

MA Musical Theatre

Programme Specification

Awarding Institution:

University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)

Teaching Institution: Goldsmiths, University of London

Name of Final Award and Programme Title: MA Musical Theatre

Name of Interim Exit Award(s):

Postgraduate Certificate in Musical Theatre

Postgraduate Diploma in Musical Theatre

Duration of Programme: 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

UCAS Code(s): Not applicable

HECoS Code(s): (100035) Musical Theatre

QAA Benchmark Group: Not applicable

FHEQ Level of Award: Level 7

Programme accredited by: Not applicable

Date Programme Specification last updated/approved: December 2024

Home subject area: Theatre and Performance

Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Not applicable

Programme overview

The MA in Musical Theatre at Goldsmiths takes as its focus an examination of the field of musical dramaturgy, which is key to understanding both the genre's evolution and future development. Studied over one year full-time, or two years part-time, the degree will enhance your critical and practical skills in musical theatre as a popular entertainment genre and equip you with the analytical tools to enhance a critical understanding of musical theatre more widely.

Following one of three chosen pathways, all of which are supported by expert industry professionals, you will share some aspects of learning with students from alternative pathways, and also those studying at post-graduate level on other creative programmes within Goldsmiths.

The pathways available are:

1. Producer
2. Write/Composer
3. Performer

Programme entry requirements

Students will normally have an undergraduate degree in Arts, Humanities or Social Sciences, for example, drama, music, literature, dance or arts administration. Non-native speakers of English will need to achieve a score of IELTS (6.5) and will be encouraged to access the support and resources of the [Centre for Academic Language and Literacies](#). Applications will be processed by the Programme Director and, if necessary, interviews will be undertaken in person or by phone or video conferencing software.

Aims of the programme

This MA is a programme within Theatre and Performance and combines practice and theory in a way that serves the needs of both you, the student, and the creative arts industries. Over the last few decades, developments in Sociology and Cultural Studies have stimulated the widespread academic study of popular culture, so your study of musical theatre at Masters level benefits from the expanding discipline of musical theatre scholarship.

Musicals account for by far the major share of box office revenue in the West End too, so the employability prospects and socio-economic contexts of this degree will be a stimulus to your practical work, in addition to the technical and aesthetic understandings you acquire while studying with us. The programme promotes an informed understanding of the musical as genre and of musical theatre production as the core of the British commercial theatre sector.

The three pathways allow you to choose a specialist approach to your learning within the field of Music theatre:

1. Producers Pathway

If following the producers' pathway, your studies comprise a 60/40 theory/practice split. You will complete an analytic case study of a musical and work practically on a placement project as part of the Production Workshop module. The final project allows you to produce an original musical created by fellow students on the MA degree. All the assessments on this pathway allow you, as producers, the opportunity to experience the workings of the industry as well as encouraging critical reflection on the processes of production observed. This pathway shares some classes with the MA in Arts Administration and Cultural Policy.

2. Writer/Composers Pathway

The writer/composer pathway enables you, as an individual writer or composer, to collaborate on a creative project which culminates in the writing of a short original musical script or score to be performed to a public audience. The theoretical Modules will nurture your creativity with analysis of risk-taking milestones from other artists, while acquainting you with the structures, techniques and choices that lead to successful and innovative new musical theatre writing. Your studies comprise a 60/40 theory/practice split and all content builds towards both the mini-musical, created in groups, plus the final original musical of 45min duration.

3. Performers Pathway

The performers pathway will prepare you for performance opportunities in an expanded global practice of stage musical performance. The programme both focuses on the three core disciplines of acting, singing and dancing/movement, and also integrates creative practice, practice-based theory, and research. The weighting of the programme leans towards practical application with a 60% practical, 40% theoretical split, and the final project will encourage engagement with a range of industry partners and contacts. If you choose to follow the performers' pathway, you will be invited to audition either in person or via online platforms/performance tapes.

What you will be expected to achieve

The programme aims to provide a context for you to develop your own thinking about the musical theatre sector in an environment in which you will receive expert academic and professional supervision. You will engage with the key issues of the discipline and also develop a portfolio of work experience (Producers' Pathway) that can be used to build a career as a writer, composer, producer or performer of musical theatre.

