



In partnership with

**Middlesex  
University  
London**

## **PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION AND CURRICULUM MAP FOR MA DANCE PRODUCING & MANAGEMENT**

<b>1. Programme title</b>	MA Dance Producing & Management
<b>2. Awarding Institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>3. Teaching Institution</b>	London Studio Centre
<b>4. Programme accredited by</b>	n/a
<b>5. Final Qualification</b>	MA, PG Dip
<b>6. Year of Validation</b>	2018
<b>Academic Year</b>	2022-2023
<b>7. Language of Study</b>	English
<b>8. Mode of Study</b>	Full-time Part-time

### **9. Criteria for admission to the programme**

Admission onto the programme is by interview.

The general entrance requirement for postgraduate study is a relevant UK Honours degree classified at 2:2 or above. Overseas qualifications equivalent to a UK Honours degree classified at a lower second class or above will be considered.

Applicants who do not otherwise satisfy the general entrance requirement or who have had a significant break in their pre-university studies are eligible for admission if they can provide satisfactory evidence of their ability to pursue successfully the programme of study for which they are applying. Applicants are invited to submit a portfolio of professional activities and personal reflections on their prior professional practice, to be used as evidence of their suitability for postgraduate study.

Applicants will normally be able to demonstrate the following:

- A specific commitment to the programme with an understanding of relevant issues and ways of working

- An appropriate level of skills
- The ability to collaborate with others
- Good communication skills, written and verbal
- A capacity to work at postgraduate level, e.g. engage with complex matters in the field; demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge
- Potential to complete and contribute positively to the degree programme

### **Overseas Applicants - unable to attend an interview**

When it is impossible for applicants to attend an interview, they may be interviewed by video conferencing (Skype).

### **English language requirements for international students**

An applicant whose first language is not English or who has not been educated wholly or mainly in the medium of English will be expected to reach, before commencing a programme of study, a suitable minimum level of competence in the English language.

It is essential that you are able to understand and to communicate in both written and spoken English at a sufficient standard to follow the programme. You will need to demonstrate an acceptable minimum level of competence through the IELTS, achieving Band 6.5 (with minimum 6.0 in all components). Visit Middlesex University's English language requirements page for a full list of accepted English tests and qualifications: <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/courses/help-with-your-application/postgraduate-application/english-language-requirements>

## **10. Aims of the programme**

The programme aims:

- to develop your ability to recognise, articulate, hone and realise artistic vision for dance productions and projects
- to equip you with strategic insight, resourcefulness and responsibility in the development of dance productions from concept to stage or screen
- to develop your potential as a creative producer in dance, who can act as a catalyst to seek out and develop commercial and artistic opportunities and whose business and management practices reflect a creative producing practice
- to encourage your professional drive and authentic leadership, so that you can inspire others in collaboration
- to encourage your personal professional development using reflective practice, work-based learning, self-evaluation and industry networks

## **11. Programme outcomes**

### **A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

#### **PGDip:**

A1 - business models, governance and management structures for dance production

A2 - the influence of cultural, economic and political contexts on dance production

#### **MA:**

### **Teaching/learning methods**

Students gain knowledge and understanding through masterclasses and Q&A sessions with industry professionals and through interactive group workshops and seminars, including formative presentations and pitches, supported by independent learning.

<p>A3 - strategic insight to enable the achievement of artistic vision</p>	<p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by written coursework, including a business plan, a management structure, a reflective observer's account and a work placement self-evaluation.</p>
<p><b>B. Cognitive (thinking) skills</b></p> <p><b>PGDip:</b></p> <p>B1 - clearly recognise, articulate, hone and realise artistic vision</p> <p>B2 - advance personal professional development using reflective practice, work-based learning, self-evaluation and industry networks</p> <p><b>MA:</b></p> <p>B3 - negotiate and communicate professional roles and responsibilities as part of a professional team</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students learn cognitive skills through interactive group workshops and seminars, including formative presentations and pitches, through devising multiple work placements and through a collaborative dance production capstone project, including concept incubation activities and R&amp;D, supported by mentoring by tutors and industry professionals.</p> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Cognitive skills are assessed by written coursework, including a reflective observer's account and a work placement self-evaluation, by an evaluative de-brief meeting with a placement provider, and by the presentation of a collaborative dance production project.</p>
<p><b>C. Practical skills</b></p> <p><b>PGDip:</b></p> <p>C1 - manage resources strategically to meet a project's planned objectives</p> <p>C2 - implement effective approaches to branding and marketing, which articulate and clearly communicate a dance work's artistic identity to its stakeholders</p> <p><b>MA:</b></p> <p>C3 - demonstrate resourcefulness and responsibility in the development of dance productions from concept to stage or screen</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students learn practical skills through interactive group workshops and seminars, including formative presentations and pitches, through multiple work placements and through a collaborative dance production capstone project.</p> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed by written coursework, including an audience engagement, outreach and/or marketing plan, and a project management plan, and by the presentation of a collaborative dance production project.</p>
<p><b>D. Graduate Skills</b></p> <p><b>PGDip:</b></p> <p>D1 - effectively communicate, evaluate and report on all relevant aspects of project planning and management to stakeholders</p> <p><b>MA:</b></p> <p>D2 - manage self and others to work productively in high-pressured performing arts environments, either independently or collaboratively where necessary</p> <p>D3 - demonstrate ethically informed, socially aware and culturally competent leadership</p>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through work placements and through a collaborative dance production capstone project.</p> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed by written coursework, including project structures, a stakeholders report and collaborative project evaluation, by an evaluative de-brief meeting with a placement provider, and by the presentation of a collaborative dance production project.</p>

