

Course record information

Name and level of final award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters of Research - MRes Creative Media Practice <p>The award is Bologna FQ-EHEA second cycle degree or diploma compatible</p>
Name and level of intermediate awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate Certificate (Pg Cert) - Creative Practice
Awarding body/institution	University of Westminster
Teaching institution	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution	Recognised Body
Location of delivery	Primary: Harrow Secondary/Tertiary Locations: All University campuses as applicable
Language of delivery and assessment	English
QAA subject benchmarking group(s)	N/A
Professional statutory or regulatory body	N/A
Westminster course title, mode of attendance and standard length	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters of Research Creative Practice FT, Full-time, September start - 1 year standard length • Masters of Research Creative Practice PT, Part-time day, September start - 2 years standard length
Valid for cohorts	From 2017/8

Admissions requirements

There are standard minimum entry requirements for all postgraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information. For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements. More information can be found here: <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply>.

Aims of the programme

The MRES in Creative Practice engages you in the research expertise and scholarship of Westminster University's internationally recognised practice-based research environment, to support you to realise a major creative research project. The course will enable you to:

- undertake and realise a substantial creative research project;
- utilise advanced critical and creative skills for the implementation of a practice-led creative research project;
- demonstrate at an advanced level the ability to identify the key requirements for the practical and critical implementation of a creative research project;
- attain in depth knowledge and understanding of key theories, methodologies and practices to support the implementation of a major work of creative research practice
- develop critical insights and a reflexive approach to independently manage and realise a substantial creative research project
- exercise the capacity to communicate knowledgeably, effectively and creatively to an advanced level through written and other presentational modes and exhibition;

Employment and further study opportunities

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e. employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- Career development skills are embedded in all courses
- Opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students
- Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision
- Staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students.

What will you be expected to achieve?

Course learning outcomes

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning.

These are threshold statements of achievement the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

The overall knowledge and understanding you will gain from your course (KU)

Graduate attributes are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA)

Professional and personal practice learning outcomes are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (PPP)

Key transferable skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course. (KTS)

Level 7 course learning outcomes: upon completion of Level 7 you will be able to:

- KTS1 Solve problems in a systematic and rigorous way, informed by relevant knowledge, and use of appropriate tools and techniques. (KTS)
- KTS2 Act autonomously in initiating, planning and implementing a major creative project. (KTS)
- KTS3 Apply interpersonal and collaborative skills to enhance performance. (KTS)
- KTS4 Demonstrate advanced skills in creative research through applied critical thinking. (KTS)
- KU1 Critically assess and implement fundamental and specialist concepts and ideas in creative practice-led research to an advanced level. (KU)
- KU2 Demonstrate a high level capacity for advanced critical thinking and awareness of current research and research-related issues in creative, critical and professional practice. (KU)
- KU3 Prove ability to employ advanced and complex research methodologies in creative practice. (KU)
- KU4 Autonomously develop and examine in-depth research questions through the production of a major creative project. (KU)
- SS1 Conduct a major piece of creative practice research to a standard of academic and professional excellence. (SS)
- SS2 Formulate a thorough and well-developed rationale for undertaking a particular piece of creative practice research. (SS)
- SS3 Articulate in-depth and conceptually rigorous research methodologies for the realization of a creative practice-led project (SS)
- SS4 Explain and defend, both orally and in writing, a substantial piece of creative practice research (SS)

How will you learn?

Learning methods

The course builds on the unique cross-disciplinary practice led research environment in the University of Westminster, in particular through the Centre for Research and Education in Arts and Media (CREAM).

You will work alongside CREAM's doctoral level research community, access a module relevant to your research project selected from the range of the Masters programmes in the School of Media, Arts and Design, and engage with research professionals in your field and more widely.

The course provides:

Learning

- Independent research opportunities
- inductions and workshops;
- individual and group tutorials;
- presentations and discussion forums;
- peer-led reading groups;
- self critical and peer led evaluation;
- off site visits and fieldtrips;
- online and physical learning resources.

Teaching methods

- Lectures and seminars
- Workshops;
- guest speakers;
- visiting practitioners;
- symposia.

Assessment methods

Formative and Summative via:

- project proposal development
- delivery of a project proposal document
- observation of research and preparatory work
- reflective essays
- verbal and visual presentations
- realisation and exhibition of final project
- critical reflection
- oral examination

Course Structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits per year. Additional free text information on the choices may also be included, for example where students must choose one of two modules.. Course structures can be subject to change each academic year following feedback from a variety of sources.

Modules

Level 7

The elective module (20 credit Masters level module) is selected from the PG Masters portfolio of options, chosen in consultation with and agreed by the course leader (Trimester 1 or 2)

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
7CTAD008W	Creative Practice Research Methodologies	Core	1	20	10
7CTAD007W	Creative Practice Research Project	Core	2	140	70
		Elective	1	20	10

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. In addition, timetabling and limited spaces may mean you cannot register for your first choice of option modules.

Professional body accreditation or other external references

Course management

The MRes in Creative Practice is administered from within the Centre for Research and Education in Arts and Media (CREAM) and you will work closely alongside CREAM doctoral students and other postgraduate research and taught students from within the Westminster School of Arts in the College of Design, Creative and Digital Industries. You will be allocated a supervisor from CREAM's team of research professionals, taking account of your particular research project proposal, and will receive overall supervision and tutorial support from the MRes Course Leader. The management structure supporting the course is as follows:

- Dr Lucy Reynolds is the Course Leader responsible for the day-to-day running and management of the course and review and development of the curriculum. Lucy can be contacted by email: reynoll@westminster.ac.uk
- Head of School of Arts, TBC
- Janet Jones - Head of College, overall responsibility for the course and for other courses run in the College.

The Course Leader is responsible for:

- Admissions processes;
- approving students' programme of study;
- organising tutorials, supervisory support and pastoral care;
- organising and allocating project supervision;
- co-ordinating marks for assessment boards;
- general management of the course.

The Course Team reviews and develops the course and sets the framework within which all members of the course team participate. The course supervisory team for MRes Creative Practice includes: Dr Lucy Reynolds, Dr Roshini Kempadoo, Reader and Co-ordinator of the CREAM PhD programme, course and module leaders as appropriate to your chosen options. For more information about this course please contact the course leader Dr Lucy Reynolds.

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations.

Course specific regulations apply to some courses.

Academic Support

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you

will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Campus Registry. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or Director of Studies. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students. Further information on Blackboard can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/studies/your-student-journey/when-you-arrive/blackboard>

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend Study Skills workshops and one to one appointments. Further information on the Academic Learning Development Centre can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development).

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught in their College. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

Support Services

The University of Westminster Student and Academic Services department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. Further information on the advice available to students can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/student-advice>.

The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University. Further information on UWSU can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/students-union>

How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel. University Panels normally include internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university, a representative from industry and a Student Advisor.

The course is also monitored each year by the College to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the evidence of student surveys, student progression and achievement and reports from external examiners, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the course and make changes where necessary.

A Course revalidation takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Students meet with revalidation panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

How do we act on student feedback?

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways.

- Through student engagement activities at Course/Module level, students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Course representatives are elected to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the course representatives.
- There are also School Representatives appointed jointly by the University and the Students' Union who meet with senior School staff to discuss wider issues affecting student experience across the School. Student representatives are also represented on key College and University committees.;
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- Final year Undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.

This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes

that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate, if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification is supplemented by the Course Handbook, Module proforma and Module Handbooks provided to students. Copyright in this document belongs to the University of Westminster. All rights are reserved. This document is for personal use only and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose, either in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the University of Westminster. All copies of this document must incorporate this Copyright Notice – 2022©