Through course work and individual tutorials on the creative/research project, you will acquire knowledge and skills that will benefit your own creative process as writer, composer, producer or performer. The overview that the programme provides of the current state of the industry will enhance an understanding of the position of the freelance practitioner. The department maintains direct links with the industry through the regular employment of expert professional consultants and practitioners as Visiting Tutors; these links will form the basis for interaction between the industry and the academy that will enable graduates to act as agents of change within the industry. Group based work, with colleagues from a diversity of cultures/countries enables the development of an understanding and practice of communication and leadership skills for an increasingly globalised industry.

The programme's learning outcomes build upon your increasing familiarity and confidence with the diverse range of musical theatre structures and languages.

PGCert

For the Postgraduate Certificate to be awarded, modules to the value of at least 60 CATS will have been passed and **you will be able to successfully:**

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Critically analyse the historical development of the stage musical as an entertainment form	Genre Study Case Study
A2	Demonstrate a familiarity of the integrated dramaturgy including the various components of the musical (book, music, lyrics)	Genre Study Case Study
A3	Appraise techniques employed to effectively stage (acting, scenography, dance) a coherent production	Genre Study Case Study
A4	Evaluate the industrial and economic factors that determine the production of musicals in the British theatre	Genre Study Case Study

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Interrogate sub-text, patterns and nuance in the reading of critical commentary	Genre Study Case Study
B2	Distinguish relationships between material and formal factors of theatre production	Genre Study Case Study
B3	Evaluate aesthetic judgement	Genre Study Case Study

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Produce close readings of musical theatre texts as scenarios for performance	Genre Study Case Study

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Analyse and interpret creative and expressive work in a range of formats	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase
D2	Independently critique a variety of texts and expressive work	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study

PGDip

In order to be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma, modules to the value of 120 CATS will have been passed and you will be able to successfully:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Critically analyse the historical development of the stage musical as an entertainment form	Genre Study Case Study
A2	Demonstrate a familiarity of the integrated dramaturgy including the various components of the musical (book, music, lyrics)	Genre Study Case Study
A3	Appraise techniques employed to effectively stage (acting, scenography, dance) a coherent production	Genre Study Case Study
A4	Evaluate the industrial and economic factors that determine the production of musicals in the British theatre	Genre Study Case Study

A5	Criticise landmark musical theatre texts	Genre Study Case Study
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Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Interrogate sub-text, patterns and nuance in the reading of critical commentary	Genre Study Case Study
B2	Distinguish relationships between material and formal factors of theatre production	Genre Study Case Study
B3	Evaluate aesthetic judgement	Genre Study Case Study

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Produce close readings of musical theatre texts as scenarios for performance	Genre Study Case Study
C2	Design inventive approaches to the creative treatment of the form	Genre Study Case Study Acting the Song Dance for the Global Musical Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase
C3	Produce dramaturgical and musical compositions	Creative Workshop Production Workshop

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)

D1	Analyse and interpret creative and expressive work in a range of formats	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase
D2	Independently critique a variety of texts and expressive work	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study
D3	Manage complex sets of information in a range of contexts.	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase

MA

To be awarded the MA, a total of 180 CATS will have been passed and all the learning outcomes below will have been achieved. You will be able to successfully:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Critically analyse the historical development of the stage musical as an entertainment form	Genre Study Case Study
A2	Demonstrate a familiarity of the integrated dramaturgy including the various components of the musical (book, music, lyrics)	Genre Study Case Study
A3	Appraise techniques employed to effectively stage (acting, scenography, dance) a coherent production	Genre Study Case Study

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A4	Evaluate the industrial and economic factors that determine the production of musicals in the British theatre	Genre Study Case Study
A5	Criticise landmark musical theatre texts	Genre Study Case Study
A6	Critically appraise of a range of musical theatre styles and sub-genres	Genre Study Case Study

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Interrogate sub-text, patterns and nuance in the reading of critical commentary	Genre Study Case Study
B2	Distinguish relationships between material and formal factors of theatre production	Genre Study Case Study
B3	Evaluate aesthetic judgement	Genre Study Case Study

