

Programme Specification Northern School of Contemporary Dance	
Programme Title:	MA Dance and Creative Enterprise
Teaching Institution:	Northern School of Contemporary Dance
Final Award:	MA Dance and Creative Enterprise (180 Credits)
Alternative Exit Awards:	PGDip Dance and Creative Enterprise (120 Credits) PGCert Dance and Creative Enterprise (60 Credits)
Credit Level:	7
Credits/ECTS value:	180 (90ECTS)
Modes of Delivery:	1 Year Full Time
QAA Benchmarks:	Dance, Drama and Performance (April 2024) The Frameworks for Higher Education (Feb 2024) – section 4.17 Descriptor for Level 7 (FHEQ)
Validation Date:	May 2025
Programme Start Date:	September 2026
Review Date:	May 2030

Programme Aims and Overview

The MA in Dance & Creative Enterprise is designed to enable students to realise both their creative and choreographic ideas and develop the professional skills necessary to establish their creative voice in the field. It focuses on developing their artistic identities in multiple roles, including as a maker, as an arts project manager, as a performer/creator and as producer.

Throughout, the programme of study enables students to work in individual and collaborative processes, as well as engaging with the entrepreneurial tools that will allow them to work effectively as independent dance artists and within portfolio careers. The programme offers the students a number of opportunities to showcase their work, allowing them to synergise the skills learnt as a creator and project manager.

The programme is designed to have relevance to both national and international students, with care given to ensure that the learning is relevant to a broad range of established and emerging contexts.

Programme Learning Outcomes Upon successful completion of this programme students will be able to:	
Level 7 - Stage 1	
PLO1-1	Students will be able to systematically interrogate artistic paradigms relevant to an emerging artist within contemporary dance and associated fields.
PLO1-2	Students will be able to articulate both practically and theoretically a comprehensive understanding of the devising of material, the development of choreographic ideas, and the realisation of work in performance.
PLO1-3	Students will be able to critically examine and analyse the opportunities and challenges within the areas of arts project management, fundraising and marketing.
PLO1-4	Students will be able to construct funding applications in line with expectations within the sector.
PLO1-5	Students will be able to situate their creative, artistic and academic work within the context of 21 st century contemporary dance and art.
Level 7 - Stage 2	
PLO2-1	Students will be able to organise, critically evaluate and synergise the relevant sources and critical thinking of a research area.
PLO2-2	Students will be able to frame and articulate an area of research based on a comprehensive understanding of applicable techniques and theories.
PLO2-3	Students will be able to utilise an appropriate research methodology to realise a research project with originality in the application of knowledge.

Programme Structure

The MA Dance and Creative Enterprise programme combines practical and theoretical teaching covering the key areas required to develop as a dance artist as a creator, practitioner and project manager. The Creative Practice and Arts Project Management, Fundraising and Marketing for Creative Industries modules acts as the central spine of the programme to synergise these two aspects of their learning.

The Creative Practice modules provide the student with opportunities to develop their creative practice both on their own body, as an outside eye as a choreographer and within group collaborative settings. This teaching builds upon studio practice, contextual studies and academic learning and enables them to both develop as an artist and also place their work within a critical context. These modules are supported by the learning within the Technical and Embodied Practice module which enables students to continue developing

their movement practice, enhancing their interpretive abilities, understanding of movement language and ability to develop, perform and analyse movement material.

The module Arts Project Management, Fundraising and Marketing for Creative Industries is designed to equip students with a range of advanced research and organisational tools to assist them in the initiation, planning, execution, management and evaluation of a project throughout all its phases. It will enable the student to explore arts project management alongside current funding structures and opportunities for generating income and resources for the Arts. This module will also explore how students can market and present themselves and their work, enabling them to create an artistic identity and visibility for themselves and their projects. It will explore both traditional and digital approaches to marketing relevant for emerging artists.

These stage 1 modules are designed to enable the student to process into the stage 2 module Research Project, where they will develop and evaluate an independently led piece of research as appropriate to level 7 MA work. This can take the form of practice-led research, lecture demonstration or a dissertation reflective of their learning to date. Practical outcomes will be supported by contextualising information as appropriate.

