

COURSE BOOKLET

MA Creative Dance Education

(Subject to validation by University of the Arts London)



Award Title

MA Creative Dance Education

Length and Mode of Course

12 months Full-Time

Awarding Body

Subject to validation by University of the Arts London

Locations of Study

- **The Place** in Euston, London
- **The Place2**
- **Schools, dance schools and other placement locations**

*Please note: this course is subject to minimum enrolment numbers being reached. If the required number of students is not attained by 1 May 2026, the course **will not proceed** in September 2026. Applicants will be informed in writing and offered the opportunity to transfer to an alternative start date or course, or to have any deposits refunded.*

The Course

The MA Creative Dance Education focuses on supporting the development of creativity in dance education and training, sharing UK and other international perspectives on and approaches to dance education. The MA qualification will enable you to explore theoretical approaches across dance pedagogy and theories of creativity and approaches to dance education from a range of established professionals. You will apply the concepts you encounter in practice and advance your own independent enquiries through action research leading to the generation of new insights in the field of dance education. This course provides an effective preparation for progression to PhD level study upon graduation.

As a world-leader in dance education and creative innovation, LCDS has significant expertise in person-centred, or alternatively framed as “learning-centred”, dance pedagogy, which develops the dancer as a whole person by integrating technical, creative and critical skills through a constructively aligned curriculum that prioritises student wellbeing, preparation for professional outcomes, and access and social justice. On this course you will be able to draw on The Place’s wealth of expertise in dance education and training, as well as creative learning through encounters with dance in state schools. The Place offers opportunities for people to learn dance from childhood, through to prevocational training to professional dance higher education and training. We have evolved world-leading practices that foster creativity, engage the whole person, and imbue confidence and authenticity as students learn through and with dance.

The course:

- Provides comprehensive professional development for you to strengthen your skillset in the field of dance education.
- Foregrounds the development of creativity within dance education, as well as nurtures a creative and self-renewing approach to teaching.
- Enables you to attain relevant professional accreditation and/or Qualified Teacher Status through extensive work-based learning in a supportive and stimulating peer learning community.
- Innovates the production of knowledge in dance education and develop evidence-based approaches.

You are encouraged to:

- Critically evaluate a range of theoretical perspectives on dance education and theories of creativity relevant to your teaching practice in the professional contexts in which you aspire to work.
- Create and deliver effective learning activities and environments that enable all students and participants you encounter as educators to achieve appropriate and clearly articulated learning outcomes.
- Nurture the wellbeing of all students and participants you encounter as educators, investing in whole-person education, including the development of creativity, communication skills and critical thinking.

The course will give you the opportunity to:

- Use a continuous cycle of self-evaluation, adaptation and evidence-based experimentation to enhance and sustain your own teaching practice.
- Plan for your own continuous professional development, including identifying and meeting relevant requirements for achieving professional accreditation, Qualified Teacher Status or international equivalent in the context in which you plan to work.

What You Will Study

Unit 1 – Mapping The Field (60 credits)

Through a series of seminars, practical workshops and wide-ranging observation of teaching practice, you will gain a comprehensive understanding of international frameworks of dance education and theories of creativity. You will develop the necessary insights to design and develop meaningful dance classes appropriate to learners' needs. Critical analysis of selected literature on dance education and creativity will be fundamental to instilling a commitment to evidence-based approaches.

Participation in more active sessions led by established dance educators will enable you to experience best practice in action and reflect on these experiences. Observation of taught sessions across London Contemporary Dance School and The Place will provide a deep insight into teachers' actions, behaviour and conduct in creating learning environments and leading dance activities and will underpin analysis of how their learners respond to these environments and activities. An emphasis on the relationship between dance and music will enable you to plan for and deliver musically engaging dance classes. You will also carry out the necessary preparations to secure placement opportunities in the lead-up to Unit 2.