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Produce close readings of musical theatre texts as scenarios for performance	Genre Study Case Study
C2	Design inventive approaches to the creative treatment of the form	Genre Study Case Study Acting the Song Dance for the Global Musical Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase
C3	Produce dramaturgical and musical compositions	Creative Workshop Production Workshop

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C4	Collaborate effectively in the integration of musical, dramaturgical and lyrical elements of the genre	All modules
C5	Organise administrative/ tasks appropriately for effective and efficient production in Musical Theatre	Creative Workshop Production Workshop Performer Showcase

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Analyse and interpret creative and expressive work in a range of formats	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase
D2	Independently critique a variety of texts and expressive work	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study
D3	Manage complex sets of information in a range of contexts.	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase
D4	Develop creative skills for complex problem-solving	Case Study Genre Study Contextual module Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Project

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D5	Adapt behaviours based on self-reflection and self-evaluation	Case Study Genre Study Contextual module Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase
D6	Collaborate effectively in conceptual/creative work	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study Performer Showcase Production Workshop Creative Workshop
D7	Debate and persuade others of your creative ideas	Case Study Contextual module Genre Study Production Workshop Creative Workshop Performer Showcase

How you will learn

Lectures are delivered by members of established teaching staff and specialist Visiting Tutors with expert knowledge of specific fields and topics. Lectures alternate with seminar discussion which develops your ability to analyse and evaluate historical material. You will also learn how to interpret video and audio recordings of key performance texts through a combination of tutor-led discussion and student presentations.

A significant amount of learning will be achieved in group practical projects, while activities such as placements, which model the workplace environment, are designed to develop your individual communication skills and prepare you more fully for the industry.

VLE

We use the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) for the publication of module documentation and additional reference material. Communication is delivered via the VLE or email, and all students are enrolled with their own Goldsmiths email address.

Professional Expertise

Expertise is provided by departmental staff who are not only dedicated, experienced teachers but are also distinguished practitioners and researchers in their own right, working in national and international contexts. The programme draws on a large pool of visiting practitioners, academics and those working in the cultural sector to provide a breadth of expertise and contact with current practice.

Studying Musical Theatre in London

The UK has the largest musical theatre industry outside of New York City. Many of the production companies, theatres, producers, marketing and ticket agencies and festivals of musical theatre are based in London. These organisations provide a unique research and study resource. In addition, there are also further resources within industry support organisations such as MTN (Musical Theatre Network), Aria (Katy Lipson), Perfect Pitch, AMA (Arts Marketing Association), ITC (Independent Theatre Council), Mercury Musical Development and Audiences London, New UK Musicals and Backstage Niche.

International Perspective

Many students on the programme come from overseas and make a valuable contribution to the learning environment by providing an international perspective on cultural policy and cultural and creative issues from their respective countries. In addition, teachers on the programme have worked or continue to work as producers, directors, writers, composers and musical theatre consultants to the National Theatre; BBC Radio; the Cameron Macintosh Organisation; the Sondheim Society; NYMF (New York Musical Theatre Festival); the Ivor Novello Competition for New Musicals; the Cardiff International Festival of New Musicals; the Greenwich Theatre; the Vienna English Theatre. They also have considerable experience of working and researching in areas directly relevant to the programme in places such as Germany, Austria, Ireland, Italy, China, South Korea and the USA.

How you will be assessed

Marking Criteria

Your written work will be assessed in a manner appropriate to the requirements of any particular assignment. See also Specific Criteria related to specific modules.

In relation to assessed written coursework you are assessed with regard to:

1. an ability to write lucidly and with focused relevance;
2. an ability to identify and examine key issues in relation to the work in hand;
3. an ability to draw upon and evaluate primary and secondary sources as appropriate;
4. an ability to sustain a critical response through the development of coherent analysis;
5. evidence of insight, intelligence and stylistic aptitude in presenting written criticism;
6. an ability to present the required work in a clear and appropriate form;

In relation to the assessed producers' placement and project report students are further assessed with regard to:

1. an ability to reflect the organisation accurately in a written or report/plan format or both;
2. an ability to identify and examine key issues in relation to the company's work;
3. an ability to draw upon and evaluate primary and secondary sources as appropriate;
4. an ability to sustain a critical response through the development of coherent analysis;
5. an ability to gather information by means of observation, research and interview in order to analyse relevant production processes;

