PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme name</th>
<th>Professional Dance &amp; Musical Theatre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exit Awards</td>
<td>BA (Ord), Dip HE, Cert HE, N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>School of Communication &amp; Creativity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department or equivalent</td>
<td>Department of Performing Arts</td>
</tr>
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<td>UCAS Code</td>
<td>W4UA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programme code</td>
<td>USPDMT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type of study</td>
<td>Full-Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total UK credits</td>
<td>360</td>
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<td>Total ECTS</td>
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PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The BA (Hons) Professional Dance and Musical Theatre is a high calibre vocational programme which will equip you for a career in the entertainment industry. The three-year programme offers intensive specialist training in dance, singing and acting. Our aim is to prepare you with excellent employment skills suitable for the professional performing arts industry, including musicals (West End and touring), dance companies, television, theatre and education.

The ultimate goal of the programme is to provide you with a variety of performance opportunities, including dance productions, musicals and off site showcases. This includes the opportunity to take part in the annual Summer Show, full-length public productions of musicals, and an agent/industry showcase.

All members of the teaching faculty at the academy have worked professionally and are all experienced teachers. Urdang Academy has always encouraged strong links with practicing professionals, which not only keeps the training in line with the current requirements of West End directors and choreographers, but also provides a professional approach to the core curriculum which results in producing a rounded performer with a thorough understanding of the entertainment industry.

Graduates go onto to appear in a range of musicals, including *Everybody’s Talking About Jamie*, *Les Miserables*, *The Lion King*, *Mary Poppins*, *Aladdin*, *Fame*, *9 to 5*, amongst others, as well as appearing on television and film, on cruise ships and in pantomimes. Graduates have also gone onto study further at post-graduate level in a range of research areas.

In the first year of study you will study all disciplines in order to develop skills in the fundamental skills required for dance and musical theatre. These include: **Dance**: Ballet, Contemporary, Jazz, Street/Commercial and Tap; **Musical Theatre**: Singing Technique, Singing Repertoire, Acting, Acting Through Song, Voice, Articulation and Accent; **Performance**: Integrated Performance and Choreography; and, **Contextual and Critical Studies**: Healthier Performer, Music Theory for the Performer, Dance History and Musical Theatre History.

After the first year, you may choose a more focused study track: triple threat training, singer/acting focus or a more dance-based focus. This allows you to choose a direction of study in the second and third year of the course that is in line with your skills, abilities and
likely destination. These tracks give the opportunity to explore your strengths and passions in
greater detail and opens the degree to work towards where your strengths lie in one or more
specialist areas.

**Track A:** This track is designed to support students who are suited to all aspects of Musical
Theatre i.e. singing, acting and dance. There is an equal emphasis on Musical Theatre
subjects and Dance disciplines. On this track you are expected to reach an exceptional level
in all the disciplines of singing, acting and dance.

**Track B:** This track aims to produce the most versatile dancers for the current industry. This
course is heavily weighted towards Dance, with Musical Theatre being used as a supporting
subject to maintain basic singing and acting skills. You are expected to reach an exceptional
level in all dance disciplines.

**Track C:** This track is designed to support those students who will predominantly follow acting
and singing based musical theatre careers. This course is heavily weighted towards Musical
Theatre disciplines; dance being used as a supporting discipline to maintain strength and core
stability. This track has a strong emphasis towards performance in both Acting and Musical
Theatre. On this track you are expected to reach an exceptional level in Singing and Acting
modules.

**Aims**

This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Gain practical skills in dance, singing, acting and musical theatre performance
- Participate in a range of dance and musical theatre productions for public performance
- Develop your performance skills to professional level
- Gain understanding of the cultural and historical developments in dance and music
- Understand the role and functions of professional dance and musical theatre
- Understand the leading theories and principal techniques within professional dance
  and musical theatre
- Gain choreographic skills and implement them in your own choreography
- Complete independent research projects in dance and musical theatre
- Network with professional dance and musical theatre artists and organizations

The intensive and vocational is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Train with leading practitioners through close links with the performance industry.
- Train in a professional environment.
- Increase your knowledge base and understanding in all areas of Dance and Musical
  Theatre.
- Create strong foundations for a successful and lifelong career within the industry.
- Work with likeminded people.
- Prepare you with the confidence and equip you with a strong set of specialist and
  transferable skills for direct access to prestigious employment, such as West End and
touring musicals, commercial dance and television.
- Deepen your awareness of the industry to give you exclusive opportunities but also
  enable you to become a versatile individual in exciting and diverse contexts.
WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

The programme corresponds to Level 6 of the FHEQ. Students are encouraged to develop skills as practitioners across Musical Theatre and Dance disciplines, alongside engagements with key contextual and critical frameworks and through practice-as-research. These conceptual and creative understandings enable students to devise and sustain arguments and solve problems successfully. Through the integration of practice and theory, these skills are manifest in both more contextual outputs, such as essays and presentations, as well as in performance and embodied practice. Students are encouraged to engage with current research in the field of Performing Arts and accrue the skills to appropriately describe and comment upon that work.

