

COURSE SUMMARY DOCUMENT

MA Screendance



Award Title MA Screendance	Length and Mode of Course 3 terms (12 months) Full Time
Awarding Body University of the Arts London	Location of Study London Contemporary Dance School, The Place The Place2

Entry Requirements

Standard Minimum Entry Requirements

- BA (Hons) degree or equivalent academic qualifications
- Alternative qualifications and experience will also be taken into consideration
- Personal statement
- Showreel or selection of prior work

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 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 these factors

English Language

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

Course Outline

The MA Screendance examines movement on screen: the possibilities of combining moving image and expanded choreography.

It is a practice-led course that embraces the hybrid, trans-disciplinary nature of dance filmmaking and subjects it to critical investigation.

It encourages you to:

- Develop a confident, articulate independent practice through practical experimentation, contextual research and public-facing engagement
- Develop a wider vision of your practice and how it relates to the contemporary world
- Critically assess what it means to create image-based art today
- Contribute to the development of the field of screendance through practice and research

It will test and challenge your individual practice, bringing it into a contemporary critical context. It asks you to consider the way the work interacts with audiences, other arts sectors and wider society. It offers a variety of conceptual approaches to creating, researching and disseminating screendance.

The course has a strong international focus in content, teaching staff and guest artists.

Screendance has wealth of history in the UK. As the only Masters in the world that currently specialises in dance film, the course in its current iteration has attracted applicants from all corners of the world, and its graduates are well placed to lead and shape this flourishing art form.

Units are designed to provide an individual learning experience which focuses on the students' own artistic practice, within a critical, contextual, technical and professional development framework.

LCDS places a strong emphasis on creating a community of learning and on learner-centred teaching, particularly in seminars and personal tutorials based on students' ideas, interests, skills and artistic practice.

Placing this film-based MA course within The Place, an internationally recognised space for dance development, cements the experimental, permeable nature of this course: a choreographic film practice fit for the 21st century.

Unit Structure

The MA Screendance is made up of 4 units which all students will be required to take, making up 180 credits:

Unit 1 – Making Screendance (60 credits)

This module focuses on the fundamental elements of screendance making processes. It encourages you to apply discussion, self-reflection and critical thinking to the development of your creative projects. You will develop practical skills, synthesise research and investigate your practice.

Unit 2 – Situating Screendance (30 credits)

Situating Screendance, investigates how the study of screendance, with its interdisciplinary nature, draws on theories of art, photography, film, performance, video and digital technologies, as well as dance. You will engage with a range of texts and resources, while developing your own research interests and skills.

Unit 3 – Communicating Screendance (30 credits)

This module invites you to think critically about how dance film work meets the public, and the creative, ethical, and practical concerns of selecting and screening work.

You will create a public screendance event with your cohort, inviting and selecting international work and connecting with professionals across the field.

Unit 4 – Final Project (60 credits)

Integrates your practical, theoretical, and technical learning throughout the course. You undertake an independent research project focusing on a chosen area of inquiry within screendance, in a format of your own devising.

Method of Study

Learning and Teaching Methods

Each unit offers a range of learning modes and teaching methods, which centre your autonomous learning and self-reflection. Formats include a combination of:

- practical workshops
- lectures
- seminars
- individual and group tutorials
- technical instructions
- assignments
- watching and discussing (dance) films
- reading academic texts
- peer feedback
- workshops with professional artists
- independent rehearsals
- tutor feedback

The majority of learning will take place in person however some lectures and seminars will be held online, particularly in Unit 3 – Situating Screendance where 75% of the teaching will be online with additional in person screenings and sessions with visiting artists.

Learning Process

Making work is at the core of the course, and you will engage in the learning process of artistic practice in a variety of modes:

- in independent study and as part of class exercises
- individually and in groups
- and in sustained, carefully conceptualised and realised projects as well responding to short quick-fire briefs.

Written work and research practices also form a part of the course work, and this learning is supported through workshops, class work, individual tutorials and feedback as well as Learning Support as required.

Inclusive learning, teaching and assessment practices are embedded by design in the curriculum and available to all students. These include:

- a range of electronic resources available on the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment)
- written and visual resources that are easy to navigate and understand
- assessment tasks that are inclusive (such as vivas and video essays) are available to all students

The course offers many opportunities of individual contact with lecturers, ensuring the learning and teaching process is student-centred. You will also have access to a Learning Support Coordinator.

Workload

	Scheduled Learning & Teaching Hours		Guided Independent Study		Total credit-bearing hours (exc. personal tutorials)
	Hours	%	Hours	%	Hours
Unit 1	350	58%	250	42%	600
Unit 2	40	13%	260	87%	300
Unit 3	100	50%	200	50%	300
Unit 4	60	10%	540	90%	600
Total	550	31%	1,250	69%	1,800

Assessment Methods

Units 1, 2 and 4 (Making Screendance, Situating Screendance and Final project) have holistic assessments and Unit 3 (Communicating Screendance) has elemental assessments.

Elemental and holistic assessment tasks will include: screendance works (e.g., film or video single screen works; online, single or multiscreen installations), video essays, critical and reflective essays or vivas, reflective portfolios, peer assessment, and presentations.

Staff teaching on the course

Staff teaching on the course includes the Course Leader for MA Screendance alongside the Unit Leaders and a range of guest lecturers and visiting professional artists.

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

Course Costs

Course Fees

Fees for 2026/27 academic year are:

£12,500	UK Students
£24,950	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. The Tuition Fee Deposit is held against payment of tuition fees and is not normally refundable, except within the 14-day cooling off period from accepting offer. More information can be found in the Course Deposit Policy.

Student Visa

Currently a student visa costs £524 if applied for outside the UK. Students will also need to pay the Immigration Surcharge, students will receive a 25% discount, and the discounted rate for student visa holders is currently £776 per year. Find out more about the [Student Visa here](#).

Student Support Package

London Contemporary Dance School also offers a Student Support Package for an annual fee of £60, payable on registration / re-registration at the start of each academic year. More information can be found on [our website](#).

Adobe Premiere and Production Budget

Each student receives an Adobe Premiere for editing subscription for the duration of the course, alongside a £500 production budget.

Other extra costs

Other extra costs may include:

- The cost of laptop and broadband to engage with any online learning (there are limited laptops available for editing)
- 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.
- Printing costs
- The cost of books you might wish to purchase (there is a well-stocked Library on site at LCDS, but you may wish to consider purchasing your own additional books as well).

Onsite Delivery

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.