

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION MA CREATIVE PRACTICE

<b>Programme</b>	<b>MA Creative Practice</b>
<b>Awarding Institution</b>	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
<b>Location of study</b>	Laban Building/Independent Dance/Siobhan Davies Dance
<b>Mode and duration</b>	1 year full time, 2 years part time
<b>UK Credits</b>	180
<b>ECTS</b>	90

### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The MA Creative Practice is designed to provide a flexible and bespoke programme of study, enabling you to choose from a range of modules delivered by Trinity Laban and our partner organisations, Independent Dance and Siobhan Davies Dance. Studio practice is supported by reflective and theoretical study; modules are devised to be conversant with one another, allowing for an interdisciplinary approach to the development and articulation of your individual research. The MA Creative Practice supports both emergent and professional (dance) artists and movement practitioners in the further development of their practice, facilitated by an environment of intellectual and creative enquiry.

The MA Creative Practice aims:

- To foster the development of a resourceful, self-motivated dance /movement artist through an extended period of sustained enquiry and critical engagement
- To develop you as a reflective practitioner who is critically aware of the reciprocity of theory and practice.
- To enable you to explore and interrogate creative practice in its many forms, taking account of the social, cultural, aesthetic and political contexts in which it is located.
- To develop your ability to address complex issues creatively and systematically, as well as the ability to problem-solve in a variety of artistic contexts through the engagement in practice based research, including collaborative projects.
- To enable you to rigorously develop and clearly articulate your individual practice as research
- To foster a capacity for in-depth independent research over a period of time

The MA Creative Practice offer is divided into two pathways: *Transdisciplinary* and *Dance Professional*. Through these tailored routes of study, opportunities are provided to embark upon research within a range of disciplines and (for the more experienced artist), to reflect upon your previous professional experience and its role in your ongoing learning. Areas of study incorporate a diverse range of perspectives, including theoretical and philosophical underpinning of arts practice, visual and body-based art, film making, writing, and somatic practice. Across both areas of focus, there are possibilities to engage in intensive studio-based learning experiences with significant artists and a professional peer group, to deepen your own practice as a performer/maker, develop your understanding of a range of research methodologies within the arts, and to pursue your own area of artistic interest through substantial independent research.

#### **MA Creative Practice: Transdisciplinary:**

The Programme comprises a taught element of 4 modules plus an independent project. Research Lab and Project are core and in addition you can choose 3 modules from the module menu in consultation with the Programme Leader to create a bespoke programme of study.

- There are no pre-requisites/co-requisites for undertaking the Transdisciplinary pathway
- Where eligible (determined through interview/audition), students can elect to do Embodied Practice as part of their taught programme of study.
- Students on the Transdisciplinary pathway are not eligible to undertake Investigative Practice (only available for Dance Professional Practice Students)

### **MA Creative Practice: Dance Professional:**

The pathway comprises a taught element of 4 modules plus an independent project. Research Lab, Project, Embodied Practice and Investigative Practice are all core to this path and in addition you can choose one further module from the module menu. Embodied Practice and Investigative Practice are delivered by our partner organisations: Siobhan Davies Dance and Independent Dance. This pathway is designed for dance professionals/movement practitioners/exceptional early graduates with a strong grounding in somatic practice.

- Completion of Embodied Practice is normally a pre-requisite for study on Investigative Practice

### **Independent Dance**

Independent Dance (ID) is an artist-led organisation based at Siobhan Davies Studios, providing a responsive framework to support, sustain and stimulate dance artists in their ongoing development as professionals. It provides a specialist and coherent programme offering opportunities to learn, deepen enquiry, share practice and exchange ideas as part of an interdependent international community. ID works to foster greater international exchange, raise the profile of independent artists' practice, and embraces opportunities that enable artists to interact with a wider artistic and cultural field and contribute to the growth and evolution of the art form.

