



WELCOME TO EAST 15 MA ACTING WITH DIGITAL MEDIA

Dear Students,

A very warm welcome to East 15 Acting School at our Colchester campus.

My name is Steve North, and I'm the Head of the MA Acting for Digital Media and the MFA Acting with Digital Media courses. It's a pleasure to welcome such a diverse and talented group of students from the UK and around the world to this exciting and innovative programme.

Over the course of this year, you'll be embarking on an intensive and immersive journey in acting across all forms of digital platforms. Your training and module will entirely focus on classes in screen acting, motion-capture, recorded voice, movement, and industry preparation workshops and classes with guest directors and actors from across the digital media acting landscape.

Your day will typically run from **9:45 am to 5:55 pm**, Monday to Friday. On occasion, rehearsals or other activities may take place after hours—we'll always give you notice. East 15 has a strict attendance policy, so punctuality and full attendance are expected and monitored.

Each term will also include at least one **Priority Week**—a break from the regular timetable during which you'll take part in specialised workshops or filming projects with guest directors.

MA Acting for Digital Media Term Dates 2026-27

Term 1:
05 Oct 2026 - 18 Dec 2026

Final end date:

Term 2:
11 Jan 2027 - 25 Mar 2027

08 October 2027

Term 3:
19 Apr 2027 - 2 July 2027 (end
of classes)

TERM BREAKDOWN

TERM 1

Each week (excluding Priority Weeks) includes three half-day sessions in recorded voice and movement (Laban).

Other training in this term focuses on:

- Regular practical classes in motion capture and working in the volume
- Regular practical classes in screen acting
- Weekly recorded voice classes working in our professional voice studio
- Regular movement classes focusing on techniques like Laban
- Other term 1 workshops include
 - Introductory classes in filmmaking (editing, camera, sound)
 - Combat and firearms classes
 - Physical theatre acting techniques (including mask work and Le Coq)
 - Meisner Technique, script analysis and improvisation (for screen acting).
 - Filming term 1 screen project

TERM 2

This term is all about the application of your term 1 training (with a focus on learning by doing as much as possible):

- Regular practical classes in motion capture and working in the volume
- Regular practical classes in screen acting
- Weekly recorded voice classes working in our professional voice studio
- Scripted scene work for both screen and mocap
- Recorded voice projects (voicing for games, ADR, animation)
- Filming screen acting scenes on location with a professional crew (DOP/Sound Recordist)
- Creating and filming motion capture footage for your final digital showcase
- End of term 2 Priority Week working with a professional mocap games director.

TERM 3

Your focus shifts to professional development and industry preparation:

- Filming screen acting showreel scenes with a professional TV/Film director and crew
- A self-written filmed screen monologue
- An original motion capture project shot in the volume
- Industry preparation one off workshops led by professionals in all forms of digital performance, casting, business of acting,
- 48 Hour film challenge
- Please note that from the end of term 3 onwards you will also need to work on your final Portfolio module which is submitted by the end of September as part of your final mark for the MA. This is non taught and you will need to attend 3 individual online tutorials one each in July/Aug/Sept*

*International students who want to apply for the working student UK visa may need to attend these in person

PREPARING FOR THE JOURNEY AHEAD

Beyond any specific prep materials, the most valuable things you can bring are:

- An open heart
- A generous spirit
- An inquisitive mind
- Full commitment to the digital training

In terms of early preparation, we encourage you to:

- Research screen acting, motion capture, and voice work
- Watch films, TV shows, and play video games (see reading and watch lists for recommendations)
- Explore the work of industry leaders like **John Dower**, **Pascal Langdale**, and **Jessica Jeffries** on YouTube to better understand motion capture
- Try some basic video editing—film short clips on your phone and edit using beginner tutorials
- Familiarise yourself with **Premiere Pro** and the **Adobe Creative Suite**, which you'll have access to throughout the year
- Familiarise yourself with **Reaper Recording software**, which is the programme we use to record audio in Voice studio.
- Learn the basics of using the **Canon EOS R6 Mark II**, **Sony FDX 3** and the **Canon EOS C70**—these are the cameras we use on the course, and there are plenty of tutorials and guides available online

Recommended Reading: Please see the separate reading and watch list sent by Steve direct.

I look forward to meeting you in person in October. In the meantime if you have any questions you can contact me direct at s.north@essex.ac.uk

Steve North

Steve North (FHEA, Acting Dip)

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East 15 Acting School
University Of Essex

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