*MFA Acting: The British Tradition
Birmingham School of Acting*

## **Additional costs for this course**

We have provided you with a breakdown of the essential costs and the optional costs which are dependent on your budget.

Please note that your marks are not a reflection of how much you spend, so a student who spends less than the estimated costs won’t be marked down, compared to a student who spends more.

### **Equipment and consumables**

**Clothing**

You are advised in the joining instructions that you will need to provide appropriate movement and rehearsal clothing. The school has a policy that students should wear plain, loose fitting, black clothing for skills classes.

In addition, women need to have their own floor-length practice skirt (we provide you with a garment pattern in the joining instructions if you wish to make your own), which should be black, and a pair of black character shoes. (We send a photo and links of where these can be sourced in the UK).

Men need to buy a pair of Cuban heeled practice shoes (again, a photo is provided in the joining instructions) and a pair of Oxfords (black dress shoes). You’ll also need a pair of black trousers, a white shirt, and a plain black jacket.

You’ll need to budget up to £100 for the garments specified, although you may choose to spend more or less dependent on your budget.

**Photographs**

You need to provide headshot photographs for front of house purposes for productions in your final year, and you would also be required to provide these as part of your Professional Studies in your second year. The costs of these vary depending on the photographer you opt to use, and professional headshots can be expensive. These can cost anywhere from £100 to £500.

### **Books**

Currently, we do not require MFA students to buy books – all books on the reading lists are available in the university library. Play scripts (the student will work on at least six full-length plays, in workshops and productions during the course and you’ll work on scenes from a very wide range of plays for your acting classes) are provided by the course at no extra cost.

## **Laptops and Software**

It is not essential for you to purchase your own laptop (PC or Mac), as you can also borrow a laptop from the university or use one of our shared computer rooms. Laptops may be borrowed for free for up to six hours and may be found at the following locations: Curzon building, Millennium Point, Parkside building, the School of Jewellery and Margaret Street (Birmingham School of Art). Most students do prefer to have their own laptops, and we suggest you allow about £300 to £1,200 for this, dependent on your preferences and budget. Apple also offer a discount on laptops for UK students: [go to Apple for Education for more details](http://www.apple.com/uk_edu_5000618/shop).

You’ll also be provided with a free account for [Lynda.com](http://www.lynda.com/) worth £227.40.

Microsoft Office 365 and 1TB of OneDrive cloud storage space is provided free to all students.

**Field trips**

We do require students to set money aside for theatre visits in their first year and we recommend you budget £200 for this purpose.

However, in practice for many of the trips organised the tickets are free and you’ll only need to find the return travel costs in order to attend. In previous years the school organised about eight trips to see productions at the RSC, but tickets for all of these trips were free.

### **Optional – Showcase**

American students graduating from the MFA Acting (The British Tradition) programme are entitled to apply to take part in either an LA or New York Showcase.

Costs vary annually and have been as low as £500 but were set last year at £750 per showcase. Students can opt to take part in either the New York Showcase or the LA Showcase, or both. However, as these costs are set each year by Drama UK itself, we cannot forecast what the costs may be for each year.

In addition, any student taking part in either showcase must be able to provide the cost of their airfares and any accommodation costs incurred by taking part in the showcase.