Marking criteria

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
80-100%	Distinction (Outstanding/ Exceptional)	To achieve 80% or over, the piece of work being assessed would need to demonstrate that the majority of the learning outcomes have been achieved to an Outstanding level. Marks in this category will be awarded for work which demonstrates a conceptual mastery of the material, is highly original and potentially shows new insights into both business and the application of creative process.
70-79%	Distinction	To achieve 70% or over, the piece of work being assessed would need to demonstrate that the majority of the learning outcomes have been achieved to an Excellent level (distinction threshold). Marks in this category will be awarded to work which shows conceptual and stylistic distinction; which features a secure and discriminating acquaintance with the field of study; which engages with the subject in a notably intelligent way; and which is clearly and accurately presented. The work

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
		will be of outstanding achievement in all or a consistent combination of the above areas.
60-69%	Merit	In order to achieve 60-69%, the piece or work being assessed would need to demonstrate that the majority of the learning outcomes have been achieved to a good extent. Some of the qualities of first-class work may be found in this category but the difference will be either of degree or realisation. The work will be characterised by soundness of argument or analysis, acquaintance with the field of study, coherence and relevance. The work should be of high merit in all these areas or considerable merit in some areas and a good standard in others.
50-59%	Pass	In order to achieve 50-59%, the piece of work being assessed would need to demonstrate that the majority of the appropriate learning outcomes have been achieved to a satisfactory extent. Marks in this range will reflect solid competence and achievement, although the work might be partial rather than consistent in clarity, precision and effectiveness. It might, for example, rely too heavily on secondary sources at the expense of personal critical activity; be insufficiently detailed; or tend towards description rather than analysis. The work should be of good standard in the areas listed in the classification above or good in some areas and of a satisfactory standard in others.
30-49%	Fail	Fail standard - the mark indicates that the work is below the standard of a Master's degree. The piece of work being assessed demonstrates that the majority of the outcomes have been achieved to a less than satisfactory extent. Marks in this range will reflect work that is significantly inconsistent or flawed in relation to all or some of the areas listed above.
10-29%	Bad fail	Represents a significant overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes at Masters standard.
1-9%	Very bad fail	A submission that does not even attempt to address the specified learning outcomes.
0%	Non submission or plagiarised	A categorical mark representing either the failure to submit an assessment or a mark assigned for a plagiarised assessment.

How the programme is structured

You will undertake four taught modules and a further creative project/dissertation component. Attendance is mandatory for all taught sections of the programme.

You will follow one of three pathways on the programme

1. Writers and Composers' Pathway

- a. Genre study – Autumn term and Spring terms 30 credits
- b. Case Study – Autumn and Spring terms 30 credits
- c. Musicals in Adaptation (Autumn term) 30 credits
- d. Creative workshop – Autumn, Spring and Summer terms 60 credits
- e. Contextual module – Autumn or Spring term 30 credits

2. Producers' Pathway

- a. Genre study – Autumn and Spring terms 30 credits
- b. Case Study – Autumn and Spring terms 30 credits
- c. Musicals in Adaptation (Autumn term) 30 credits
- d. Production workshop – Autumn, Spring and Summer terms 60 credits
- e. Contextual module -Autumn or Spring term 30 credits

3. Performers Pathway

- a. Genre study – Autumn and Spring terms 30 credits
- b. Case Study – Autumn and Spring terms 30 credits
- c. Musicals in Adaptation – Autumn term 30 credits
- d. Acting the Song on the Global Stage - Autumn term 15 credits
- e. Dance for the Global Musical - Autumn 15 credits
- f. Musical Theatre Performer Showcase - Spring and Summer terms 60 credits

Writers and Composers Pathway

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Genre Study	DR71034A	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Case Study	DR71035C	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Creative Workshop	DR71036B	60	7	Compulsory	1-3
Musicals in Adaptation	DR71049D	30	7	Compulsory	1
Contextual Option	Various	30	7	Optional	2

