend their vocal, physical, and analytical skills in the creation of roles that reflect a current cultural context and offers the opportunity to perform in an ensemble production of a contemporary UK text in a Studio setting.

Third Term
The ensemble perform in theatre productions directed by outside professional directors currently working in the UK theatre industry to showcase them in a second central London Theatre venue.

After East 15
Graduates will have a comprehensive, professional training that will enable them to pursue professional careers in theatre and related professions in an increasingly global industry.
As a Los Angeles based actress who had been working in the industry in the USA for some time, I gravitated towards East15 because the value and priority placed on character and story above agency and network, was something working in the industry had left me extremely thirsty for.

The training at East15 went above and beyond anything I could have imagined, giving me the tools to confidently and safely move my actor-self out of the way to let the character come through. I am a firm believer that the more you put in; the more you get out of any experience. The faculty, combined with the curriculum, history, and legacy of East 15 and the MFA International Program, was the perfect storm of a set of tools and techniques that are tried and timeless. This goes hand-in-hand with a well-placed challenge of adult, industry ready accountability. This challenged me to work along-side the character and the text to perform at a level I never knew I could, in an environment in which I felt not only safe, but completely invigorated to explore and risk.

I can also only reiterate how important and life changing working with international voices has been to my creative process. I knew that my creative bounds could only be positively stretched by surrounding myself with actors from varying perspectives. Being around artists who represented the global community, I have been both humbled and fuelled to bring a new perspective to every project I am a part of moving forward. As an artist who considers herself a storyteller equally as strongly as I consider myself an actress, it has been such a joy to find a community of artists who regard acting as a medium for the greater narrative.

If you are an artist looking to more deeply hone your craft, listening, and humility, you will feel right at home.
**MA/MFA Theatre Directing**  
**Loughton Campus**

**About MA/MFA Theatre Directing**

This is a unique and renowned course designed specifically for those who are already practising as or who wish to establish themselves as professional theatre directors.

MA/MFA Theatre Directing is open to emerging theatre directors from the UK and to students from around the world. Teaching is by a wide range of leading directors and professional practitioners from the UK and overseas. The programme benefits from its close ties with the London theatre world, which provides training expertise of the highest calibre and the professional networks that are vital to launching a career.

East 15 also runs some modules overseas, most recently in Moscow, Thailand and Bali, involving specialist practical study in an alternative cultural environment.

The MA runs for one year on a full-time basis and the MFA for 24 months. For the MA, you take four modules during three consecutive terms, followed by a three-month period of independent study, at the end of which you present your Director’s Production Workbook (or, alternatively, your MA Dissertation).

For the MFA, running over 24 months, you take eight modules during six consecutive terms, followed by independent study that results in a fully resourced practical project at one of East 15’s spaces or in a London theatre (or, alternatively, an MFA Dissertation).

Each year you have the opportunity to choose four modules out of the seven or eight different options that we offer every year. The menu of modules rotates on a regular basis but always covers a range of directorial practice that is unrivalled in its diversity and will include several of the following: Shakespeare, Contemporary British Drama, Comedy, Musical Theatre and Opera, Physical Theatre, Brecht, Techniques of Adaptation, Improvisation and Devising Techniques, Contemporary Irish Drama, Rehearsal Processes and Workshops, Collaboration with Designers, Attachment (Assistant Director), The Artistic Director, Commedia dell’Arte and Directing for Camera.

Overseas modules in Bali and Thailand include: World Theatre and Theatre of the East. In Moscow, at the GITIS Institute, modules include: Stanislavskian Acting Methodology, Meyerhold and Biomechanics, Michael Chekhov.

**Applicant information**

MA/MFA Theatre Directing is open to applicants with a background in theatre directing or related fields and is specifically tailored to those seeking professional development in this area. Study is full time but some module choices enable periods of time away to pursue professional theatre work.

