THE LONDON CONTEMPORARY DANCE SCHOOL

COURSE BOOKLET

BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance Performance

Image by Rocio Chacon

Award Title

BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance Performance

With the opportunity to deepen focus in one of four pathways:

- Choreography
- Advanced Physical Practice
- Education and Communities
- Production and Management

Awarding Body	Length and Mode of Course	Location of Study
University of the Arts London	3 years - Full time 4 years – Full time (with optional placement year)	London Contemporary Dance School, The Place The Place2

The Course

This world-leading three-year degree course, which includes the opportunity to deepen focus in one of four elective pathways, is designed to develop versatile artists with all the tools and skills needed for a prolific career in dance and the creative industries.

The course is a highly intensive and diversified course, with a wide range of practical studio-based classes, enhanced by a range of contextual studies that directly relate to the experience of performing, making, researching, and understanding dance. You also have access to unique performance and artistic avenues throughout the course, including various opportunities to engage with the wider Place network.

Year 1 (BA1)

The first year provides students with a thorough grounding in daily physical practice. You will be introduced to various dance and movement practices and will continually expand your technical expertise and creative practices through daily classes. You will have classes in Dance Science and Psychology to support your understanding of safe dance practice and wellbeing. You will also be introduced to dance teaching and arts administration / producing skills.

An example of the range of dance practices taught:

- Ballet aimed at contemporary dancers
- Release based work
- Cunningham based work
- Floor work
- Popping
- Flying Low and Passing Through
- Gaga
- Hip-hop
- Bharatanatyam based work
- Kathak based work
- Improvisation
- Contact improvisation
- Partner work
- Capoeira
- Authentic Jazz

Year 2 (BA2)

In your second year, you will begin to deepen your focus in your chosen pathway through elective units. Centrally, all students will encounter in-house and external dance practitioners and artists who invite you to engage with the wider art form and situate your practices within various contexts. You will develop collaborative skills within dance but also more broadly across other art forms and digital media through collaborations with external partners. Technical skills are further embodied through the daily dance practices. You will also develop an understanding of the role of dance in the community by participating in co-creative artistic processes led by experienced community dance artists working with a range of participants.

Year 3 (BA3)

The culmination of your development across the course is supported in the final year through the creation of professional portfolios, CVs, showreels and other relevant materials. In this final year, you will also conduct independent research through the creation and development of a year-long project. You are also offered numerous opportunities to work on professional performance industry projects with diverse, sector-leading professionals (choreographers, dance artists, directors, film makers, digital artists, dramaturgs, producers, community artists etc) in a wide variety of contexts in order to hone your chosen pathway further, taking on the different roles of performer, choreographer, educator or producer.

Optional Placement Sandwich Year

You will also have the opportunity to undertake a year-long sandwich placement year, for which you will be awarded a Diploma in Professional Studies. The placement year will take place between Year 2 and Year 3 of the course.

More information on the Placement Year and Diploma in Professional Studies can be found on our website.

You will have the opportunity to complete a placement in industry of at least 100 days / 20 weeks duration, either as one placement or split across five placements.

Students who opt to do the placement will be able to experience the pace, atmosphere and discipline of working within their chosen area, giving practical experience of the roles, functions and operations of the area of the industry they may wish to enter.

You will be expected to find your own placement, with support from staff at LCDS. There may, however, be opportunities for you to undertake your placement at The Place, for example with The Place's Classes & Courses team for children and young people or within our Producing & Touring or Artist Development teams. There may also be opportunities to work with The Place's network of partner schools and organisations.