The Learning Outcomes also seek to make students aware of their personal responsibility, codes of conduct and expectations of professionalism within the field and the ethical implications of their work and that of others. Students are encouraged to develop the ability to interact confidently in group projects of varying sizes, so that successful collaborations can emerge from interdisciplinary methodologies. They have increasing opportunities to negotiate with others, taking responsibility for their work and managing their own workloads efficiently and effectively. The course enables students to become confident, independent researchers who can appropriately select and manage information, utilising information technology whenever it is relevant.

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the following areas:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Dance and musical theatre performance through building practical, technical skills and engagement with a range of styles;
- Different critical and theoretical approaches in the study of the performing arts as process and product, and of the cultural and historical contexts that inform their development;
- The creative and practical processes involved in the production of musical theatre and other performance outputs
- Choreographic devices and structures.

Skills:

- Creative approaches to dance and musical theatre choreography through a range of styles;
- Critical reflection skills through self, peer and group evaluation, demonstrating self-awareness and self-direction;
- Professional level skills in singing, acting and a range of dance styles;
- Professional level skills in theatre performance;
- The ability to work independently, both practically and intellectually, and in combination with other theatre art forms;
- Skills in leadership, negotiation and listening in collaborative and performance environments;
• Effective skills of communication, both written and oral, and the ability to apply these in appropriate contexts, including the ability to present sustained and persuasive written and oral arguments cogently and coherently; the ability to write correctly and effectively in appropriate academic prose and to apply an understanding of the qualities valued in a scholarly essay;
• The ability to work with and in relation to others through collaborative and performance practice, the presentation of ideas and information, and the collective negotiation of solutions;
• Time-management and organisational skills, as shown by the ability to plan and present conclusions effectively in unseen examinations, the ability to carry out a substantial piece of independent research and to present it in writing, and the ability to budget time and prioritise work to meet deadlines.

Values and attitudes:

Demonstrate the following values and attitudes:

• Understand, respect and engage with those who do not share your own views and opinions
• Produce performance or written materials that indicate in a precise and honest manner what is your own work and what is attributable to others.
• Demonstrate a habit of reflection and independent study, the capacity to identify and question your own assumptions, to work with rigour and consistency, and appreciate the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge.

This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA Subject Benchmark for Performing Arts.

HOW WILL I LEARN?
This section should -
• indicate how the learning and teaching methods support the broad aims and learning outcomes of the course and the rationale for their use (including face to face, online and self-directed)
• articulate the values and philosophy that underpin the teaching
• refer to the variety of learning and teaching strategies and activities which will create an inclusive learning environment
• include a description of formative assessments
• include an overview of how students will receive feedback on their formative and summative assessment, and how they will be encouraged to engage with it
• include any distinctive or innovative features of the course
• be written in an accessible way that students will understand

The overall number of learning and teaching hours and the breakdown of hours related to the above methods, is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Method (% split)</th>
<th>Learning and Teaching (% split)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programme year</td>
<td>Written</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st year</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</table>
WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

Assessment in most cases is by means of performance work and coursework. Coursework may consist of standard essays, individual and group presentations, group reports, classwork, and portfolios. Performance work may consist of solo performance, group performance, self-devised performance, directed performance or performance based upon a research topic.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at: https://www.city.ac.uk/about/education/quality-manual/6-assessment

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits. You also need to pass each Programme Stage of your Programme in order to progress to the following Programme Stage. Programme Stages will be equally weighted across all three years, as each stage is valued at 120 credits, and all are required to be completed in order to successfully progress to the next stage.

The pass mark for each module is 40%. Please insert a statement saying whether some or all modules require students to achieve a minimum qualifying mark in the different assessment components within those modules and, if so, what the rule is/whether the details will be found in the module specification.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:
1. Compensation: where you fail up to a total of one sixth of the total credits of a Programme Stage at first or resit attempt, you may be allowed compensation if:
   • Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the What will I Study section of the programme specification), and
   • It can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme Stage, and
   • A minimum overall mark of no more than 10% below the module pass mark has been achieved in the module to be compensated, and
   • An aggregate mark of 40% has been achieved for the Programme Stage.

Where you are eligible for compensation at the first attempt, this will be applied in the first instance rather than offering a resit opportunity.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your original module mark will be used for the purpose of your Award calculation.