### **Siobhan Davies Dance**

Siobhan Davies Dance is one of the UK's leading dance organisations. Based at Siobhan Davies Studios the company devises situations in which dance is recognised as a physical model of thought, one that can be experienced in the moment of its doing, whose choreographic information becomes part of a lasting and transferable knowledge, benefitting practices beyond dance.

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

### **Knowledge and understanding**

- Demonstrate critical awareness of techniques and methodologies for creating performance work in order to support creativity in practice-based research.
- Demonstrate an ability to synthesise and interpret complex ideas from a variety of perspectives
- Engage critically and practically with methods for creative practice, documentation and presentation.

### **Skills**

- Set frameworks for purposeful engagement in practice
- Propose, formulate and develop individual research.
- Locate and inform your creative practice through engagement with wider frameworks of artistic practice and existing bodies of knowledge

### **Values and attitudes**

- Engage in practical research as a means to interrogate complex, unpredictable or contradictory perspectives embedded in arts practice.
- Adopt a professional, reflective, and responsible attitude to your practice.
- Demonstrate a critical appreciation of the role that art plays in shaping the socio-political and cultural context.

## GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

Trinity Laban Graduate programmes prepare artists and practitioners to contribute to the leadership and future development of the global creative ecology in a sustainable and responsible way. Those who have participated in a graduate programme should be able to:

1. Investigate and interrogate their practices in relation to existing bodies of knowledge and associated theoretical, critical and creative contexts to understand how their practice is situated
2. Design systematic and creative research processes and practices, transferring these into a variety of practical and performance contexts
3. Adopt play and openness within research processes to compliment frameworks that enable purposeful engagement in practice
4. Demonstrate emergent original thinking, and understand how this relates to practice and the conceptualisation of work in their discipline
5. Develop significantly refined practice skills in order to produce socially and ethically aware processes and products, enabling the individual to participate as creative and artistic leaders and as global citizens

## CURRICULUM

### Key Progression Points

The programme consists of a single part, however there is a progression point at the end of the taught programme (summer term). 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 (or by the Interim Assessment Panel subject to confirmation by the Assessment Board). The mark will be capped at the minimum pass mark of 50%. 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).

### Options/Electives

#### MA Creative Practice: Transdisciplinary:

The programme commences in September each academic year, and continues until September of the following year (12 months) for full time students.

For part time students, the programme commences with registration in September and in Year 1 continues until the beginning of the summer term (depending on module choice). Study then recommences the following September for 12 consecutive months until completion of the Project module at the beginning of September the following year.

#### Core (compulsory) Modules:

Research Lab	30 credits
Project	60 credits

#### Elective Modules

You must select three elective modules (90 credits). The following is an indicative list of the electives available on the programme. Not all modules may be offered in any one year and there may be scheduling conflicts which may render some choices 'unavailable'

Self-Directed	30 credits
Performance Making	30 credits
Body, Space, Place	30 credits
Dance & the Moving Image	30 credits

Writing the Body 30 credits

*Embodied Practice* 30 credits

*Where eligible, students can elect to do Embodied Practice as part of their taught programme of study. (Eligibility is determined through interview/audition with Lead Tutor of the Dance Professional).*

### **MA Creative Practice: Dance Professional:**

The programme commences in September each academic year, and continues until September of the following year (12 months) for full time students.

For part time students, the programme commences with registration in September and in Year 1 continues until the beginning of the summer term (depending on module choice). Study then recommences the following September for 12 consecutive months until completion of the Project module at the beginning of September the following year.