What You Will Study

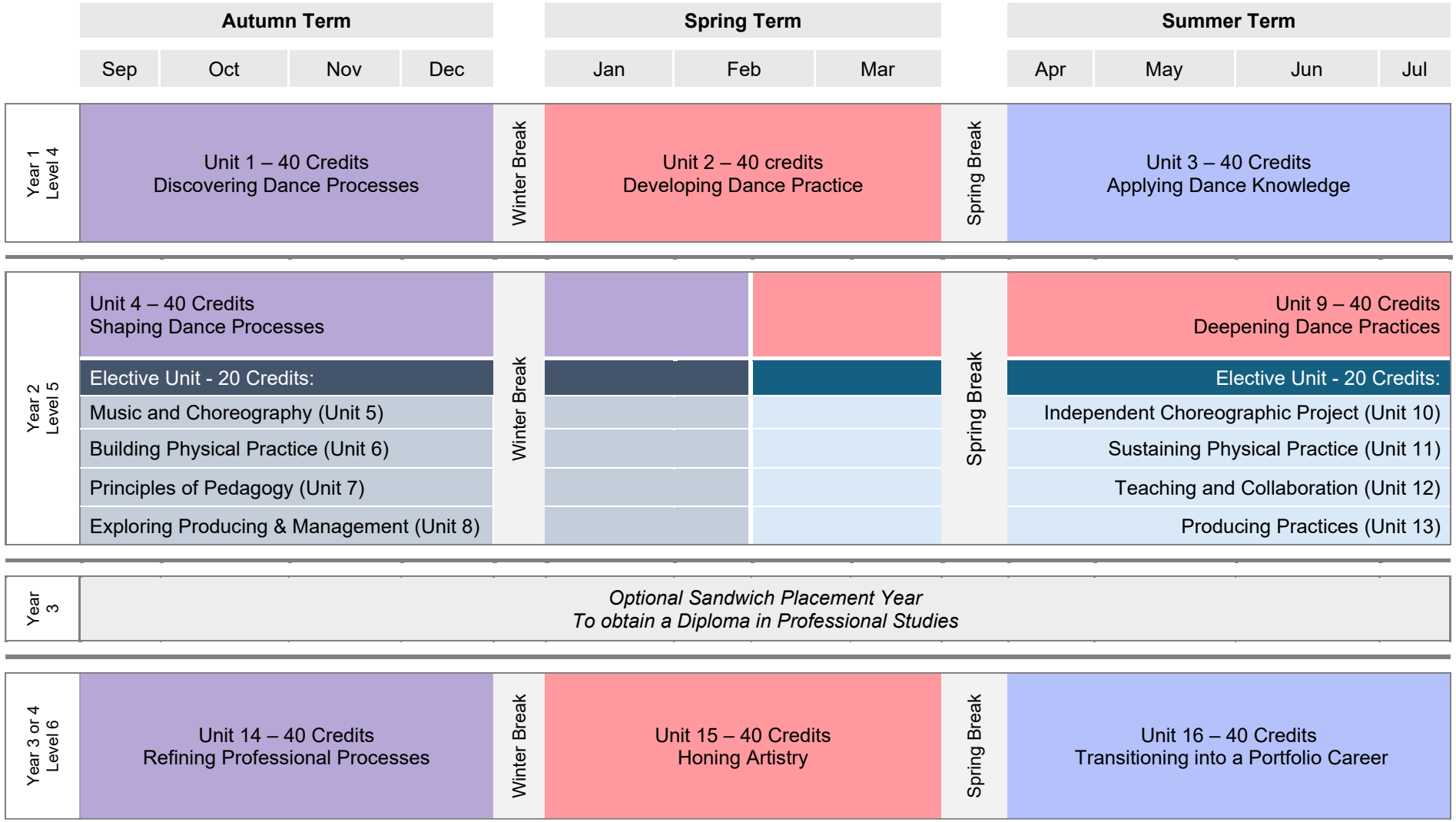
All students will study eight core units alongside two elective units, which you will select in your second year.

BA1	Unit 1 Discovering Dance Processes *40 credits* Unit 2 Developing Dance Practice *40 credits* Unit 3 Applying Dance Knowledge *40 credits*		
BA2 (Core Units)	Unit 4 Shaping Dance Processes *40 credits* Unit 9 Deepening Dance Practices *40 credits*		
BA2 (Elective Units)	**You will have a choice to elect 1 of the following blocks of 2 units*:**		
	Unit 5 Music and Choreography *20 credits*	**AND**	Unit 10 Independent Choreographic Project *20 credits*
	Unit 6 Building Physical Practice *20 credits*	**AND**	Unit 11 Sustaining Physical Practice *20 credits*
	Unit 7 Principles of Pedagogy *20 credits*	**AND**	Unit 12 Teaching and Collaboration *20 credits*
	Unit 8 Exploring Producing & Management *20 credits*	**AND**	Unit 13 Producing Practices *20 credits*
BA3	Unit 14 Refining Professional Processes *40 credits* Unit 15 Honing Artistry *40 credits* Unit 16 Transitioning into a Portfolio Career *40 credits*		

** It may be possible for you to make changes to the pathway you are on until mid BA2, subject to engagement in the learning process and achievement in prior units, and whether there are places available on the pathway.*

Course Diagram

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



Admissions Process

Admissions Process

You will be required to complete an application form via The Place website. You will then be invited to attend an Admissions Workshop (either in person or online), alongside an interview with the panel.

Selection criteria

- Ability to engage in creative processes, demonstrating imagination, resourcefulness and communication skills
- Understanding of dance in its wider context, i.e. awareness of critical issues relevant to specific dance practices
- Potential for development of technical capabilities and performance skills
- Awareness of career prospects in dance and the creative industries

Admissions onto the different course pathways

Places onto the pathways leading to a bracketed degree title are discussed through the admissions process. Tasks to assess suitability for the individual pathways are embedded within the Admissions Workshop and Interview.

It may be possible for you to delay choosing your pathway or to make changes to the pathway you are on until mid BA2, subject to engagement in the learning process and achievement in prior units, and whether there are places available on the pathway.

In order to be eligible for the bracketed degree title, you must complete the required elective units, placements and/or professional roles on collaborative, for example:

- 2 electives (BA2), plus professional role in at least 2 out of 3 multidisciplinary projects (BA3)

  or

- 1 elective (BA2), plus placement in professional role (sandwich year), plus professional role in at least 2 out of 3 multidisciplinary projects (BA3)

Entry Requirements

Dance Training

Potential students will have experience in contemporary dance and/or other dance forms, such as hip hop and associated styles, ballet, South Asian dance practices, and dances of the African diaspora. You may experience dance as a medium to express yourself and as a creative outlet. You also may have taken Dance at GCSE, A-Level or BTEC, or an equivalent overseas qualification. You are seriously considering a career in dance and the creative industries.

