

LAMDA812 Directing 2 Directing the Production

A synopsis of the curriculum

Some aspects of delivery may be delivered via digital tutorials and online workshops ('blended learning'). Some aspects of delivery may be delivered via digital tutorials and online workshops ('blended learning'). The emphasis of practice-based analysis and vocational training-based research necessitates that the curriculum content of the module is listed as a summary of subject areas studied, as opposed to lecture/ seminar titles (subject areas may be covered via blended learning incorporating both online and onsite delivery).

Students are expected to engage in participation and subsequent critical evaluation of these activities (online, independently and in onsite sessions), a process that promotes Masters-level work as appropriate to the subject discipline. Classes and activities taken online and onsite as part of this module may include the following foci:

- Selecting a play according to resources and venue
- Forming a creative team
- Strategic use of production meetings to assist planning
- Running the rehearsal room
- Working with actors
- Working with technical and stage management support
- Staging the play
- Transition from rehearsal to performance
- Observation of rehearsal, technical rehearsal, dress rehearsal and performance / sharing of work
- Reflecting on processes to develop the work

The content of this module may be delivered as follows:

- Tutor observation of processes
- Self-directed learning
- Production script preparation
- Casting and engagement with artistic team
- Individual directors prepare their own workbook
- Student director-led rehearsal, technical and performance of a play (on-site or online)
- Rehearsal room management
- On-going production management
- Working with creative teams
- Developing industry connections
- Production log and reflective essay
- Tutor observed rehearsal, technical period, dress rehearsal and performances
- Individual mentoring
- Post-production debrief with course leader

This module serves as the major summative element of the course and can as such be regarded as the creative equivalent to a dissertation. It builds on the previous module (D06, Directing 1) and enables the student to further develop and deepen his/ her practice by incorporating the knowledge gained through the experience of directing a devised project.

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The module aims to replicate the process of professional production in the industry starting, as it does, with the selection of a suitable play on which to work within the given constraints of cast size, budget and venue.

Under the guidance of the course tutor and with significant input from tutors or freelance professionals representing the technical provisions of production management, lighting and sound departments the student director takes responsibility for the delivery of this production. As part of the process he/ she will work with theatre professionals including Lighting and Sound designers.

The work is usually spread across two terms, beginning at the start of the summer term and concludes in mid-September. This enables the student to select a suitable play, secure the rights and then commence the planning process. There follows a period of developing the production concept, casting producing the production script, design and planning for all other aspects of the production. Rehearsals are scheduled as per industry conditions. In addition, production work will take place in the evenings and weekends as required; this is reflected in the high number of pre-production and rehearsal/performance hours. The health and safety guidelines relating to Covid-19 will determine the exact split between onsite and socially distanced/digital delivery of the activities listed above.

Throughout this process, students will be mentored by the course leader and will be required to keep a detailed work book which will capture the initial processes and developing techniques that the director brings to bear on the work of realising the play. These productions are fully supported, technically, and serve as an opportunity for the student to introduce himself/ herself to the profession. In 2020/21 this will be subject to Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines to assure the safety of delivery. At the completion of this module a student will have demonstrated the synthesis of all elements of his/her training.

This overview is indicative; the specific practitioners, activities, modes of delivery, skills and techniques covered will be outlined at the commencement of study. The majority of activities outlined above may involve online delivery. Students should be prepared to be assessed on work delivered live, digitally or in a blended format. Performances/sharings of work will follow revised audience capacity guidelines.

Delivery

Students work with staff in tutor-led sessions that may be delivered following social distancing guidelines and online where required. The module content in 2020/21 may be delivered through a mixture of academic lectures, practical workshops, online delivery and students' independent work. This module usually comprises of 600 hours of study (this may be adjusted), approximately broken down as follows:

160 hours pre-production
240 hours of rehearsal/performance & production work
100 hours of reflective practice
60 hours of tutor input/mentoring (course leader, technical director of performance space, sound and lighting specialists, designer)
40 hours of post-production work
Health and safety guidelines relating to Covid-19 will determine the exact split between onsite and socially distanced/digital delivery.

Assessments (performances/sharings, presentations, classes, and rehearsals may be assessed online/via recording as well as in live onsite settings)

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Submission	Word count or equivalent	Percentage of assessment
Staged production	n/a	75%
EITHER: Reflective essay OR: Video evaluation	3000 words 30 minutes	25%

Please note: The assessment for this module consists of two elements: the marking of the production and the submission of a reflective essay (3000 words or a 30 minute video evaluation) in which the student reflects on aspects of the production, from working with actors in the realisation of the play to aesthetic responses and decision making with the designer and artistic team in relation to space and the emerging production.

In the Academic Year 2019-20 LAMDA has reviewed and presented alternative assessment methods for all summative assessments across all the programmes where Covid-19 affects delivery. This is to ensure that LAMDA can offer a fair and consistent assessment opportunity for all students, including those who may need to re-sit, defer, retake a module or interrupt study. This also allows LAMDA to continue to deliver assessments in a fair and consistent manner if adjusted delivery does need to be rolled out into 2020-21. Details of alternative assessments that may delivered can be found online in the LAMDA Covid-19 [Alternative Assessment Strategy 2020](#).