Programme Specification

for MA/MSc Creative

Technology

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| **1. Programme title** | MA/MSc Creative Technology |
| **2. Awarding institution** | Middlesex University |
| **3. Teaching institution** | Middlesex University |
| **4. Programme accredited by** | N/A |
| **5. Final qualification** | MA/MSc |
| **6. Academic year** | 2012/13 |
| **7. Language of study** | English |
| **8. Mode of study** | 1 Year Full-time 2 Years Part-time |

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| **9. Criteria for admission to the programme**  i) The recruitment process complies with the University regulations.  ii) The programme seeks to recruit students who possess an appropriate undergraduate qualification and can demonstrate an interest in working with creative technologies.  iii) The programme will draw, though not exclusively, from two broad sources that reflect the disciplines and skills that the programme draws together:   * Computing graduates, who will have a good degree (2:1 or better) in Computing Science or a similar discipline, who will have studied at least some human computer interaction, media technology, gaming or similar topics at undergraduate level. * Art, Design and Media graduates, especially those with a background in fine art, performance or digital media, again with a good undergraduate degree (2:1 or better). Such applicants should have some experience of working with computational artefacts and be comfortable – if not necessarily expert – in using scripting languages, authorware, and other highly configurable software packages.   iv) Candidates will be expected to demonstrate an appropriate level of aptitude in their application for admission to the programme, and may be interviewed if the programme team deem it necessary. The interview will give the applicant an opportunity both to learn more about the programme and to provide further evidence of their aptitude for and interest in working with creative technologies and digital media.  v) Candidates who do not meet the standard degree entry requirements may still be admitted if they can demonstrate that their professional experience has given them an appropriate level of ability in working with creative technologies and digital media. For such candidates, it may also be possible to give some accreditation of prior learning (up to 30 credits, to be set against CMT4600).  vi) The recruitment process and the interview will also present an opportunity to inform applicants about other related provision within the University, allowing students to ensure that they are on the programme best suited to their interests and expectations.  vii) Candidates will need a high level of competence in the use of English, equivalent to at least 6.5 in the IELTS test or TOEFL 575 (paper based), 237 (computer based).  viii) The exit award achieved by a student (MA or MSc) is not a reflection of the student’s entry qualifications, but is determined by the student’s progress through the programme and in particular by the nature of the choice of final project. It is anticipated that in the normal state of affairs, a student who wishes to progress through the programme to e.g. an MSc will be able to do so, but that will be dependent on the student displaying sufficient of the skills associated with MSc programmes (see statement on Benchmarking Standards below). |

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| **10. Aims of the programme** | |
| The programme aims to:  provide supportive critical and creative space for the student to develop his/her own personal talents and goals as a critically reflective writer;  enable students to explore the craft of professional writing for a range of markets and genres. | |
| **11. Programme outcomes** | |
| **A. Knowledge and understanding**  On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:  1. the writing process.  2. his/her self development as a creative writer.  3. relevant classic and contemporary texts and writing styles.  4. the context of contemporary writing practice, markets and audiences. | **Teaching/learning methods**  Students gain knowledge and understanding through:  Students gain knowledge and understanding through writing exercises, reading, listening, discussing, analysing, re-doing within self-directed learning, tutor and peer feedback, tutorials, tutor-led workshops, project work, guest and staff lectures, peer-group learning and team work.  **Assessment Method**  Students’ knowledge and understanding is assessed by:  Students’ knowledge and understanding is assessed by a portfolio of the student’s writing, normally including a final creative piece and a critical statement which makes reference to relevant texts and practice.  The portfolio will include drafts and a correctly referenced, annotated bibliography. |
| **B. Cognitive (thinking) skills**  On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:  1. analyse texts structurally and stylistically  2. give and receive critical feedback  3. evaluate, re-draft and edit their own work  4. conceive, plan and develop a structured piece of written work | **Teaching/learning methods**  Students learn cognitive skills through individual practice, tutorials, tutor-led workshops, reading, discussion, group work and contact with practising writers.  **Assessment Method**  Students’ cognitive skills are assessed by original creative work and a critical statement examining process and context, including drafts and bibliography. |
| **C. Practical skills**  On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:  1. write in a range of forms and genres.  2. research from a range of sources, primary and secondary, text and IT based  3. acquire editorial skills  4. make pitches and presentations | **Teaching/learning methods**  Students learn practical skills through workshops, practical exercises, sharing of work, editing of their own and others’ work, discussion of good and bad practice, visiting speakers.  **Assessment Method**  Students’ practical skills are assessed by written and/or oral presentations, which demonstrate their ability to apply these skills in the development of coursework projects. |
| **D. Graduate Skills**  On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:  1. further their own personal and career development  2. take responsibility for effective learning,  3. communicate effectively, orally and in writing  4. work as a member of a team  5. use relevant Information Technology and be numerate, as appropriate to field of study  6. generate imaginative ideas and see them through to fruition. | **Teaching/learning methods**  Students acquire graduate skills through the tutor led workshops, feedback, self-directed learning and group work which leads up to assessed coursework.  **Assessment method**  Students’ graduate skills are assessed by written projects and oral presentations. |
| **12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)** | |
| **12. 1 Overall structure of the programme** | |
| The programme is normally studied over three years full-time or completed within six years part time. The honours degree requires 360 credits at Level 1 and above, of which 250 credits are at Level 2 or above and 120 credits at Level 3. Details below are for a full-time student.  BA Creative and Media Writing is structured as follows:  **Year One – all compulsory**   1. CMW1001 Introduction to Writing A: Fiction and Poetry (30 credits) 2. CMW1002 Introduction to Writing B: Drama and Non-Fiction (30 credits) 3. MDA1800 Storytelling for the Screen (30 credits) 4. ELS1302 Reading Contemporary Literature (30 credits)   **Year Two**  **60 credits Compulsory:**   1. CMW2002 Exploring Writing B: Fiction (30 credits) 2. MDA2100 Screenwriting – The Short Film (30 credits)   **Choice of 60 credits from:**   1. CMW 3004 Writing and Publishing for Children (30 credits) 2. PLM3002 Writing the City (30 credits) 3. CMW3009 Lyrics: Poetry and Song (30 credits)   **Year Three**  **60 credits compulsory:**   1. CMW3001 Independent Project (Double Weight) (60 credits)   **Choice – 60 credits from:**   1. CMW 3002 Independent Project (30 credits) 2. CMW 3003 Writing in Practice 2 [(30 credits) 3. CMW 3006 Writing and Publishing: Genre (30 credits) 4. PLM3002 Writing the City (30 credits) 5. CMW3009 Lyrics: Poetry and Song (30 credits) | |