**After East 15**

Former students now work as professional freelance directors, run companies and venues as Artistic Directors or teach directing in universities and conservatoires around the world.

“The director training at East 15 is open to the needs of its students and yet eager to maintain rigour. Without dictating a particular path of inquiry, it encourages the students to enquire and to do so as deep and as wide as they are able. It encourages questioning, and original, personal thinking, both of which are essential to being a good director.”

Dominic Dromgoole
In researching universities to obtain my master’s degree I had three priorities. I wanted to gain experience in devised work, collaborate with international artists and work with a professional theatre company. East 15 delivered all three of these requirements and more. During my time there I met artists from all over the globe. This meant that I was not only learning from my instructors but also from my fellow students. I now have a worldwide network of theatre artists. While obtaining my masters I was fortunate to assist on four separate productions, an East 15 devised piece, two productions at RADA and Improbable Theatre’s touring production of “Opening Skinner’s Box”. These experiences, as well as my time in Bali and in class sessions, taught me a vast amount about directing and I have applied all of them to my theatre practice. Since graduating from East 15 I have worked with the David Glass Ensemble, commissioned and collaborated on a new musical, assisted at various companies, directed various productions, taught acting in NYC, Vancouver, Rome and in the New Year I begin work on a new devised piece that gives voice to missing and murdered women. East 15 gave me the confidence, skills and network to move forward in my directing career.
Applying to East 15 as a postgraduate

All postgraduate applicants to East 15 must demonstrate their suitability for entry.

Postgraduate applicants are assessed on their experience (both academic and practical) and potential for success. It would be unlikely that someone under the age of 21 will have gained the requisite academic qualifications required for entry. There is no upper age limit for applications, although applicants who do not hold academic qualifications equivalent to the entry requirements will need to provide evidence of their suitability to undertake postgraduate study (for example, completion of an Access course, Open University qualification or relevant work-based experience).

All applicants for East 15’s postgraduate courses (apart from MA/MFA Theatre Directing) will be expected to undertake a successful audition.

Postgraduate entry requirements

MA Acting and MA/MFA Acting (International) require a successful live audition or digital audition (via Skype, YouTube or alternative online platform), plus a first degree of upper second class standard or equivalent or suitable previous experience.

MA/MFA Theatre Directing requires a successful written application, plus a first degree of upper second class standard or equivalent or suitable previous life experience. A CV or Resume (recommended) and a portfolio of work (optional) may be submitted as part of an online application. Candidates may also be invited for interview but most applications will be decided on the basis of the written application.

English language

Applicants with English as a second or other language may be asked to provide evidence of their ability to understand and express themselves in English for academic purposes. This is important to ensure that students derive full benefit from their studies and meet the Home Office Tier 4 visa requirements. Details of any additional requirements will be made clear to successful applicants within their offer.

Your postgraduate application

All students must complete the East 15 online application form.

Applicants to postgraduate Acting courses (excluding Theatre Directing) are required to pay a non-refundable audition fee of £55. Details of the audition process and the ‘terms & conditions’ for the audition fee are available from our website.

Further details about our admissions process, how to apply and the online application form can be found at our website: www.east15.ac.uk/how-to-apply
Postgraduate auditions

MA Acting and MA/MFA Acting (International)
Auditions are required for all students undertaking degrees that involve acting.

Auditions generally take place at the Loughton Campus between December and June.

International applicants may audition via an online link (e.g. YouTube/Vimeo) if they cannot attend an audition in the UK. Applicants can provide links to digital audition materials within their online application form.

East 15 also auditions each year at a host of international locations. As members of U/RTA we also attend their auditions across North America. Dates, venues and availability can be obtained from our website: www.east15.ac.uk/how-to-apply/international-auditions.

The audition day consists of a general address, followed by a warm up and the presentation of audition speeches. The audition groups will generally receive feedback and suggestions during the audition.

The audition lasts from four to six hours, including opportunities to ask questions and engage with staff and current students.

