

Undergraduate Admissions Statement Template

Please cut and paste the text of your UAS for 2011 into the white boxes in the second column.

1. Admissions Process
<i>This Statement should be read in conjunction with University's Admissions Principles and Procedures (http://www.bris.ac.uk/university/governance/policies/admissions-policy.html).</i>
<u>Year of admissions cycle – 2012</u>
<u>Courses covered</u>
BA Drama (W400) In conjunction with the Department of English: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BA Drama and English (WQ43) In conjunction with the School of Modern Languages: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BA Drama and French (WR41)• BA Drama and German (WR42)• BA Drama and Italian (WR43)• BA Drama and Portuguese (WR45)• BA Drama and Spanish (WR44)
<u>Admissions Team</u>
A professional undergraduate selection team, working in close cooperation with the departmental admissions tutor, will be responsible for the selection process for the undergraduate programmes in Drama. Any enquiry should be addressed initially to: Undergraduate Admissions Office arts-ug-admissions@bristol.ac.uk +44 (0) 117 928 8147
<u>Outline of assessment methods</u>
All applicants should submit their applications via UCAS. All applicants are contacted within four weeks of receipt of the application, to establish contact and inform the applicant of the process to be followed. Applications that are received on time (in accordance with the deadlines of the UCAS application cycle) are guaranteed equal consideration. All UCAS forms are considered independently by members of the admissions team, and all applications are considered on an equal basis. Forms are not segregated by the type of educational institution attended. We welcome applicants from many geographical, social, ethnic, or educational backgrounds, and from any age group.
<u>Departmental Visit Days and other correspondence with applicants</u>
The Admissions Office emails selected candidates inviting them to a selection day, usually held between January and March.
<u>Additional assessment: (a) selection workshop/seminars</u>
On the basis of the application assessment, selected candidates are invited to attend a selection day, in order for the admissions team to gain further information on which to base decisions, and/or to distinguish between candidates presenting similar profiles on the UCAS application form. Current policy is to invite candidates on a candidate to place ratio of approximately 3:1 and a guide to the likely number of invitations issued is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drama Single Honours 90• Drama/English 36• Drama/Modern Languages 18 In addition to a departmental tour, there is an opportunity for informal discussions with current students and to ask academic staff questions about the department and the degree programme. The selection

procedure on the day will be conducted by a small team of staff to build a profile based on:

- A workshop (60 mins)
- A seminar (45 mins)

All workshops/seminars are conducted by 2 people, at least 1 trained in fair and effective recruitment techniques, and are undertaken in accordance with the University's policy on equal opportunities.

Additional assessment: (b) tests/written work

Following the initial assessment, occasionally written work may be required in support of the application.

Procedures for specific categories of applicant

The Department welcomes applications from mature students and/or students not applying directly from school and/or with non-traditional qualifications. Where candidates do not possess the current minimum entry requirement the application is evaluated with close reference to individual circumstances as the basis for a possible invitation to a selection day and any subsequent offer. Evidence of recent academic interest and engagement through some form of part-time study is helpful.

Applicants from outside the EU are not required to attend selection days. Following initial assessment, an essay (or other written work) together with evidence of practical achievement may be required in support of the application.

Deferred entry applications will be considered if there are firm plans which would prevent an applicant attending a selection day the following year. Candidates should expect to justify their plans, and explain how their application will be strengthened by deferring.

Cross-dept/joint course admissions arrangements

The procedure for admissions to the joint honours Drama and Modern Languages degree and the joint honours Drama and English degree is the same as single honours Drama, with consideration being given independently by members of the admissions team.

2. Criteria for assessing applicants

Entry Requirements

Academic entry requirements for standard qualifications (A-level, SQA, IB, Access, BTEC, Welsh Bacc, 14-19 Diploma, GCSEs) can be found in the online Undergraduate Prospectus:
http://www.bris.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2012/sections/DRAM/dept_intro

Other qualifications, including international qualifications, will be considered on their individual merits; further information is available at: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/international/study-at-bristol/how-to-apply/country-specific/>.

Academic Record Criteria

The A levels specified in the prospectus (above) should be supported with 5 passes at GCSE (or equivalent) including Maths and English.

General Studies and Critical Thinking are not accepted.

Contextual information

We take an holistic approach to all applications, ensuring that the educational and social context in which an applicant applies is taken into consideration, where supported by clear evidence that this may have adversely affected academic achievement. This may include time spent in Local Authority care, information about which is provided in the UCAS application.

We also consider evidence of clear motivation to study. This may include attendance at a University summer school, a targeted Access Scheme (such as Access to Bristol), or participation in outreach activities. Consideration will also be given to applicants who have completed a targeted Access scheme at another university, under the 'Mutual Recognition Scheme'.

We do not take the following into consideration when making admissions decisions: the school type

attended by an applicant or whether an applicant's parent has any experience of higher education.

Personal Statement Criteria

- A commitment to the study of drama in an academic context. For example, you could provide evidence that you have read beyond the A level syllabus, or have developed a specialised interest within the subject area.
- Demonstrable motivation and/or achievement in the field of performance and/or media related arts beyond the syllabus e.g. the practice of creative skills which may include writing new work or reviewing.
- Appropriateness of the Department's programme in relation to the candidate's declared interests and ambitions. You'll need to be interested in film, media and related arts, as the degree involves the study of film and television as well as theatre.
- Non-academic achievements, interests and/or paid work, especially where this provides evidence of collaborative engagement with the wider community.
- Evidence of critical thinking; well constructed and expressed with good standard of English and clarity of expression.

Reference Criteria

The school reference is not assessed through the weighting system but is used as the basis for assessment of the academic performance and as support for the weighted elements of the personal statement.

Assessors will want to consider the accuracy and the consistency of the predicted grades in the light of previous GCSE and AS level achievement (or reason why this is not the case), evidence of effort and a positive attitude towards studies, and if there are any educational or special circumstances.

Criteria for international applicants (if different)

Applicants from outside the EU are not usually required to attend selection days. Following initial assessment, an essay (or other written work) together with evidence of practical achievement may be required in support of the application.

English Language requirements can be found in the UG Prospectus at:

<http://www.bris.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2012/sections/DRAM/77/admissions#entry>

and at: <http://www.bris.ac.uk/university/governance/policies/admissions-english-lang-reqs.html>

Applicants are not discriminated against on the grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion, disability or age.

3. Offers

Typical offers for A levels and other UK qualifications can be found in the Entry Data in the online UG Prospectus:

<http://www.bris.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2012/sections/DRAM/77/admissions#entry>

Offers to applicants with non-standard qualifications will be made equivalent to the published A level offer.

Variations in offer level

We may make lower offers based on whether an applicant is deemed to have experienced educational disadvantage, as defined in section 7.5 of the University's Admissions Principles and Procedures.

4. Other

Requests for transfers to our courses may be made from suitable applicants from other degree programmes within the University at the end of Year One.

Applications are considered from suitable applicants who have completed the first year of a degree program at another institution for entry direct into Year Two, but this is dependent on availability of places. Applications must be made through UCAS.

Professor Sarah Street

Head of Department
September 2011