Unit 2 – Developing Skills (60 credits)

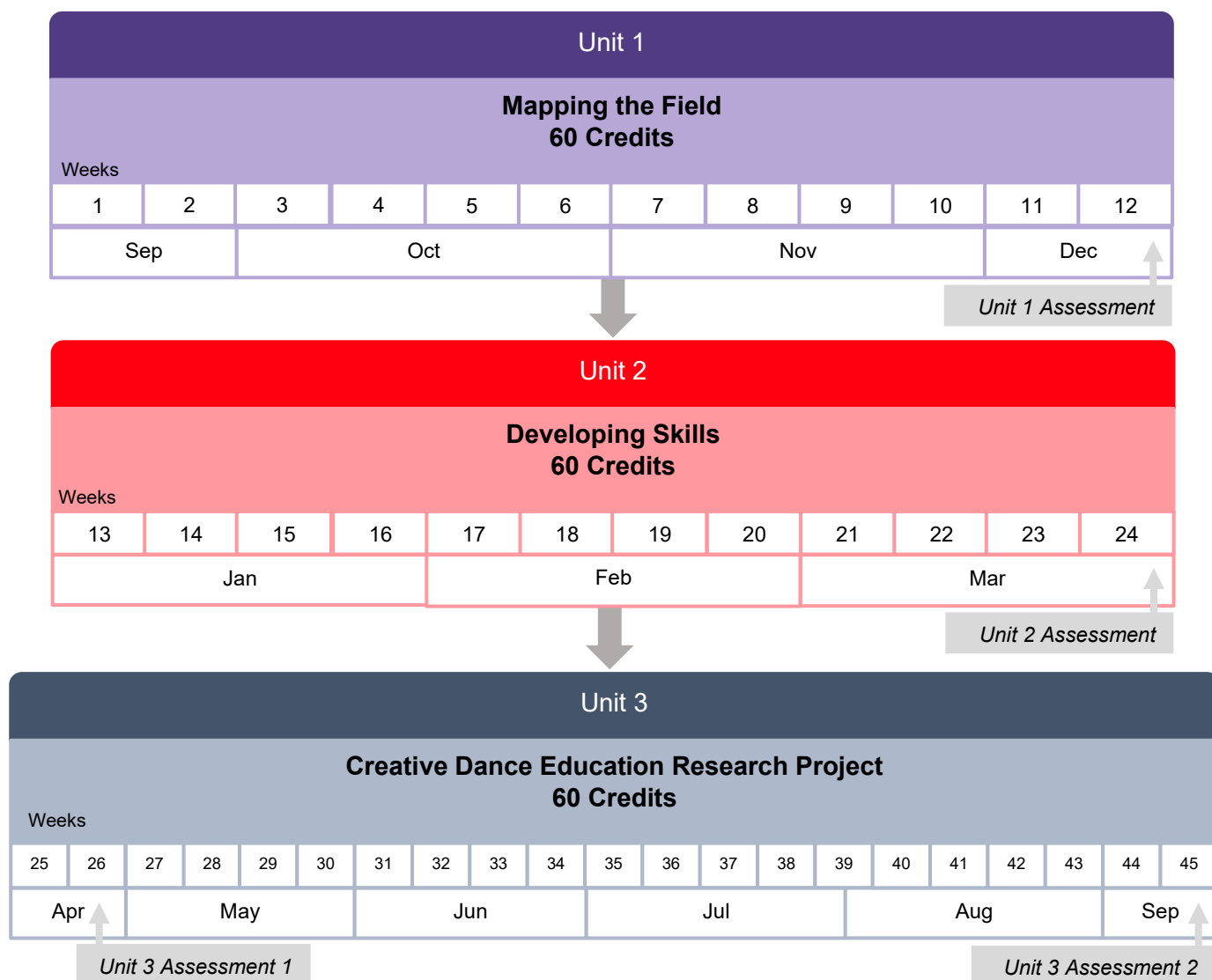
You will engage in the careful and detailed preparation for an in-depth placement in one or more schools, dance schools, pre-vocational or vocational dance training setting. You will plan, design and deliver work as a dance educator in accordance with clear objectives agreed with the placement host and your learners' needs. You will engage in a reflective learning cycle where self-evaluation and tutor evaluation lead to adaptation and the development of new approaches for ongoing enhancement.