#### **Core (compulsory) Modules**

Research Lab 30 credits

Embodied Practice 30 credits

Investigative Practice 30 credits

Project 60 credits

#### **Elective Modules**

You must select one elective modules (30 credits). The following is an indicative list of the electives available on the programme. Not all modules may be offered in any one year and there may be scheduling conflicts which may render some choices 'unavailable'

Self-Directed 30 credits

Performance Making 30 credits

Body, Space, Place 30 credits

Dance & the Moving Image 30 credits

Writing the Body 30 credits

#### **Taught Modules**

<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Credits</b>	<b>Core/Elective</b>	<b>Compensation Yes/No</b>	<b>Level</b>
Research Lab	D70002	30	Core	No	7
Self-Directed	D70009	30	Elective	Yes	7
Performance Making	D70021	30	Elective	Yes	7
Body, Space, Place	D70025	30	Elective	Yes	7
Dance & the Moving Image	D70026	30	Elective	Yes	7
Writing the Body	D70027	30	Elective	Yes	7
Embodied Practice	D70028	30	dependent on route of study	No for DP/Yes for TD	7
Investigative Practice	D70029	30	Core (DP only)	No	7

## Project/Dissertation Module

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Project	D70006	60	Core	No	7

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

### Pre and Co-requisites

Not applicable

## LEARNING AND TEACHING

**Total contact hours: 220 hours**

The **MA Creative Practice** assumes 1800 notional learning and teaching hours with average contact time of approximately 55 hours per module (naturally this will vary depending on your selected modules, please refer to individual module specifications to determine precise number of hours per module).

**Total self-directed study hours: 1580 hours**

**Total learning and teaching hours: 1800 hours**

### Learning and teaching methods

Depending on the modules you select, learning will take place in a variety of different contexts including taught sessions or lectures, workshops, seminars, in studio tutorials, and individual study and research. All studio based modules encourage reflection and peer review through sharing of practice. Teaching embraces different learning styles, allowing for a flexibility of response to your needs and abilities. The introduction of visiting lecturers and artists allows you to encounter a variety of views and approaches from current fields of practice.

### Placements and Exchanges

Not available

## ASSESSMENT

### Overview

The majority of modules are assessed within a practice-based format, often by performance or presentation with supporting reflective/contextual documentation. Usually, following a practical assessment task, there will be an opportunity to discuss the work presented with tutors. This is normally led by tutors but also includes opportunities for peer involvement. Assessors will examine the submitted supporting documentation as part of the assessment. In some modules, the assessment task is wholly written in the form of an essay or proposal and does not include a practical component. For all assessment tasks you will be assessed according to your ability to meet the learning outcomes for the module, and against any specific assessment criteria provided.

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

You must achieve a pass mark of at least 50% in each module taken 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% has been achieved in the module to be compensated. Compensation is not permitted for Project, Research Lab, Embodied Practice (unless on TD programme) and Investigative Practice.

Certain modules may be compensated at the discretion of the assessment board. Compensation is the award of credit for a failed module on the basis of good performance in other modules.

Compensation may only be applied to the following modules:

- Body, Space, Place
- Performance Making
- Dance & the Moving Image
- Self-Directed
- Writing the Body
- Embodied Practice (Transdisciplinary only)

Rules applying to compensation can be found in the Assessment Regulations for Taught Programmes.

## AWARDS

Award	HE Level	Credits
Master of Arts	7	180
Postgraduate Diploma	7	120
Postgraduate Certificate	7	60

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

All modules contribute to the overall aggregate mark and are weighted according to credit.

## ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Applicants are expected to have an appropriate first degree (or an equivalent qualification) or 5 years' professional experience. Applicants who do not meet the standard entry requirements are invited to complete a recognition of prior learning (RPL) process to establish their suitability for level 7 study.

Entry to the programme is dependent upon selection at audition. If the applicant's practice is in dance/dance theatre, they would upload or provide an online link to choreographed work that they have created or an excerpt of a rehearsal, workshop or class in which they are an active participant. Applicants should also include; commentary on the material presented, and on the process for its creation/devising/realization. If their practice is in an other art form, they should upload or provide an online link to; material evidence of your dance/movement ability; and substantial evidence of current artistic practice (such as design portfolio, scripts, evidence of theatre direction, acting involvement, etc.). The visual material must be accompanied by explanatory notes that set the context of the material.

Applicants for whom English is not their first language should demonstrate proficiency in English equivalent to IELTS 6.5 in all four areas. Trinity Laban website 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.