

COURSE SUMMARY DOCUMENT

MA Dance: Performance



Award Title	Length and Mode of Course
MA Dance: Performance	12 months Full-Time
Awarding Body	Locations of Study
University of the Arts London	TBC – an arts centre based in London The Place in Euston, London

Entry Requirements

Application Process

You must attend an admissions workshop and submit a statement outlining how you intend to use the course to expand your dance performance practice. The workshop will include an interview.

The selection criteria are:

- Commitment and willingness to challenge your methods and practices evidenced in the personal statement
- Awareness of an appropriate range of practical, conceptual and technical knowledge(s) evidenced in the admissions workshop
- At interview where you critically reflect and evaluate your practice.
- Clear and critical articulation of artistic intentions, in both workshop and statement.
- Evidence in the workshop of the capacity to reveal creativity and innovation in relation to personal, professional and academic standards of dance performance

Standard Minimum Entry Requirements

- BA (Hons) degree or equivalent academic qualifications
- Alternative qualifications and experience will also be taken into consideration (please be aware that for international students who will require a Student Visa, proof of a bachelor's degree or equivalent level qualification is required)
- Personal statement
- Attendance at admissions workshop (online admissions workshops are available by request for students unable to attend any of the admissions workshops in person)

APEL – Accreditation of Prior (Experiential Learning)

Applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements will still be considered. The course team will consider each application that demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by:

- Related academic or professional experience in dance, film, arts, media, fine arts, performance, or similar field
- The quality of the personal statement
- A strong academic or other professional reference
- A combination of the above factors
- Please be aware that for international students who will require a Student Visa, proof of a bachelor's degree or equivalent level qualification is required

English Language

IELTS level 6.5 or above, with at least 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Course Outline

This MA recognises that portfolio performance careers in dance require self-motivation, reflective evaluative tools, creative versatility, resilience and adaptability, in addition to freelance management skills and autonomous continuous professional development. As a student on the course, you will build a portfolio of performance experiences and will investigate the various skills and frameworks that optimise your development and sustainability as a dance performer.

The course:

- Has a joint focus on your development as an independent dance artist, alongside your capacity to contribute meaningfully to collaborative creative processes and ensemble performance projects.
- Is centred around the learning journey of the individual within a community of researchers.
- Explores different modes of communication and presentation including live performance, presentation, project proposals, digital outputs, and explorative and reflective portfolios.

You are encouraged to:

- Critically reflect on your practice, acknowledging your personal narratives, biases and histories.
- Be autonomous and self-motivated in your learning.
- Come with an open mind, be curious and willing to take risks.

The course will give you the opportunity to:

- Engage in a range of embodied, collaborative, explorative and reflective performance projects.
- Build the necessary skills to be able to initiate and realise creative projects and career trajectories independently.

Unit Structure and Content

Unit 1 - Performance Encounters (60 credits)

This unit focuses on experiential learning and exposes you to different processes of creating and sharing dance performance. Alongside technique and embodied practice class, you will explore methodologies for contributing to, and reflecting upon, devised performances, the learning of existing repertory and the use of improvisation skills in performance. You will be exposed to different professional performance environments, representative of established and emerging media used in/as performance. A seminar series will introduce you to Dance Science, Performance Psychology, and strategies and models for reflection and feedback, alongside industry talks on freelance skills.

Unit 2 – Performance Contexts (60 credits)

