



NC, HNC & HND Acting & Performance Audition Information 2024

We are delighted that you are considering joining our vibrant, friendly and talented family here at D&A, and we look forward to meeting you. The audition day is an opportunity for you to see if you would like to join us as much as it is an opportunity for us to see your talent.

Each year, we have more applicants than we can currently offer places to, so we use the audition day to identify who is the best fit for our intensive courses. The information below should help give you the best opportunity to do well on the day.

The audition is in two parts:

Part 1: The Workshop Audition

Welcome, registration and introduction

A chance to meet the staff, some of our current students and your fellow auditionees and ask questions about the course and life as a D&A Acting student.

Practical Workshop

The staff and students will take you through some of the exercises we do on the course – a mixture of warm-up stretches for the body and the voice, some of our favourite drama games, and some acting exercises.

What's in it for you? – A chance to see how we work and experience some of the work we do on a day-to-day basis on the course.

What are we looking for? – Your willingness to try new things, how open and engaged you are with other people and how well you can follow the instructions of the workshop leader.

Sharing of pieces

All candidates share a pre-prepared short monologue with the group and the staff; further down this document, there is more information on what makes a good monologue.

What's in it for you? – A chance to perform your piece in a supportive environment (everyone understands what you are going through) and test yourself in front of an audience.

What are we looking for? – to see your acting and the character you have created – how well you use your voice and body to tell us the story of the piece you chose.

Part 2: Getting to know you

Interview

Following the workshop audition, there will be a short interview with a staff team member. Here, we will review your personal statement, look at your references and ask why you think you are suitable for the course.

We tend to ask questions like:

- *Why would you like to become an actor?*
- *Tell us a bit about your experience doing theatre/drama.*
- *Why did you choose your audition piece?*
- *What qualities would you bring to an ensemble of actors?*
- *How did you enjoy the workshop? What did you think went well, and what was a challenge?*

What's in it for you? – A chance for you to chat individually with a staff member and tell us about your experience of and passion for theatre/performing.

What are we looking for? – to get to know you more as an individual and assess whether we feel you are a good fit for our course and the family here.

What happens next?

You will receive an e-mail within four weeks informing you of one of the following 3 outcomes:

Either

We would like to offer you a place on the course you applied for.

Or

We would like to offer you a place on a different level course to what you applied for.

Or

Your application has unfortunately been unsuccessful this time.



Preparing your Pieces

For the NC course, you are required to prepare one dramatic monologue that lasts no longer than 2 minutes.

For the HNC/D course, you are required to present two pieces. A dramatic monologue lasting no more than 3 minutes and a devised piece of theatre lasting no more than 3 minutes. For the devised piece, the choice of theme/content/staging and presentation is open to you for interpretation.



We are looking for the pieces to:

- Be something you like and are keen to perform
- Be from a published play (not an online monologue source)
- Be learned well and performed confidently without the script
- Be rehearsed - practice the piece with appropriate setting, movement and physicality

We don't want the pieces to:

- Contain offensive material. Some swearing is ok as part of the piece, but pieces which are too aggressive/sexual/controversial should be avoided
- Need extensive props/costumes (tables & chairs are provided)
- Require a difficult accent – only do an accent if you are proficient, and check if the piece is written in a specific accent (e.g. American/Irish). If it is - we would expect the piece to be performed in that accent
- Be too long – time yourself doing the piece a few times. We will have to stop you if it goes over time

General Information

Whilst our courses have a strong practical/vocational focus, there is also a **significant theoretical and written element**. For this reason, passes in Higher/Advanced Higher in Drama and/or English are an advantage, **particularly for entry at the HN level**.

What to bring for audition day:

- Your rehearsed monologue
- Wear loose, comfortable clothing and soft shoes
- Please bring a clear copy of any monologues you are performing
- You should also bring a passport-sized photo to the audition with you

For the Interview:

- Please ensure that we have received your reference before attending the interview. No place can be offered until this is received
- Please consider why you feel that studying with us is the right choice and what qualities you hope to bring to the course. Look at the questions above and practice some answers to those questions

Other things to consider:

- Successful candidates are generally well-prepared, have followed the advice on this document and demonstrate a genuine enthusiasm for studying with us at D&A.
- We want you to do well! So please prepare in advance – give yourself plenty of time to learn your lines and perform your pieces in front of people before the day.
- Unfortunately, it is not always possible for us to provide individual feedback. The most likely reason candidates are not offered a place will be a lack of experience and/or performance confidence. For this reason, we would encourage you to get involved in local drama groups, classes and/or community theatre where possible.
- If you have questions about the process or the day (we can't give individual advice on piece choice), please get in touch with s.herd@dundeeandangus.ac.uk, and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