## 12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

### 12.1. Overall structure of the programme

The MA Dance Producing & Management develops knowledge and skills in dance business, management, governance, marketing, audience engagement, collaborative working and leadership.

It is studied full-time over 1 year and part-time over 2 years. The MA degree award requires the achievement of 180 credits at FHEQ Level 7.

#### Exit Award

You may exit with a PGDip Dance Producing & Management after successfully completing 120 credits at FHEQ Level 7.

Compulsory modules are those that must be taken, i.e., the award cannot be made unless these modules have been successfully completed. Each of these modules does not necessarily *uniquely* measure achievement of programme learning outcomes.

**All the modules that comprise the MA degree programme are compulsory.**

### 12.2. FHEQ Levels and Modules

<b>Module title</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credit rating</b>	<b>Compulsory / optional</b>	<b>School or partner (taught by)</b>
Producing Dance, Engaging Audiences	M705	7	30	C	LSC
Dance Business & Management	M706	7	30	C	LSC
Placement: Shadowing & Reflection	M707	7	30	C	LSC (placement)
Placement: Honing Industry Skills	M708	7	60	C	LSC (placement)
Collaborative Dance Production Capstone Project	M709	7	30	C	LSC

### 12.3. Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)

<b>Module level</b>	<b>Module code</b>
Level 7	M708

## 13. Curriculum Map

A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules is attached; see below.

## 14. Information about assessment regulations

See the University's regulations, which can be found at <https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies>. London Studio Centre uses a 0-100 marking scheme for assessed work, which is explained in the MA Dance Producing & Management handbook.

## 15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support

Half of the credits on the MA Dance Producing & Management programme are achieved through work-based learning placements. Placements therefore offer an important and invaluable mode of acquiring industry knowledge and developing your professional skills. The large 60-credit M708 placement module acts as the “research by practice” equivalent of the traditional MA dissertation for classification purposes. London Studio Centre’s Placement Manual clearly outlines the relevant policies and procedures relating to the approval of placement providers, the process for securing placements, the quality assurance of the learning, assessment and available support while on placement.

You will select from a pool of prospective placement providers to which organisations or individuals you will apply. You should identify your personal learning needs and interests and select the placement providers to which you will apply on that basis. If you wish to suggest another placement provider to be added to London Studio Centre’s pool, you must request this in good time, to enable LSC to assess and formally approve the placement provider. There will be an interview process for the M708 placement. The decision to offer a placement is wholly with the placement provider. London Studio Centre will assist you in finding a suitable placement if necessary.

Before and during the placement, you are responsible for negotiating and agreeing the work activities you will fulfil to enable you to meet your personal learning objectives and the module learning outcomes. You will receive formal formative feedback from your line manager or colleagues during the placement. For M708, each student will be allocated a Placement Tutor, who can provide guidance and assistance in that process if needed. The Placement Tutor will normally hold two tutorials with the student, one before and one in the middle of the placement, the latter normally following the formative feedback moment you will have with your Placement Provider. The Tutor will also attend the de-brief meeting with the Placement Provider at the end of the placement, which forms part of your summative assessment.

If you have concerns about the learning opportunities on your placement, you should initially try to address these directly with your line manager and colleagues at the Placement Provider. Keep your Placement Tutor informed of your concerns and how these are being addressed and enlist his/her help if needed. If you experience problems that are not being resolved, you must contact the Module Leader at the earliest opportunity, who will liaise with the Placement Provider to enable you to meet the learning outcomes.