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| **12.2 Levels and modules**  **Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University is changing the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This is to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.** | | |
| Level 4 (1) | | |
| COMPULSORY | COMPULSORY | COMPULSORY |
| Students must take all of the following:  CMW1001  CMW1002  ELS1302  MDA1800 | Students must take all of the following:  CMW1001  CMW1002  ELS1302  MDA1800 | Students must take all of the following:  CMW1001  CMW1002  ELS1302  MDA1800 |
| Level 5 (2) | | |
| COMPULSORY | COMPULSORY | COMPULSORY |
| Students must take all of the following:  CMW2002  MDA2100 | Students must take all of the following:  CMW2002  MDA2100 | Students must take all of the following:  CMW2002  MDA2100 |
| Level 6 (3) | | |
| COMPULSORY | COMPULSORY | COMPULSORY |
| Students must take all of the following:  CMW3001 | Students must take all of the following:  CMW3001 | Students must take all of the following:  CMW3001 |

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| ***12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)*** | |
| ***Module level*** | ***Module code*** |
| 6 (3) | CMW3001 |

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| **13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules** |
| See Curriculum Map attached |

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| **14. Information about assessment regulations** |
| Middlesex University Regulations at <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations> |

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| **15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)** |
| CMW3003 Writing in Practice 2, taken in Level 3, includes the option of work experience. Supported by the Placement Office. |

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| **16. Future careers (if applicable)** |
| We have strong links with the employment market. The qualification is valued both as a general humanities degree and as a specialist writing degree. Recent Writing graduates are now working in newspapers, magazines, television production, children's publishing, adult publishing, writing therapy, P.R., theatre, libraries, advertising and teaching. Other graduates have gone on to launch their own freelance careers as writers or to take postgraduate courses which further develop their writing. |

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| **17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)** |
| Staff teaching on the programme are published novelists, short story writers, poets, scriptwriters and journalists and are research-active in the areas of the pedagogy of creative writing.  LR support, induction, subject-dedicated librarian, LR workshops on essay writing and written English.  Campus Student Office offering on-site counselling, careers advice and disability support services  E-mail access to tutors. “Office hour” surgeries with tutors. |

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| **18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)** | WP83 |
| **19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)** | Draft English Subject Benchmark |

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| **20. Reference points**  The following reference points were used in designing the programme:  Middlesex University Regulations <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations/>  QAA level descriptors and benchmark statement.  Student, Staff, External Examiners’ and Graduates’ feedback and comments  Middlesex University Learning and Teaching Policy and Strategy; the Corporate Plan |

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| **21. Other information** |
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Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.