

Programme Specification

1. Programme title	MA Dance Producing and Management
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a Teaching institution	London Studio Centre
3b Language of study	English
4a Valid intake dates	October
4b Mode and duration of study	Full Time – 1 year Part Time – 2 years
4c Delivery method	On-campus/Online
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body (if applicable)	N/A
6. Apprenticeship Standard (if applicable)	N/A
7. Final qualification(s) available	MA Dance Producing and Management, PG Dip Dance Producing and Management, PGCert Dance Producing and Management
8. Academic year effective from	2025/26

9. Criteria for admission to the programme
<p>Admission onto the programme is by application and interview, either in person or over an online meeting platform. The general entrance requirement for postgraduate study is a UK Honours degree classified at 2:2 or above. This degree does not need to be dance specific as qualifications and experience are assessed holistically. 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</p>

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 in producing and management
- 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

For applicants 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-yourapplication/postgraduate-application/english-language-requirements>

10. Aims of the Programme

The programme aims:

- to develop advanced skills in recognising, articulating, honing and realising 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 Learning Outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. arts management and business strategies for dance production

2. effective approaches to branding and marketing, which articulate and clearly communicate a dance work's artistic identity to its stakeholders
3. concepts and approaches to live stage production and digital dance work

B. Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

1. advance personal professional development using work-based learning and industry networks
2. negotiate and communicate professional roles and responsibilities autonomously and as part of a professional team
3. demonstrate resourcefulness and initiative within the planning and execution of dance producing projects
4. reflect critically on personal learning progress, identifying opportunities to expand creative, managerial, and collaborative skills in response to evolving industry practices

12. Teaching/learning methods

The teaching and learning strategy of the MA Dance Producing and Management is designed to blend theoretical knowledge with practical, real-world experience. Students gain advanced 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.

This teaching and learning strategy ensures students gain the skills, experience, and critical thinking required for careers in dance producing and management, with continuous feedback and personalised support to enhance learning outcomes. The learning, teaching and assessment approaches used throughout the programme will encourage students to be actively involved in their learning. In taught modules, these range from seminars and workshops to masterclasses and Q&A sessions lead by industry professionals. Each taught session will be supported by their own active preparation and reflection through independent research and study. Sharing thoughts and approaches with students and peers is central to these taught modules. Project-based work and work-based learning are designed to develop and refine student's skills and understanding and apply these in a real-world industry context.

Such active approaches aim to involve and engage the student in all aspects of their assessment and learning. The programme requires active participation in learning activities and engagement with fellow students both individually and collaboratively, working and learning with other students as part of a group. Learning activities also occur both within and outside the classroom. Students are guided to the list of essential and recommended learning materials that accompanies each module, but also will be expected to pursue their curiosity through independent research.

Learning is also supported by technology. Tutors use existing and emerging learning technologies to engage in e-learning activities. The programme is facilitated by using a variety of media and online tools, such as zoom, padlet, and DIVA (online learning environment), which allow flexible access to a diverse range of online resources and learning materials as well as collaborative tools. Not confined by the time and space associated with traditional teaching methods, students take part in online discussions and learning activities.

13. Employability

13a Development of graduate competencies

Please outline how graduate competencies will be developed and articulated throughout the programme.

The MA Dance Producing and Management aligns closely with Middlesex University's graduate competencies, preparing students to excel in the competitive and dynamic arts industry.

Leadership and Influence

The course develops leadership and influence by teaching students how to manage teams, oversee projects, and lead creative initiatives. Modules on leadership and team management provide students with the skills to inspire and guide teams, while practical projects such as managing live productions simulate real-world leadership challenges. Placements further enhance students' ability to influence and lead within professional environments.

Entrepreneurship

The programme fosters entrepreneurial thinking by encouraging students to develop their own creative projects, from concept to execution. Students learn how to identify opportunities, secure funding, and market productions effectively. Workshops on grant writing, business planning, and freelancing further prepare students to navigate the complexities of self-employment in the arts sector.