## 16. Future careers

LSC supports students’ career development in a number of ways. The development of transferable skills and professional attitudes are embedded in all the modules. Relevant employability skills include communication, self-motivation, collaborative working, openness, curiosity, commitment to personal development and challenge, time management and problem solving.

You will receive help and guidance about compiling an appropriate CV and portfolio of your work. Your ability to make the most of every opportunity is a matter of being well prepared. Informal careers advice is always available from tutors at LSC.

Masterclasses with industry professionals, Q&As and workshops in M705 and M706 will provide you with practical guidance about working life in the professional field. The placements in M707 and M708 will enable you to get hands-on experience in an industry context. The collaborative capstone project in M709 will provide an opportunity to apply your knowledge and consolidate your learning in a practice-based dance production project.

**Professional Engagements:** Professional engagements must be carefully balanced around full-time or part-time study as appropriate. Care should be taken to avoid a conflict with taught sessions. Managing work undertaken during your studies is entirely your responsibility and is never a reason to miss scheduled classes or assessments at London Studio Centre. You are registered on the degree course and you must take into account the attendance Regulations, which require you to be present for all scheduled classes.

By the time you graduate, you will have both an in-depth knowledge of the professional field and the enterprising and entrepreneurial skills needed to navigate the field successfully to achieve a rewarding and sustainable career in dance, performance and the arts.

The library and DIVA holds a range of resources on careers advice and build up a helpful portfolio of relevant information.

## 17. Particular support for learning

London Studio Centre welcomes students with disabilities. All reasonable accommodation will be made to support your studies and assessment should this apply.

If you are aware of a particular long-term illness or disability, you should have declared it when you first applied. If you failed to do so, you are still invited to make it known so that suitable arrangements can be made to support you. Equally, if you have discovered or suffer a long-term illness or disability while you are studying on the programme, London Studio Centre will negotiate a reasonable accommodation of your studies and assessment. In either case, your claim must be supported by medical evidence. However, there is no one-size-fits-all solution, so staff at LSC will happily sit down with you, discuss your needs and propose a suitable accommodation to your studies and assessment in consultation with the University. When we have reached an agreement with you about how we will accommodate your disability, we will write to you to confirm the details.

If you suspect that you suffer from an undiagnosed learning difficulty, such as dyslexia, LSC will support you while you seek to have your needs assessed by an educational psychologist. If the report supports your claim then your needs can be accommodated in a way that supports your studies and the assessment process.

## 18. JACS code

W590 / W430 (50/50 split)

## 19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)

Dance, Drama and Performance (July 2015)

Master's Degrees in Business and Management (June 2015)

## 20. Reference Points

QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

QAA The UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Middlesex University Regulations

Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook

London Studio Centre's policies, procedures and strategies

## 21. Other information

Recent graduates from London Studio Centre are working successfully in a wide range of professional dance companies, such as Rambert Dance Company, English National Ballet, Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, Michael Clark Company, Richard Alston Dance Company, Sarasota Ballet, Scottish Ballet, Scottish Dance Theatre, Vienna Festival Ballet and ZooNation while others have appeared in leading roles in musicals in the West End and elsewhere including *American Idiot*, *Billy Elliott*, *Cats*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Chicago*, *Hairspray*, *Jersey Boys*, *Les Misérables*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Miss Saigon*, *Matilda the Musical*, *Memphis the Musical*, *Stomp*, *The Book of Mormon*, *The Lion King*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Thriller Live*, *We Will Rock You* and *Wicked* to name but a few.

Other graduates are pursuing careers in acting, producing, directing, choreographing, writing, teaching and senior management in the UK and overseas, with companies and organisations such as DanceEast, Eastman and ZooNation. The diversity of careers that graduates are successfully pursuing

reflects the range and quality of the degree programme, and, of course, the entrepreneurial spirit of the individuals themselves.

The QAA's review of LSC's provision and external examiners' current reports are consistently supportive of its work, praising the high standards maintained in both theory and practice, acknowledging the thorough and perceptive feedback provided to the students. London Studio Centre invites its stakeholders to read both the QAA review (available via the QAA website) and External Examiners' Reports (which are available on LSC's virtual learning environment or on request).

The college is an accredited member of the Council for Dance Education and Training (CDET). The CDET provide the industry benchmark of quality assurance for professional dance and musical theatre training in the UK.

*Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.*





<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Programme Outcomes</b>											
<b>Level 7 (PGDip/MA)</b>		A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	D1	D2	D3
Producing Dance, Engaging Audiences	M705				x		x		x		x		
Dance Business & Management	M706	x	x	x				x					
Placement: Shadowing & Reflection	M707		x	x	x	x							
Placement: Honing Industry Skills	M708	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x
Collaborative Dance Production Capstone Project	M709	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x