

# PERFORMANCE STUDIES SPECIALISATION

## WHY PERFORMANCE STUDIES?

The Performance Studies specialisation provides a foundation in the production and analysis of innovative, cross-disciplinary performance. Informed by studio practice and theory including contemporary dance and drama, it aims to produce autonomous thinkers, makers and performers who can combine theoretical and bodily practices. Students develop skills in composition and the making of new work through studio based practice focusing on improvisation, voice and movement. Studio practice is linked throughout to consideration of the social, political and cultural relevance of performance in contemporary society, developing student skills in critical analysis and performance research techniques. Every effort is made to connect students with diverse practices in the field of professional performance that are current, challenging and reflect significant movements within culture and community.

## VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates possess foundation level skills that can be developed through direct application to the making of performance in professional artistic contexts. Furthermore they are skilled to initiate and create their own work opportunities as well as to enter existing work environments. Previous Performance Studies graduates have gone on to work as independent artists, in companies or community performance groups, specific arts projects and event management. There are also opportunities to move on to postgraduate research in Performance Studies: Honours, Dip. Ed., MA and PhD, either at Victoria University or elsewhere.

## HOW CAN I STUDY PERFORMANCE STUDIES?

You do not need prior experience to enroll in Performance Studies, just an intellectual and physical curiosity. The units can be taken as a three-year specialisation in the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Creative Arts Industries or the Bachelor of Education. Students can also take single units as electives, which can be credited towards a degree in any discipline area.

## STRUCTURE OF THE PERFORMANCE STUDIES SPECIALISATION

This 6-unit specialisation is taken as part of a three year degree sequence. For Bachelor of Education students (or those interested in completing a graduate teaching course at the end of their degree) VU recommends students complete all 6 units of the specialisation in Performance Studies.

### Core Units

ACT1001 Ground, Self and Others: Embodied Ethics  
ACT1002 Performance (Re)Making  
ACT2001 Performance: Self  
ACT2003 Performance: Others

### Other specialisation units – students complete FOUR units

ACT2002 Critical Practice A\*  
ACT2004 Critical Practice B\*  
ACT2005 Performance Studio A  
ACT2006 Performance Studio B  
ACT2007 Performance Studio C\*  
ACT2008 Performance Studio D\*  
ACT3021 Critical Practice C  
ACT3023 Performance Improvisation 2

\*Not available in 2012

Units offered may vary each year. List of offerings in each academic year is published on the Faculty Student Website: [WWW.VU.EDU.AU/AEHD](http://WWW.VU.EDU.AU/AEHD)

Detailed unit outlines can be obtained from the Victoria University online handbook: [WWW.VU.EDU.AU/COURSES](http://WWW.VU.EDU.AU/COURSES)

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COORDINATOR:

Christine Babinskas  
Phone: +61 3 9919-4388  
Email: [christine.babinskas@vu.edu.au](mailto:christine.babinskas@vu.edu.au)

[WWW.VU.EDU.AU/AEHD](http://WWW.VU.EDU.AU/AEHD)

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