Candidates for all acting courses must prepare two contrasting speeches:
- One speech from a Shakespearean or Jacobean play, lasting not more than one and a half minutes
- One speech from a contemporary (post 1970) play lasting no more than two minutes

MA/MFA Theatre Directing
Applicants will be assessed on the basis of their written application, although they may be called for interview or given a telephone or Skype interview.
Money matters – Undergraduate

UK and EU students
Taking out a loan can feel like a big financial commitment, so we want to make sure you know exactly how it works. The UK Government provides UK and EU students with a tuition fee loan, meaning you do not need to pay tuition fees upfront or during your course.

If you are a UK student you can also take out a maintenance loan, which helps cover living expenses while you are at university. You only start repaying your loan once your income reaches a certain level, and if your income drops below this, you’ll stop making repayments – so you don’t need to worry about not keeping up.

If you are an EU student, we encourage you to research financial support offered in your home country. National grants or loans may be provided by your government or local careers service.

Our UK and EU tuition fees for the academic year 2019-2020 are yet to be confirmed, but as a guide, our undergraduate fees for 2018-2019 were £9,250 per year.

International students
Our fees for the academic year 2019-2020 are yet to be confirmed, but as a guide, our fees for 2018-2019 were £14,020 per year.

If you would like advice on whether you would be classified as an overseas student in relation to your tuition fees, contact our Undergraduate Admissions Office via e-mail at: admit@essex.ac.uk

The UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA) can also give you advice and information on fee statuses. Visit their website for more information at: www.ukcisa.org.uk

As part of the visa application process, you will be asked to produce evidence of your ability to pay tuition fees and to cover living expenses during the course. There is more information on the University website about the current UK Home Office requirements at: www.essex.ac.uk/ug17/immigration

Previous study
If you have previously studied at a higher education institution, this may affect the amount of financial support available to you. To find out more about this, or if you have any other questions, contact our Student Funding Team via e-mail at: funding@essex.ac.uk

Cost of living
Beyond the academic fees you will pay for your programme, the other main costs are living expenses. Where you choose to live will play a big part in determining how much money you will need while studying.

An estimate of living costs for a typical undergraduate student can be found at https://www1.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/money/cost-living/

The figures are intended as a guide and will vary depending on individual lifestyle and circumstances.

Scholarships and bursaries
We offer financial packages to support students, including those from lower income households. Additional support for UK students includes bursaries for care leavers, students with refugee status, and students from lower income households studying on a year abroad, or doing an industrial or voluntary placement.

Use our online scholarship finder to search for funding opportunities at: https://www1.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/scholarship-finder/
Money matters – Postgraduate

Fees
Our UK and EU tuition fees for the academic year 2019-2020 are yet to be confirmed but, as a guide, our fees for 2018-2019 were between £12,650 and £13,755. For International students they were between £13,800 and £15,175.

Payment of tuition fees
Your fees can be paid in full at the start of the academic year, or in three equal instalments in October, January and April. If you are a non-EEA student requiring our sponsorship for a Tier 4 visa application, you must pay your first instalment as a non-refundable deposit in order to be assigned your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS), or show proof that you are being sponsored by a body recognised by our University.

Student visa requirements
As part of the visa application process, you’ll be asked to produce evidence of your ability to pay tuition fees and to cover living expenses.

www.essex.ac.uk/pg17/visa

Cost of living
Beyond the academic fees you will pay for your programme, the other main costs are living expenses. Where you choose to live will play a big part in determining how much money you will need while studying.

An estimate of living costs for a typical postgraduate student can be found at https://www1.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/money/cost-living/

The figures are intended as a guide and will vary depending on individual lifestyle and circumstances.