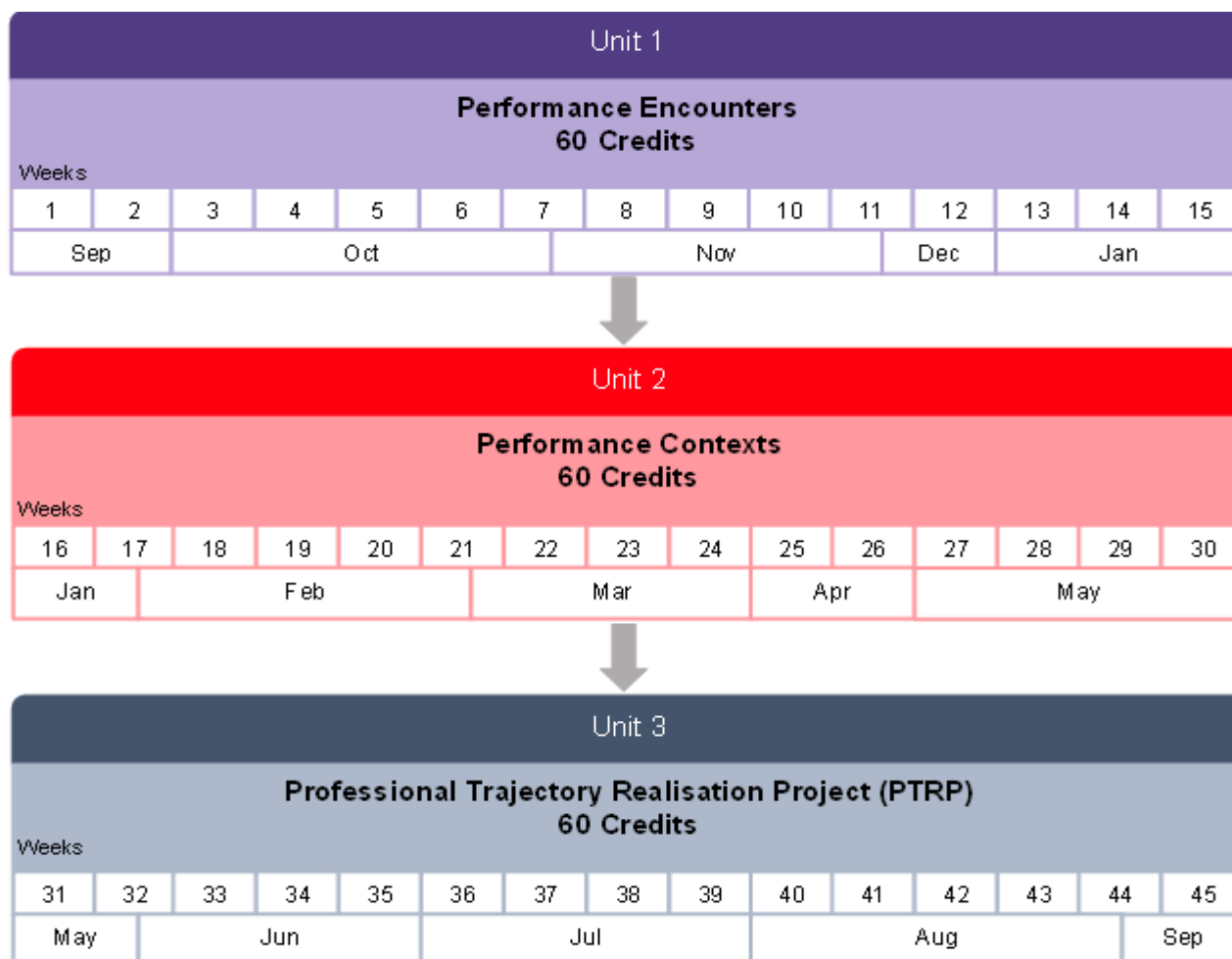
Alongside the continuation of Performance Projects across different performance media, this unit emphasises ongoing self-practice as the means by which the professional dance artist develops and maintains a base of technical proficiency and artistic availability. You will be supported to lead sessions with the cohort sharing the development of your personal practice. Supplementary seminars will explore freelance skills in negotiating contracts, devising and managing budgets, network building and the development of multi-stranded communication and promotional skills.

Unit 3 – Professional Trajectory Realisation Project (60 credits)

This unit is primarily self-directed with regular tutorial support from course leaders and designated industry mentors. You will structure your own ongoing daily training, maintain your artistic exposure to different practices and enable the building of industry networks. Over the unit you will realise your Professional Trajectory Realisation Project (PTRP), interacting with areas of research, exploration, training, networking and performance opportunities as defined in your project proposal.