You will have regular opportunities to de-brief with a placement tutor as well as come together you're your peers to exchange experiences and discuss insights emerging from the placement experience. For those of you wishing to pursue Qualified Teacher Status (or other professional accreditation) through the Assessment Only route, this Unit will enable you to largely meet the published Teacher Standards and document your practice in a way that will satisfy the requirements.

Unit 3 – Creative Dance Education Research Project (60 credits)

You will design, plan, carry out and evaluate a distinctive action research project that leads to demonstrable enhancement of learning opportunities in a defined professional context. The project will aim to generate new insights to be shared more widely with the professional field. You will articulate new ideas, consider the ethics of your research and secure the required research ethics approval. The Unit aims to develop new understandings and new collaborations through practice-based, creative dance education delivery.

Course Diagram



How You Will Learn

Unit 1: Mapping the Field

- Seminars, workshops
- Observations of teaching practice (shadowing)
- Peer support and group tutorials

Unit 2: Developing Skills

- Placements, work-based learning, placement tutor
- Peer support and group tutorials

Unit 3: Creative Dance Education Research Project

- Independent action research supported by a mentor

- Peer support and group tutorials

Your Hours

	Scheduled Learning & Teaching Hours		Guided Independent Study		Placement		Total credit-bearing hours (exc. personal tutorials)
	Hours	%	Hours	%	Hours	%	Hours
	210	12%	1272	71%	318	18%	1800

Assessment Methods

The three units will be assessed holistically. Assessments include:

Unit 1: Critical research essay, cross-referencing approaches to teaching practice to pedagogical literature

Unit 2: Documentation of teaching practice

Unit 3: Creative Dance Education Research Project – written dissertation, illustrated by newly developed teaching resources or learning materials where relevant

Staff teaching on the course

Staff teaching on the course include the Course and Unit Leaders for MA Creative Dance Education programme alongside a range of guest artists and educators.

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

Location

This Course is delivered through the following structure:

- Induction weeks and all lectures, seminars and workshops outside of any external observations and placements are delivered at LCDS' main study site at The Place in Euston
- All external observations and placements are located in schools, dance schools, conservatoires and other community settings where dance education takes place, based on the professional aspirations of the student. Options are made available to all students to secure observations and placements in locations the London area and easily accessible by public transport. At the student's request other locations outside of London can be considered. The cost of transport is covered by the student.
- There may be occasions when you are based at The Place 2 – a venue 5 minutes walk from The Place in Euston, which houses one studio, a rehearsal space and a lecture space.

During all units of the course students will have access to The Place's facilities including the learning resources (Library, student space hire, academic support 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.

Admissions Process

Application Process

- Portfolio, which includes a Personal statement and a 5-minute video of the applicant articulating their experience in teaching dance and their aspirations for developing their practice
- Applicants who demonstrate suitability for the course in their Portfolio will then be invited to an Interview

The selection criteria are:

- Prior experience and creative practice in teaching dance evidenced through the video submission.
- A capacity for self-directed learning, self-reflection and potential for the development of practice-based research, evidenced within the personal statement.
- A knowledge and critical understanding of the cultural and social relevance of dance education
- Appropriate communication skills and a willingness to support others within the learning community.

Entry Requirements

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 usually required)
- Portfolio
- Interview

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:

- Extensive teaching experience in in dance, drama, 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 usually required

English Language

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

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. 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](#).

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 education projects
- Travel costs for placements and curricular activities which take place off site. This might include work in the community or in schools. Options will be available for all students to carry out activities in the London area. At the student's request, activities outside of London will be considered. The student will bear the cost of all travel.
- Printing costs
- The cost of books that 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).
- The cost of a computer and broadband for online learning
- Fees charged for non-return or damage to LCDS resources

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.