Producers Pathway

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Genre Study	DR71034A	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Case Study	DR71035C	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Production Workshop	DR71038C	60	7	Compulsory	1-3
Musicals in Adaptation	DR71049D	30	7	Compulsory	1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Contextual Option	Various	30	7	Optional	2

Performers Pathway

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Genre Study	DR71034A	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Case Study	DR71035C	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Musical Theatre Performer Showcase	tbc	60	7	Compulsory	2-3
Acting the Song on the Global Stage	tbc	15	7	Compulsory	1
Dance for the Global Musical	tbc	15	7	Compulsory	1
Contextual Option	various	30	7	Optional	2

Part-time study

1. Writers and Composers Pathway

Year One

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Genre Study	DR71034A	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Case Study	DR71035C	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Contextual Option	Various	30	7	Optional	2

Year Two

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Creative Workshop	DR71036B	60	7	Compulsory	1-3
Musicals in Adaptation	DR71049D	30	7	Compulsory	1

2. Producers Pathway

Year One

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Genre Study	DR71034A	30	7	Compulsory	1-2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Case Study	DR71035C	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Contextual Option	Various	30	7	Compulsory	1-3

Year Two

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Musicals in Adaptation	DR71049D	30	7	Compulsory	1
Production Workshop	DR71038C	60	7	Compulsory	1-3

3. Performers Pathway

Year One

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Genre Study	DR71034A	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Case Study	DR71035C	30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Acting the Song on the Global Stage	tbc	15	7	Compulsory	1
Dance for the Global Musical	tbc	15	7	Compulsory	1

Year Two

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Contextual Option	various	30	7	Compulsory	1 or 2
Musical Theatre Performer Showcase	tbc	60	7	Compulsory	2-3

Academic support

Support for learning and wellbeing is provided in a number of ways by departments and College support services who work collaboratively to ensure you get the right help to reach your best potential both academically and personally.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor (one in each department for joint programmes) who has overall responsibility for their individual progress and welfare. Personal Tutors

meet with their students at least twice a year either face-to-face, as part of a group and/or online. The first meeting normally takes place within the first few weeks of the autumn term. Personal Tutors are also available to students throughout the year of study. These meetings aim to discuss progress on modules, discussion of the academic discipline and reports from previous years if available (for continuing students). This provides an opportunity for progress, attendance and assessment marks to be reviewed and an informed discussion to take place about how to strengthen individual learning and success.

All students are also allocated a Senior Tutor to enable them to speak to an experienced academic member of staff about any issues which are negatively impacting their academic study, and which are beyond the normal scope of issues handled by Programme Convenors and Personal Tutors.

You will be provided with information about learning resources, the [Library](#) and information available on [Learn.gold \(VLE\)](#) so that you have access to department/ programme handbooks, programme information and related information and guidance.

Taught sessions and lectures provide overviews of themes, which students are encouraged to complement with intensive reading for presentation and discussion with peers at seminars. Assessments build on lectures and seminars, so students are expected to attend all taught sessions to build knowledge and their own understanding of their chosen discipline.

All assessed work is accompanied by some form of feedback to ensure that your work is always linked to the progress expected of the degree. It may come in a variety of forms ranging from written comments on a marked essay to oral and written feedback on developing projects and practice as you attend workshops.

Students may be referred to specialist student services by department staff or you may access support services independently. Information about support services is provided on the [Goldsmiths website](#) and for new students through new starter information and induction/Welcome Week. Any support recommendations that are made are agreed with the student and communicated to the department so that adjustments to learning and teaching are able to be implemented at a department level and students can be reassured that arrangements are in place. Opportunities are provided for students to review their support arrangements should their circumstances change. The [Disability](#) and [Wellbeing](#) Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

The [Careers Service](#) provides central support for skills enhancement, running [The Gold Award](#) scheme and other co-curricular activities that are accredited via the Higher Education Achievement Report ([HEAR](#)).

The [Centre for Academic Language and Literacies](#) supports academic departments, offering bespoke academic literacy and English language sessions. It also provides a programme of academic skills workshops and one-to-one provision for students throughout the year.