Module Diagram

On the below diagram you will be able to see how each unit is structured across the course.



Method of Study

Unit 1: Performance Encounters

- Embodied dance practice and technical development sessions
- Seminars to explore supportive materials from Dance Science and Performance Psychology
- Workshops on documentation of practice and reflections on creative process
- Performance Projects led by a variety of artists to explore approaches to performance skill and realisation
- Performance opportunities

Unit 2: Performance Contexts

- Embodied dance practice and technical development sessions
- Seminars to explore supportive materials from Dance Science and Performance Psychology
- Lectures from visiting artists on freelancer skills and reflective processes
- Performance Projects led by a variety of artists to explore approaches to performance skill and realisation
- Performance opportunities

Unit 3: Professional Trajectory Realisation Project (PTRP)

- Independently accessed embodied dance practice and technical development sessions
- Individual tutorials with course leaders and mentors to examine the realisation of ideas shared in the PTRP proposal and to adapt as necessary
- Seminars with industry experts to situate the student within a wider network of industry professionals and communities
- Independently explored actualisation of PTRP Proposal with institutional and mentor support

Workload

	Scheduled Learning & Teaching Hours		Guided Independent Study		Total credit-bearing hours (exc. personal tutorials)
	Hours	%	Hours	%	Hours
Unit 1	360	60%	240	40%	600
Unit 2	330	55%	270	45%	600
Unit 3	65	11%	535	89%	600
Total	755	42%	1045	58%	1800

Assessment Methods

The three units will be assessed holistically. Assessments include:

Unit 1: Presentation of reflections on encounters

Unit 2: Research project proposal

Unit 3: Presentation of reflections on PTRP with supporting documentation

Staff teaching on the course

Staff teaching on the course include the Course and Unit Leaders for MA Dance: Performance programme alongside a range of guest artists and companies.

You can find out more about the staff teaching on the course [here](#).

Location

The course will be delivered at the following two study sites:

- **TBC** – an arts centre in London, exact location will be confirmed shortly
- **The Place** in Euston, London

During all units of the course students will have access to The Place's facilities including the learning resources (Library, student space hire etc.) and Physical and Mental Health support. There will also be opportunities during the course to collaborate and meet with other students on other courses at London Contemporary Dance School.

Course Costs

Course Fees

Fees for 2023/24 academic year are:

£12,500 UK Students

£24,000 Overseas students

For more information on course fees and the Tuition Fee Deposit please see the Fee Policy and Course Deposit Policy on our website

Tuition Fee Deposit

All Postgraduate students will need to pay a deposit of £1500, payable within 21 days of an offer being made. More information can be found in the Course Deposit Policy.

Student Visa

In July 2023 the UK government announced an increase in Immigration Health Surcharge and Visa fees.

Currently a student visa will cost £348 if applied for outside the UK, however this is likely to increase by at least 20% by September 2024. Students will also need to pay the Immigration Surcharge. Students will receive a 25% discount, and the discounted rate for student visa holders is likely to be £776 per year.

Student Support Package

London Contemporary Dance School also offers a Student Support Package for an annual fee of £50, payable on registration / re-registration at the start of each academic year. More information can be found on [our website](#).

Other extra costs

Other extra costs may include:

- The cost of your dance clothing over the course of your studies
- Trainers for use in the studio
- The cost of materials which you may choose to use in your creative projects
- Travel costs for curricular activities which take place off site. This might include performances and work in the community or in schools. (LCDS will cover the cost of any travel for events outside of London)
- Printing costs
- The cost of books that you might wish to purchase
- The cost of a computer and broadband for online learning

Our onsite teaching will be delivered in accordance with public health guidelines in place at the time (for example small group sizes to allow for social distancing requirements) and may also retain some aspects of blended, online learning where this has proven to lead to positive learning experiences for students. Also, whilst we are planning for delivery to be on site, if government guidelines and requirements change through a further national or local lockdown, LCDS may need to move all or some of its provision online.