Communication, Empathy, and Inclusion

Effective communication is integral to the course, as students work collaboratively on production projects, placements, and group assignments. Modules emphasise clear communication with audiences, stakeholders, and creative teams. The course also promotes empathy and inclusion by exploring how to engage diverse audiences and foster accessibility in dance and the performing arts, aligning with the industry's push for greater diversity and representation.

Curiosity and Learning

The programme encourages curiosity and lifelong learning through its emphasis on research, critical inquiry, and reflective practice. Students undertake independent research projects or dissertations, allowing them to explore topics of personal interest and relevance to the industry. Masterclasses and guest lectures from industry professionals inspire students to stay curious and adapt to emerging trends in dance and production.

Collaborative Working

Collaboration is a cornerstone of the course, with group production projects and placements requiring students to work effectively with others. These experiences mirror industry dynamics, where producers, artists, and managers collaborate to bring productions to life. The mentorship programme and networking opportunities further reinforce the importance of building strong professional relationships.

13b Employability development

Employability is central to the course content and is embedded through a combination of curriculum design, practical experience, industry engagement, and professional development opportunities. The programme prepares students for diverse roles in the arts and cultural sector by ensuring they acquire the skills, networks, and experience required for career success. The programme also supports those already in employment and who are looking to further their

career options. Employability is also rigorously evaluated through feedback mechanisms and graduate outcomes.

Students undertake professional placements both internally within London Studio Centre and externally with a range of industry partners, including established dance companies, arts organisations, or independent producers. These placements provide hands-on experience in areas such as project management, marketing, or production, ensuring students gain industry-relevant skills. Placement performance is evaluated based on feedback from both students and host organisations, ensuring alignment with career goals and industry standards. Where students engage in placements in their current work environment, it is encouraged to enhance their learning and experience within a different department whilst on placement.

Students also engage with industry professionals through guest lectures and roundtable discussions. Opportunities to attend conferences, festivals, and networking events help students build valuable professional networks. Engagement with course alumni is also encouraged throughout the course.

Importantly, the course fosters resourcefulness and innovation by teaching students how to create and manage their own projects or productions. Workshops on freelancing, grant applications, interview preparation and career planning equip students to navigate self-employment and entrepreneurial ventures. Employability is measured by tracking graduate destinations, with a focus on the percentage employed in relevant roles within six months of completing the course. Regular consultations with industry partners also ensure the curriculum remains aligned with current trends and skill requirements. Graduate surveys and employment data are reviewed annually to assess the effectiveness of employability initiatives and make improvements.

13c Placement and work experience opportunities

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. Students will first undertake a placement in M707 within a live dance production. 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. Alternatively, you will bring forth recommendations of placement providers and/or current employers/networks. You should identify your personal learning needs and interests and select the placement providers to which you will apply on that basis. 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.

13d Future careers / progression

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.

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 programme 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 hold a range of resources on careers advice and build up a helpful portfolio of relevant information.

14. Assessment methods

Assessments on the MA Dance Producing & Management are designed to reflect real world scenarios. Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by written coursework, including a business plan, a marketing pitch, a reflective observer's account and a project plan. Skills are assessed by written coursework, including a reflective observer's account and a work placement self-evaluation, a production portfolio, and by an evaluative de-brief meeting with a placement provider.

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

15. Programme structure (level of study, modules, credits and progression requirements)

15a 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.

You may exit with a PGCert Dance Producing & Management after completing 60 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.