PG loans
If you’re a home or EU student and looking to study a Masters degree you may be entitled to a government-backed loan. Course eligibility and residency criteria will apply. For more information visit: https://www1.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/masters/loans/

www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan

Scholarships
New postgraduate students who have accepted a place at East 15 will automatically be sent details of scholarships and bursaries with their application form. To find out more and to check your eligibility please visit: https://www1.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/masters/scholarships/

Alternative sources of funding
To help you navigate the world of alternative funding we’ve taken out a subscription to The Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding Online. This vast database will give you information on alternative funding sources, including: studentships, charitable trusts and grants, private corporate sponsorship, research councils, learned societies and more.

To access the guide you’ll need a password. Email us at pgadmit@essex.ac.uk and we will send this on to you: www.postgraduate-funding.com/gateway
East 15 Acting School became part of the University of Essex on 1 September 2000. Subsequently, students at East 15 have also become University of Essex students and receive University of Essex degrees.

The University of Essex celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2014, and in those 50 years has become one of the UK's leading academic institutions. Essex is ranked ninth in the UK for the quality of its research, and in the top 20 universities in the world that are less than 50 years old. Essex is an internationally-oriented, research-intensive university with a commitment to excellence in research and research-led teaching, to the personal development of all its students, and to offering an outstanding campus-based student experience.

Essex is the most internationally diverse campus-based university in Britain, with 40 per cent of students coming from 135 different countries outside the UK.

We rank second in the UK for student satisfaction. THE and QS World Rankings place us in the top 2% of world universities. The University has more than 11,000 students at three campuses in Essex, and partnerships with education institutions across the region. We offer a broad spread of subjects across 18 academic departments and schools, with particular peaks of excellence in the social sciences and humanities.

The University's original campus is situated in an attractive 200-acre parkland estate on the outskirts of Britain's oldest recorded town, Colchester, whilst its newest campus is located in the heart of the county's most famous seaside town, Southend-on-Sea, on the south Essex coast. Both campuses are served by excellent transport links, with rail, road and air links close by and journey times to London being 70 and 50 minutes respectively.
Further information

**At Loughton**
East 15 Acting School
Hatfields Campus
Rectory Lane
Loughton IG10 3RY
UK

**Telephone:** +44 (0)20 8508 5983
**Fax:** +44 (0)20 8508 7521

**At Southend**
East 15 Acting School
Southend Campus
Elmer Approach
Southend-on-Sea SS1 1LW
UK

**Telephone:** +44 (0)1702 328200
**Fax:** +44 (0)1702 328201
**E-mail:** east15@essex.ac.uk
**Website:** www.east15.ac.uk

East 15 Acting School is part of the University of Essex and is a member of both the Federation of Drama Schools and the University/Resident Theatre Association (USA)

**East 15 Partners**

**UK**
Greenwich and Lewisham Young People's Theatre
King's Head Theatre
London Bubble
Regents Park Open Air Theatre
Shakespeare's Globe

**International**
Central Academy of Drama, Beijing
The Russian University of Theatre Arts (GITIS), Moscow, Russia
Indonesian Arts Institute (ISI), Bali, Indonesia
Nanjing University of the Arts, China
Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA), Singapore
The Norwegian Acting Institute (NSKI), Oslo, Norway
Shanghai Theatre Academy, China
Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok, Thailand

**Erasmus**
Institut del Teatre, ESAD (School of Dramatic Arts) Barcelona, Spain
National University of Theatre and Film I.L. Caragiale, Bucharest, Romania
East 15 Acting School is part of the University of Essex.

**Loughton Campus**

East 15 Acting School
Hatfields Campus
Rectory Lane
Loughton IG10 3RY
UK

**Telephone:** +44 (0)20 8508 5983
**Fax:** +44 (0)20 8508 7521

**Southend Campus**

East 15 Acting School
Southend Campus
Elmer Approach
Southend-on-Sea SS1 1LW
UK

**Telephone:** +44 (0)1702 328200
**Fax:** +44 (0)1702 328201

**E-mail:** east15@essex.ac.uk
**Website:** www.east15.ac.uk