Academic Requirements

One or a combination of the following level 3 qualifications:

Passes in 2 A Levels	Pass at UAL Extended Diploma	Access to Higher Education Diploma
Pass, Pass, Pass (PPP) at BTEC Extended Diploma (preferred subjects include Dance, Performing Arts or Musical Theatre)	Equivalent EU/International qualifications, such as International Baccalaureate Diploma (24 points)	

AND three GCSE passes at grade 4 or above

English Language

IELTS level **6.0** with a minimum of **5.5** in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) and Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning AP(E)L

If you do not meet the minimum entry requirements above, you may still be considered through APL or AP(E)L.

APL may be considered if you have completed prior qualifications or training where the award obtained is equivalent.

AP(E)L may be considered if you have equivalent skills, knowledge and abilities gained though life or work experience.

Details of all qualifications currently held, or to be taken, should be included in your application alongside information on your knowledge and skillset. You may also be asked to provide further evidence such as a written statement, CV or additional references.

How You Will Learn

The key modes of learning and teaching centre around the following:

- Daily practical, studio-based classes in a variety of dance practices
- Workshops with professional practitioners and artists
- A range of seminars and lectures
- Independent learning through self-reflective practice
- Research and enquiry-based learning
- Project-based learning to enable you to take part in and lead creative and collaborative processes in a professional setting.

Your Hours

Your hours of study will be split across three, 12-week terms each year.

You will typically have on average 23 hours a week of face-to-face learning activity, which includes a mixture of practical classes, workshops and lectures/seminars. You will have timetabled classes 5 days a week, Monday – Friday, however you will usually have 2 short weeks each term with classes scheduled on 2-3 days. Your timetabled hours will vary throughout the course depending on the different projects you will be working on.

The course will run from **September 2027**, and will finish in **July 2030**, for those studying across three years, or **July 2031** for those studying across four years. For term dates for the 2027-28 academic year please see our website.

Assessment Methods

The course will increasingly favour holistic assessments throughout the course. Assessment methods will include:

- Portfolios of creative process and outcomes
- Blogs/vlogs
- Documentation of creative practice
- Lecture Demonstrations
- Films and Observations of embodied practice
- Continuous Assessment

Please email studentwellbeing@theplace.org.uk if you wish to speak to the Learning Support Coordinator about any Learning needs and support with assessments.

Staff Teaching on the Course

You can find out more about the current staff teaching on the course **here**.

You will be taught by exceptional teachers (many of whom are also practicing artists) and will includes Lecturers in Dance, Choreography and Improvisation, Contextual Studies, and Design. You will also work with a range of professional artists throughout the course on various projects. You may also have the opportunity to work with creative industry's leading organisations such as Wimbledon School of Art, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, National Centre for Circus Arts, Sadler's Wells and Central St Martins.

Your Health and Wellbeing

There are a range of student services available to you, providing a holistic approach to your physical and mental health and wellbeing. These include:

For more information on what each of these services provide, please see our website.

- Learning Support
- Disability Support
- Physical Support
- Mental Health Advisor
- Counselling

If you have any questions about the support offered, please email **Student Support.**

Course Costs

Course Fees

Fees for 2027/28 academic year are*:

£10,050	New UK Undergraduate 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

*The course fees are per year and will be increased in further years of study in line with inflation, or for Home fee paying students, in accordance with measures set by the Government.

Fees for the Optional Sandwich Placement year for the 2027/28 academic year are:

£2,010	UK Students
£4,800	Overseas students

Tuition Fee Deposit

Students paying overseas fees	Will need to pay a deposit of £1500 within 21 days of the date of the offer, in order to secure a place. 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.
UK Students not obtaining a UK tuition fee loan	
UK students who will be applying for a UK Tuition Fee Loan	You will not need to pay the deposit fee, all other terms and conditions remain the same.

Student Support Package

London Contemporary Dance School also offers a Student Support Package for an annual fee of **£62,** payable on registration / re-registration at the start of each academic year. More information can be

found on **our website**. This fee may may be increased in further years of study but will not exceed 5% in any one year.

Other extra costs

Other extra costs may include:

- The cost of your dance clothing over three years
- Trainers for use in the studio
- 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)
- The cost of materials which you may choose to use in your creative projects
- 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

Student Visa

Currently a student visa costs **£558** 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**.

Enhanced DBS Check

The BA course includes regulated activity and due to this an enhanced DBS check will need to be undertaken during the first year of study. The DBS check will be administered and paid for by LCDS.

Where it is determined that the results of the check would prevent you from being able to undertake the required regulated activity, LCDS will meet with you to discuss the alternative options available.

For full information please see the Criminal Records Policy, available here.

Location of Study

The majority of your studies will be held at The Place in Euston. However, there may be occasions when you have classes at The Place 2 – a venue 5 minutes walk from The Place in Euston, and houses two studios and a seminar space.

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.