

Dissertation – SMTU302

A synopsis of the curriculum

Within this module students may participate in classes/workshops taken online and onsite that may include the following activity:

The present module enables students to complete a research project and evidence their work through a choice of two routes. Both routes facilitate the development of critical engagement with the work of others, and the documenting of one's decisions and findings through written/project work.

The first route consists of a dissertation only, supported by a mixture of small group lectures and individual dissertation supervision sessions. The second route offers students the opportunity to complete a shorter dissertation and submit a practical project, the theme of which should be linked to the subject of the dissertation. The second route also contains a mixture of individual and small group tuition.

Students work with tutors in small groups and individual tutorials in order to develop the necessary skills required for evidencing critical engagement with the topic, and the academic skills needed to present their research projects.

Route 1: Dissertation

Students receive approx. twelve 90-minute group lectures on research techniques, developing academic writing skills, conducting case studies and evaluating data (online or onsite). Each student also receives approx. twelve 30-minute individual tutorials in autumn term, twelve 30-minute individual tutorials during spring and summer terms, and two 90-minute final submission tutorials in summer term (online or onsite).

Route 2: Dissertation and practical project

Dissertation: students receive approx. twelve 90-minute group lectures on research techniques, developing academic writing skills, conducting case studies and evaluating data. Each student also receives approx. six 30-minute individual tutorials in autumn term and two 45-minute final submission tutorials in spring term (online or onsite).

Practical project: the practical project is taught in approx. twelve 30-minute individual tutorials across autumn and spring terms and two individual 45 minute tutorials in summer term. The content of the practical tutorials aims to guide students in the planning and delivery of the student's chosen medium, including but exclusive to, design, sound, construction and technology projects. In the case of two or more students working on a topic that involves the same department within Production and Technical Arts, up to 25 % of the allocated tutorial time may be taught in small groups online/onsite. Students should consider carefully how to deliver practical research elements in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

The module may be delivered through blended learning: a mixture of academic tutorials, online tutorials and online independent/group study activity agreed with the supervisor.

This synopsis is indicative; the specific modes of delivery, skills, and techniques covered will be outlined at the commencement of study. Students should be prepared to be assessed on work delivered live, digitally or in a blended format. Performances/sharing of work will follow revised audience capacity guidelines.

Delivery

Students work with staff in tutor-led sessions that are based on the specific requirements of the dissertation and may be delivered following social distancing guidelines and online where required. The module content in 2020/2021 may be delivered through a mixture of academic sessions, tutorials, and students' independent work on an individual submission.

Indicative Module Breakdown 2020/2021 Academic Year

This module usually comprises of 600 hours of study (this may be adjusted), approximately broken down as follows:

Total Contact Hours:	33h
Independent Study Hours: (may be a blend of digital / onsite contact)	567h
Total Study Hours:	600h
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)

Pathway	Course work	Word count/Time scale/Framework	Weighting	Total
Route 1	Dissertation	12000 - 14000 words	100%	100%
Route 2	Dissertation	6000-7000 words	50%	100%
Route 2	Practical project	6000 words/ 15 minutes edited film/ exhibition/ technology project	40%	
Route 2	Project Report	1000 words	10%	
Route 1 & 2	Presentation	Not assessed		

Please note: 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](#).