

## Get Into TV Presenting

The Actors Centre is a renowned advanced professional development centre dedicated to supporting professional actors. Our introductory course 'Get Into TV Presenting' offers training of the highest calibre for people interested in experiencing TV Presenter training or finding out about entering the profession.

This course is aimed at those currently outside the industry, it runs regularly throughout the year - each course lasting two days. The workshop is taught by a highly experienced BBC trained TV director who has been delivering TV Presenter training at the Actors Centre since 2004.

The course will cover several of the key elements of TV presenter training including:

- **Relaxation and overcoming nerves – important so that you look comfortable in front of camera.**
- **Posture and breathing – good posture gives you authority and enables you to breathe deeply.**
- **Talking to camera – how to talk to a camera naturally.**
- **Evaluating performance – how to analyse your performance so you can continue to develop.**
- **Writing and memorising short scripts – the bread and butter of TV presenting.**
- **Speaking to time – key for live TV, but also important in recorded TV.**
- **Being interviewed – being the expert is a way in to the industry.**
- **Conducting an interview – again, bread and butter TV presenter skills.**
- **Reading Autocue – how to talk to the viewer using a prompt, not read to them.**
- **Walking and talking – often used in exterior shoots.**
- **Vox pops – great for thinking on your feet and confidence.**
- **Shopping channel demo – a popular source of employability.**
- **How to break into the industry – frequently asked questions are answered.**
- **Professional expectations – you may already be broadcasting on YouTube etc, but learn what is expected of you in mainstream TV production.**

### **Level**

Fast paced beginners/general, no prior experience necessary, but if you have relevant training or experience even better

### **Pre-requisites**

This course suits people who enjoy learning quickly, have good command of English language, can work to a brief, show adaptive behaviour, can receive feedback and constructive criticism. Your work will be recorded on video and played back in class with feedback that is intended to be encouraging, honest and supportive.

### **Unedited footage**

This is not a showreel course, the focus is on teaching and learning the skills you need to go for auditions and launch your presenting career. A wide range of skills are taught which you can practise at home. Don't worry if your presenting is not perfect at first, it is a learned skill. You may find some of the recordings made on the course could be incorporated into a future reel, but that is not the aim of the course.

### **Clothing, appearance**

You will be recorded so wear TV friendly clothing. You will mostly be seen from the waist upwards. Avoid all white and all black tops as they can cause issues with camera exposure. Avoid tiny stripes, spots, herringbone and busy patterns which can be distracting and interfere with the video image.

Wear warm colours that suit your skin and hair tone, they also make you look warmer on camera. You can bring a change of clothes and change your look from Day 1 to Day 2. Keep hair out of your eyes, we need to see both eyes so you can communicate well. Wearing make up can make you look more groomed and professional on camera.

### **Pre-course prep**

You will be given time within the course to prepare for the exercises, but if you want to get ahead you can prep in advance.

To prepare for talking to camera, think about what you have been doing recently, why you want to be a TV presenter, and be prepared to ad lib about yourself to camera for approx. 1 minute. Do not script or learn this piece to camera, it is 'off the cuff'.

To prepare for speaking to time, write yourself a 10 second and 20 second script and memorise it. The 20 second script can build on from the first 10 second script if you wish. Broadcast speech is approx. 3 words per second, so a 10 second script is approx. 30 words, and a 20 second script is approx. 60 words. This will be explained further in class.

To prepare for interviewing, watch and listen to TV and radio interviews, analysing the structure.

To prepare for reading autocue, copy and paste text into [easyprompter.com](http://easyprompter.com) or [cueprompter.com](http://cueprompter.com) and read from a scrolling screen.

To prepare for walking and talking, write and memorise approx. 20 second script suitable for Covent Garden area. This can be the same 20 script as before, or a different one to connect with vox pops.

To prepare for vox pops, think of a question you'd like to ask the public. You can connect this to the topic of your walking and talking piece to camera if you wish.

To prepare for shopping channel demo, watch channels such as QVC and bring a product to demo for 1 – 2 mins.

It would be very helpful to read *So You Want to be a TV Presenter* published by Nick Hern Books, and *The TV Presenter's Career Handbook* published by Focal Press, both written by Kathryn Wolfe.

Bring notepad and pen

### **Course Dates**

<b>Monday 14 October</b>	<b>10.30-17.30</b>	<b>Workshop with Kathryn Wolfe</b>
<b>Tuesday 15 October</b>	<b>10.30-17.30</b>	<b>Workshop with Kathryn Wolfe</b>

### **TUTOR BIOGRAPHY**

**Kathryn Wolfe** is a BBC trained TV director with over 25 years of directing credits for BBC and ITV. Since 2003 Kathryn has taught hundreds of aspiring presenters and launched countless presenting careers with her training company Pukka Presenting. From 2006 – 2018 Kathryn was Course Leader TV Production and Senior Lecturer Media Performance at the University of Bedfordshire. Kathryn has taken part in 5 BAFTA Juries to choose the winning productions and presenters, and has written two leading texts on TV presenting, *So You Want to be a TV Presenter* published by Nick Hern Books, and *The TV Presenter's Career Handbook* published by Focal Press. For more info see [pukkapresenting.co.uk](http://pukkapresenting.co.uk)

### **PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK FORMS**

At the end of the course, you will be asked to complete a participant feedback form, to help us improve and develop this course in the future.

## **PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

We expect that you will adhere to the same professional codes of conduct and behaviour that we expect of our members. Please read and practise the following codes of conduct during your time here. When professional conduct is jeopardised, the Actors Centre reserves the right to refuse or remove participants from the course.

1. Please arrive 10 minutes before class begins. There is no excuse for lateness, and the tutor has the right to refuse entry to the class.
2. Please read through the course structure and content and prepare any scenes or coursework that has been assigned. It is your responsibility to ensure you are fully prepared for each session.
3. If you will be late or cannot attend a class, please contact the membership department in advance or reception on the day on 020 3841 6601 so that the tutor can be informed and adjust their lesson accordingly.
4. Do remember that there are other workshops going on in the Actors Centre and there will often be a performance happening in the Tristan Bates Theatre during your course. Please be considerate when moving around the building during break times and keep noise levels to a minimum.
5. Please do not eat food in the studios or rehearsal rooms.
6. No violence, abuse, or harassment of any form will be tolerated on the premises.
7. The Actors Centre takes no responsibility for any items brought to, or left on the premises.
8. All participants must sign in and out at reception.
9. Participants attend workshops at their own risk.
10. The course is taught in a way that aims to replicate closely the professional rehearsal room and the self-discipline, creative risk-taking and professional work ethic involved in being a professional actor. As such, we ask participants to treat these sessions with professionalism, and respect the other participants and tutor. At the discretion of the tutor or any other Actors Centre representative, participants whose behaviour is deemed to be detrimental to the quality of the session for the majority may be asked to leave a session. Under these circumstances no refund will be given.

**Thank you for your interest in participating in our 'Get Into TV Presenting' course at The Actors Centre. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call reception on 020 3841 6601 or you can email us at:**

**reception@actorscentre.co.uk**