

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – MFA CHOREOGRAPHY

### KEY FACTS

<b>Programme:</b>	<b>MFA Choreography</b>
<b>Awarding Institution:</b>	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
<b>Type of study:</b>	Full Time / Part Time
<b>UK Credits:</b>	260
<b>ECTS:</b>	130

### OUTLINE

#### Summary Description

The programme consists of a series of modules the primary aim and focus of which is on your individual development as a choreographer, and thus one of its main aims is to challenge you to question your current artistic practice from a variety of perspectives. The programme comprises a taught element of 4 modules plus a further year of extended independent research of 140 credits.

#### The aims of the Programme are:

- To support critical reflection on practice and to allow further critical and research issues to emerge
- Offer opportunities for structured investigation and research in choreographic practice
- To support a culture of open dialogue within a secure environment which promotes critical feedback and an appreciation of appraisal and appropriate commentary
- Provide opportunities for collaborative exchanges with other artistic practice and encourage a reflexive attitude through collaborative encounters with other artists and art forms
- Provide a context to interrogate the student choreographers' current practice, engage in critical dialogue with their work from a variety of perspectives, and to review and define their individual fields of artistic interest
- Develop in students an appreciation that choreography is a continuous process of creation
- Enhance students' knowledge of choreography as a nexus of ideas, intentions, movement concerns and production values
- Enable students to develop as innovative, independent choreographers who will take initiative in contributing to the profession
- Enable students to challenge the existing boundaries of practice and to meet the changing realities of the professional field
- To foster a capacity for substantial independent research over an extended period of time

#### What will I be expected to achieve?

On successful completion of this programme, a student will be expected to be able to demonstrate:

#### Knowledge and understanding

- Demonstrate a high level of commitment to pursuing and developing creative choreographic concepts
- Demonstrate knowledge of studio practice, and, in those art forms informing dance practice, appreciate the logic, discipline and creative affinities of another medium
- Critically engage with key compositional practices and methodologies across a range of choreographic approaches

- Explore key choreographic concepts in choreography and art-making in 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> century, and critically consider their relevance to practice

### **Skills**

- Articulate and demonstrate how individual choreographic practice can be located within a wider artistic framework
- Work independently pursuing creative goals within unpredictable, speculative and specialised contexts, whilst maintaining a secure overview of individual practice
- Be self-reflective in choreographic practice and able to assess the value of others functioning within a directed or shared collaborative endeavour
- Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in choreographic practice as well as initiate, direct and co-direct appropriately, creative tasks for the performer/collaborator

### **Values and attitudes**

- Act independently and with originality within your own practice as well as engage effectively in collaborative, co-authored creative enterprise
- Make use of a synthesis of new approaches in your practice
- Appreciate how a multi-layered range of techniques / methodologies can be relevant to your choreographic practice
- Work effectively in conveying ideas to, and exploring creative principles and concepts with your co-collaborators and performers

### **How will I learn?**

A primary focus of the programme is to offer a series of learning and teaching scenarios which support students to develop as innovative, independent choreographers. Students are encouraged to take initiatives to review their current practice, and to engage in critical dialogue with their work from a variety of perspectives. The modules two of which are intensives, also support the student to review and redefine their individual fields of artistic interest. Two of the modules offered in the taught component provide opportunities for collaborative exchanges with other artistic practice and encourage a reflexive attitude through collaborative encounters with other artists and art forms.

The Extended Project undertaken in the second year offers a period of sustained enquiry and critical engagement

Overall number of learning and teaching hours: 1800 (for year 1)

Average contact hours: 220 (for year 1)

Other types of learning and number of learning hours required of students e.g. for self-directed study/group study etc: 1580 (for year 1)

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment is through a variety of modes which evaluate theory and practice, related to the realisation of choreographic ideas and practice as research.

These prepare you for engagement with the various modes in which the processes of choreographic practice and creative collaboration are realized and in which related inter-disciplinary concerns are critically examined and disseminated.

Assessment modes include: showings of work in progress with chaired question and answer forums; Presentation with chaired question and answer forums; the realisation of speculative research practice as performed event; which, test the ability of the student to develop as an independent, self-critical,

investigative artist, with the ability to critically reflect, synthesise and apply knowledge and understanding across both theory and practice.