Module Structure				
Stage 1 (level 7)				
Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Core or Option	Pass Compulsory
NS7_CP3a	Creative Practice 1	15	Core	No
NS7_CP4a	Creative Practice 2	30	Core	No
NS7_AP1a	Arts Project Management, Fundraising and Marketing for Creative Industries	45	Core	Yes
NS7_TE1a	Technical and Embodied Practice	30	Core	No
Progression In order to progress onto stage 2, students need to complete 120 credits from stage 1, made up of 120 credits of core modules.				
Stage 2 (Level 7)				
Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Core or Option	Pass Compulsory
NS7_RP1a	Research Project	60	Core	Yes
Awards				

To be eligible for the award of MA, students need to complete 60 credits from stage 2, made up of 60 credits of core modules.

Exit Awards

Upon successful completion of 60 credits from any stage the student is eligible for the exit award of PGCert.

Upon successful completion of 120 credits from any stage the student is eligible for the exit award of PGDip.

Programme Learning Outcomes Module Mapping								
	PL01-1	PL01-2	PL01-3	PL01-4	PL01-5	PL02-1	PL02-2	PL02-3
NS7_CP3a	X	X						
NS7_CP4a	X	X			X			
NS7_AP1a	X		X	X				
NS7_TE1a	X				X			
NS_RP1a						X	X	X

Approach to Teaching

Teaching at NSCD is tailored to the nature of the modules being taken, often combining practical and theoretical learning to best prepare the student for the demands of the industry. Teaching methods include practical classes and workshops, rehearsal and performance, lectures, seminars and tutorials. All teaching takes place within industry-standard facilities.

Taught hours for each module reflect the nature of the module and current professional practice. For example, creation and rehearsal modules have intensive contact and studio time, whereas research projects combine lectures, workshops, tutorials with the independent study time needed to develop your research practice.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment on the MA Dance and Creative Enterprise programme contains a mix of practical work, simulated documentation (for example mock funding applications), academic and reflective work. Each assessment is designed to best tie in with current industry practice reflecting the demands of the current professional landscape, with an appropriate balance between the different assessment approaches across the modules, ensuring that students meet the demands of both academic and industry standards.

Where appropriate students are given a choice between different modes of submission for summative assessment, for example, practice-based, oral presentation, multi-media portfolios of work, written thesis. This is designed so that students can best articulate their

ideas, and as part of an inclusive assessment strategy. Wherever relevant, appropriate scrutiny is given to academic conventions.

Work-Based Learning and Placements:

There is no placement activity on this programme.

Student Support:

NSCD has comprehensive student support that covers 5 key elements: health and wellbeing support, academic support (including learner support provision), English-language support, financial assistance, and bodywork provision (including injury support & rehabilitation). Student progress and wellbeing is monitored through a number of processes including student review board, with student learning enhanced through use of our Virtual Learning Environment (currently NSCD Moodle). NSCD also offers careers guidance and advice, alongside robust safeguarding procedures.

Entry Profile:

Entry is through a successful application and interview. The programme is aimed at graduates of two/three-year dance training programmes at Higher Education level, or dance artists with professional experience and equivalent vocational dance training.

Candidates for whom English is not their native language will need to demonstrate a proficiency in written and spoken English relevant to the demands of the programme of study. This would normally be at least one of the following:

- IELTS for UKVI with an overall band of 6.0 with no less than 6 in Reading and Writing and no less than 5.5 in Speaking and Listening.
- Language Cert International ESOL SELT with 33– 37 per skill for Reading and Writing, 25-32 per skill for Speaking and Listening. 38 – 50 per skill to achieve 6.5 across all skills.

On entry the student will be able to demonstrate:

- an understanding of choreographic and creative skills with the potential to further refine and advance their understanding in these areas.
- the required level of academic skills to enable them to develop business, marketing and project management skills and apply these to a professional context.
- a commitment to developing their individual artistic voice while being receptive to new ideas and techniques
- the ability to critically reflect upon, appraise and respond to performance practice
- an approach to working that is collaborative, creative, reflective and evaluative