Links with employers, placement opportunities and career prospects

The programme is designed to develop skills that are ‘process based’ and can be applied in any cultural context. At least half the students on the programme come from countries outside of the EU and contribute their international knowledge and experience in particular to group projects where additional skills in intercultural communication are developed. This approach also provides alumni with an international network of professional colleagues. In addition, the programme is designed to attract early career professionals or those returning to working in cultural management or policy.

Students will study in both the interdisciplinary environment of Goldsmiths’ campus but also in London, one of the leading cities in the world where musical theatre not only plays a major part in the economy but has a global impact. Teachers on the MA pathway have extensive contacts with theatre producers and organisations (Polka Theatre, Jeff Wayne Company, the Beijing Dance Academy, the University of Shanghai Acting Academy the New Diorama Theatre, the Central Acting Academy, Beijing, Arts Educational Schools, Meryl Feires (the *Rocky Horror Show*), Musical Theatre Network, Mountview Academy, Mercury Musical Development, Adam Lenson Productions, Mike Dixon, Society of London Theatres et al.

The requirements of a Goldsmiths degree

All taught postgraduate degrees have a minimum total value of 180 credits and involve either one calendar year of full-time study, or 2 years part-time. Some programmes may extend over more than one calendar year and, when this is the case, they have a higher total credit value. Programmes are composed of individual modules, each of which has its own credit value. Part-time students normally take modules to the value of 90 credits each year. If a programme has a part-time pathway, the structure will be set out in the section “How the programme is structured” above. Normally all modules are at level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications.

More detailed information about the structure and requirements of a Goldsmiths degree is provided in the [Goldsmiths Qualifications and Credit Framework](#).

Modules

Modules are defined as:

- “Optional” – which can be chosen from a group of modules
- “Compulsory” – which must be taken as part of the degree

Progression

Some programmes may require students to pass specific modules prior to completion of the dissertation/major project (or equivalent). Additionally, where a programme of study extends beyond one calendar year, students may be required to pass specific modules in their first

year of study before progressing to the second year. Where this is the case, these requirements will be set out in this Programme Specification.

Award of the degree

In order to graduate, students must successfully complete all modules specified for the programme, as set out within the section “How the programme is structured” above.

Classification

Final degree classification is calculated on the basis of a student’s mean average mark (based on credit value) across all modules on the programme.

Masters degrees are awarded with the following classifications:

Distinction – 70%+

Merit – 60-69%

Pass – 50-59%

More detail on the [calculation of the final classification](#) is on our website.

Interim exit awards

Some programmes incorporate interim exit points of Postgraduate Certificate and/or Postgraduate Diploma, which may be awarded on the successful completion of modules to the minimum value of 60 credits or 120 credits respectively. The awards are made without classification.

When these awards are incorporated within the programme, the relevant learning outcomes and module requirements will be set out within the “What you will be expected to achieve” section above.

The above information is intended as a guide, with more detailed information available in the [Goldsmiths Academic Manual](#).

Programme-specific rules and facts

Part-time students must normally pass two modules taken in Year One before proceeding to Year Two.

General programme costs

In addition to your tuition fees, you will be responsible for meeting standard costs associated with your study. Find out more information at gold.ac.uk/programme-costs.

Specific programme costs

In addition to these standard costs, you will also be expected to meet some costs which are specifically related to your programme, which are set out below:

In completing your programme, you will be required to attend shows in the West End, and you will therefore be required to meet the costs of travel into central London.

How teaching quality will be monitored

Goldsmiths employs a number of methods to ensure and enhance the quality of learning and teaching on its programmes.

Programmes and modules are formally approved against national standards and are monitored throughout the year, such as in departmental committees, a variety of student feedback mechanisms and through the completion of module evaluation questionnaires. Every programme has at least one External Examiner who reviews comments annually on the standards of awards and student achievement. External Examiner(s) attend Boards of Examiners meetings and submit an annual written report.

Modules, programmes and/or departments are also subject to annual and periodic review internally, as well as periodic external scrutiny.

Quality assurance processes aim to ensure Goldsmiths' academic provision remains current, that the procedures to maintain the standards of the awards are working effectively and the quality of the learning opportunities and information provided to students and applicants is appropriate.

Detailed information on all these procedures is published on the [Quality Office web pages](#).