### What do I have to do to pass?

You must achieve a pass mark of at least 50% (C-) in each module in order to pass the programme. The mark awarded will reflect the extent to which you have met the descriptors set out in the level 7 marking criteria.

Compensation (the award of credit for a failed module) may be awarded for no more than one module (up to 30 credits), provided that a mark of no less than 45% (D) has been achieved in the module to be compensated. Compensation is not permitted for the project.

### What award can I get?

#### Master of Fine Arts:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Taught	7	120	40
Dissertation	7	140	60

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
With Pass	50

#### Postgraduate Diploma:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Taught	7	120	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
With Pass	50

This Programme of study can lead to one of two awards:

The Master of Fine Arts Choreography, which requires you to pass 5 modules, M502C, M511, M512, M513 and M508C

Or the Postgraduate Diploma Choreography: this award requires you to pass 4 modules: M502C, M511, M512, M513.

## CONTENT

### What will I study?

#### Taught Modules

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Research Lab	M502C	30	Core	Yes	7
Examining Practice	M511	30	Core	Yes	7
Synergies and Transformations	M512	30	Core	Yes	7
Research and Development	M513	30	Core	Yes	7

## Project/Dissertation Module

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Project	M508C	140	Core	No	7

You are normally required to complete all the taught modules successfully before progressing to the project/dissertation.

## Structure

The programme commences at the beginning of September each academic year, and continues until the end of September of the second year. Study is only available full-time.

## Key Progression Points

The programme consists of a single part, however there is a progression point at the end of the taught programme (late summer term of the first year). Students who have yet to complete the taught modules due to failure or deferral may be required to complete any outstanding assessments before embarking on the project.

Where an assessment component is failed, one resit may be permitted by the Assessment Board. The mark will be capped at the minimum pass mark of 50% (C-). The date and mode of reassessment will be set by the Interim Assessment Panel or by the Assessment Board (depending on the timing of the assessment).

## CAREERS

Examples of graduate destinations include: Academic Research and PhD study; Assistant Professorships in National and International Universities; Co-founders and Choreographers of independent dance projects; Managerial positions in TV programming and content acquisition; Theatre and Opera direction; Freelance performing with major companies; and, Assistant Choreographer positions with major dance companies. Examples chart a number of different careers pathways that past students have followed (please see a selection of websites below).

<http://dance.arts.uci.edu/assistant-professor-dance>  
<http://www.armadillodanceproject.com/KA/Kathleya.htm>  
<http://www.teetkask.com/>  
<http://maciejkuzminski.com/>  
<http://www.aleksandarilic.rs/Home%20Eng.html>  
<https://chester.academia.edu/SarahLouiseSpies>

Alumni profiles can be found on the website: [www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-profiles?tag=2102](http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-profiles?tag=2102).

Comprehensive careers support is available for all Trinity Laban students and recent graduates, supported by a dedicated Careers Coordinator and our careers website: [www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/student-experience/careers](http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/student-experience/careers).

## STUDY ABROAD / WORK PLACEMENTS

### Study Abroad options

Not Available

### Placement options

Not Available

## ACCREDITATION AND PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

### Accrediting Body

Not available

## ADMISSIONS

### Entry Requirements

Applicants are expected to have a significant level of choreographic experience and/or an appropriate first degree (or an equivalent qualification).

Applicants without formal qualification are subject to the Institution's recognition of prior learning (RPL) process. Decisions are made by the RPL Panel with delegated authority from the Assessment Board. An External Examiner may decide to scrutinise the evidence supporting a claim as part of the Assessment Board process.

In addition, applicants should submit an initial project proposal, outlining the following:

- The reasons they wish to carry out an independent project over one academic year
- Their suitability for extended independent research in the context of an MFA Choreography
- The nature of their intended research and a draft projected timeline with indicated outputs of research (which is understandably subject to change)

An interview (phone/Skype interview is acceptable) will also be required.

Applicants for whom English is not their first language should demonstrate proficiency in English equivalent to IELTS 6.5 in all 4 areas or Trinity ISE III. Trinity Laban web site provides guidance on the standard expected by reference to acceptable English Language qualifications.

In addition, meeting external requirements of UK Visas and Immigration is essential.