Full time structure – October intake

	Semester 1 October-December	Semester 2 January-April	Semester 3 May-September
Level 7 (Year 1)	M705: Producing Dance, Engaging Audiences (30 credits)	M707: Dance Production and the Digital Stage (60 credits)	
	M706: Dance, Business and Management (30 credits)	M708: Placement: Honing Industry Skills (60 credits)	

Indicative Part time structure – October intake

	Semester 1 October-December	Semester 2 January-April	Semester 3 May-September
Level 7 (Year 1)	M705: Producing Dance, Engaging Audiences (30 credits)	M707: Dance Production and the Digital Stage (60 credits)	

	Semester 1 October-December	Semester 2 January-April	Semester 3 May-September
Level 7 (Year 2)	M706: Dance, Business and Management (30 credits)	M708: Placement: Honing Industry Skills (60 credits)	

15b: Levels and Modules <i>Please list any modules that cannot be compensated, where applicable.</i>	
Level 7	
Compulsory (Core)	Progression requirements
Students must take all of the following: M705: Producing Dance, Engaging Audiences M706: Dance, Business and Management M707: Dance Production and the Digital Stage M708: Placement: Honing Industry Skills	Students must complete and pass M705: Producing Dance, Engaging Audiences and M706: Dance, Business and Management before they progress to the Dissertation equivalent module (M708: Placement: Honing Industry Skills).

15c: Non-compensatory modules <i>Please list any modules that cannot be compensated, where applicable.</i>	
Module level	Module code
Level 7	M707: Dance Production and the Digital Stage
Level 7	M708: Placement: Honing Industry Skills

16. Programme-specific support for learning

Learning Differences and Neurodivergent Conditions

London Studio Centre welcomes students with disabilities, learning differences, long-time illness, injury and neurodivergent conditions. If applicable, and supported by evidence, reasonable adjustments will be negotiated to support your learning and assessment.

LSC endeavours to provide accessible and inclusive education for all students. When additional support needs are identified for an individual student, reasonable adjustments can possibly address any specific differences creating barriers to learning. Additional support might include extra tutorials, study skills guidance, and/or assessment adjustments, as well as specific advice for understanding learning and processing differences.

Your learning needs can be discussed and possibly recorded as a Learning Support Agreement (LSA). An LSA outlines reasonable adjustments, notes about any specific barriers to learning, and offers advice for you and the teaching and assessment staff to ensure that your needs are being met to facilitate your academic progression.

If you suspect a learning difference (such as dyslexia), or a neurodivergent condition (such as Autism or ADHD), but lack a diagnosis or assessment, LSC will support you on a case-by-case basis and within the support structures available to us within the University regulations.

17. HECos code(s)

100643

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)

Dance, Drama and Performance (April 2024)
Master's Degrees in Business and
Management (March 2023)

19. University Regulations

This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: [Policies | Middlesex University](#)

London Studio Centre uses a 0-100 marking scheme for assessed work, which is explained in the Programme Handbook.

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. Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of learning

*Please reference any **non-standard methods** for reviewing and evaluating the quality of learning or **any modifications** to the standard approach.*

No non-standard methods.

22. Other information

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 they take 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.

23. Curriculum map for MA Dance Producing and Management

23a Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding	
On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:	
A1	Arts management and business strategies for dance production
A2	Effective approaches to branding and marketing, which articulate and clearly communicate a dance work's artistic identity to its stakeholders
A3	Concepts and approaches to live stage production and digital dance work
Skills	
On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:	
B1	Advance personal professional development using work-based learning and industry networks
B2	Negotiate and communicate professional roles and responsibilities autonomously and as part of a professional team
B3	Demonstrate resourcefulness and initiative within the planning and execution of dance producing projects
B4	Reflect critically on personal learning progress, identifying opportunities to expand creative, managerial, and collaborative skills in response to evolving industry practices

Programme learning outcomes												
A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	B4						
Highest level achieved by graduates												
7	7	7	7	7	7	7						

23b Mapping by level of study and module

Module Title	Module Code by Level of study	A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	B4
Level of study (year)								
Producing Dance, Engaging Audiences	M705		x				x	
Dance, Business and Management	M706	x					x	
Dance Production and the Digital Stage	M707			x	x	x	x	
Placement: Honing Industry Skills	M708				x	x	x	x