2. Resit: where you are not eligible for compensation at the first attempt, you will be offered one resit attempt.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress to the next Programme Stage and the Assessment Board will require you to be withdrawn from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Programme Stage or the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at: https://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/453652/s19.pdf

WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Bachelor’s Degree with Honours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme Stage</th>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>70</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>II upper division</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>II lower division</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>III</td>
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Ordinary Degree:
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<th>Programme Stage</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
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<tr>
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<td>120</td>
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<td>With Distinction</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Without classification</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
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Diploma of Higher Education:

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<th>Programme Stage</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td>Without classification</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>70</td>
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Certificate of Higher Education:

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<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Without classification</td>
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**WHAT WILL I STUDY?**

Programme Stage 1
In order to pass Programme Stage 1, you must pass all of the core modules detailed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Module Credits</th>
<th>Core/Elective</th>
<th>Compensation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Dance 1</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Core</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musical Theatre 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>

Programme Stage 2
In order to pass Programme Stage 2, you must pass all of the core modules detailed below and 60 credits from your chosen pathway.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Module Credits</th>
<th>Core/Elective</th>
<th>Compensation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contextual and Critical Studies 3</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Core</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contextual and Critical Studies 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Dance Solo | 20 | Core | Yes | 5
Performance 2 | 20 | Core | Yes | 5

**Track A - Triple-Threat Pathway**
Dance 2A | 20 | Elective | Yes | 5
Musical Theatre 2A | 40 | Elective | Yes | 5

**Track B - Dancer/Musical Theatre Pathway**
Dance 2B | 40 | Elective | Yes | 5
Musical Theatre 2B | 20 | Elective | Yes | 5

**Track C - Actor/Singer Pathway**
Dance 2C | 20 | Elective | Yes | 5
Musical Theatre 2C | 40 | Elective | Yes | 5

Programme Stage 3
In order to pass Programme Stage 3, you must pass all of the core modules detailed below and 60 credits from your chosen pathway.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Module Credits</th>
<th>Core/Elective</th>
<th>Compensation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contextual and Critical Studies 5</td>
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<td>Core</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employability</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Track A - Triple-Threat Pathway**
Dance 3A | 20 | Elective | Yes | 6
Musical Theatre 3A | 10 | Elective | Yes | 6

**Track B - Dancer/Musical Theatre Pathway**
Dance 3B | 20 | Elective | Yes | 6
Musical Theatre 3B | 10 | Elective | Yes | 6

**Track C - Actor/Singer Pathway**
Dance 3C | 10 | Elective | Yes | 6
Musical Theatre 3C | 20 | Elective | Yes | 6

**TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?**

As well as receiving outstanding training in many disciplines of dance and musical theatre, students will develop many other skills which will be invaluable for their future careers. They will develop resilience, communication skills, presentation skills, confidence, artistry, determination, creativity, choreography, leadership and team-working skills. Students will also benefit from an incredible proximity to professional performers and develop an intrinsic ability to network and build their brand.

We work closely with Link talent who can support and help our graduates make the transition from a learning to a working environment. 80% of our Professional Dance and Musical Theatre students are signed with an agent within 6 months of graduating.

Many Urdang Academy students go on to work in the West End, national and international theatre, TV and feature films, as choreographers, and dancing for major arena tours.
Recent roles include: 9 to 5 The Musical (West End, UK and Ireland Tour), Hamilton (West End), Mary Poppins (West End), Waitress (West End), Thriller (West End), & Juliet (West End), Les Misérables (West End and UK Tour), Avenue Q (UK Tour), The Tina Turner Musical (West End), Matilda (West End and UK Tour), Six (West End, UK Tour and International Tour), Moulin Rouge (Broadway New York), We Will Rock You (UK and European Tour), Mamma Mia! (West End and UK Tour), Curtains (UK Tour), Aladdin (West End), Wicked (West End), The Lion King (West End), Spice Girls 2019 (World Tour), Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (West End), Jesus Christ Superstar (West End), The Book of Mormon (West End and UK Tour), Cats (International Tour), X Factor, Janet Jackson’s Metamorphosis (Las Vegas), the West End production and the feature film version of Everybody’s Talking about Jamie and many more!
If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: [https://www.city.ac.uk/careers/your-career](https://www.city.ac.uk/careers/your-career)

**WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?**

*There are currently no formal Study Abroad options for this programme but individual requests may be considered on merit. Options for future Study Abroad options are under current review.*

**WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

Within the final year of study, there is an opportunity for students to be assessed in work-based-learning in place of the Performance 3 Musical assessment, providing that the work offered is a comparable match for the assessment requirements. This will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for each student, to ensure that the assessment criteria can be satisfied, and can be easily assessed within the required time frame of the programme. For more information, please speak to the Principals, or Head of Studies and Programme Development.

**WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?**

No.

**HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

Formal Entry requirements:
- A passion and aptitude for the performing arts (assessed via audition process);
- 80 points (new UCAS tariff) through Level 3 academic qualifications (BTEC, A-Level, Scottish Highers etc);
- C in GCSE English Language (or equivalent);
- EU and international students will need to have gained an Academic IELTS score of 6.5.

In addition to the above formal entry requirements, you will also need to attend and pass an audition assessment to assess your abilities and suitability for the programme.
Information is provided subject to Terms and Conditions for study at City, University of London.