

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	BA Theatre Design and Production
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification*	BA (Hons) Theatre Design and Production Dip HE Theatre Design and Production Cert HE Theatre Design and Production BA (Hons) Theatre Directing and Production *with Foundation Year, where applicable
6. Year of validation	2019/20
Year of amendment	
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full time (Part time pathway offered)

9. Criteria for admission to the programme
Admission to the programme is normally by Interview and Portfolio submission.
International students for whom attendance for interview is not practical will be offered the opportunity to submit a portfolio online.
Academic experience, interest and qualifications will be considered as well as skills in Design and interpretation, or the potential for development of such skills. Candidates should be able to display a strong interest in the theory and practice of theatre.

Candidates with disabilities are warmly encouraged to apply and to discuss with teaching staff what the programme will be able to offer them on an individual basis; we will also facilitate a visit to the campus to assess its accessibility for candidates where this is necessary.

Candidates for whom English is not the first language will be required to provide evidence of sufficient English language competence to enable them to undertake the Programme successfully. The minimum requirement is an IELTS score of 6.0 or equivalent. Where the IELTS score has been achieved but a minimum of 5.5 has not been reached in every element, candidates are very strongly encouraged to attend the University's pre-sessional preparation programme for International Students (details are available from the Admissions Office).

We normally offer places on the programme to candidates achieving 112 UCAS tariff points. Mature candidates who do not have these formal qualifications but who have commensurate experience are very much encouraged to apply.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

1. Develop autonomous, enterprising graduates able to access and shape the theatre industry and related industries.
2. Create opportunities for collaboration and partnership with industry and/or social enterprise across and beyond the programme.
3. Utilise diversity as a resource to equip students as drivers of innovation in theatre, offering a range of disciplines, skills and opportunities for specialism which place students at the forefront of emerging design, technical and scenographic practices.
4. Produce thinking practitioners and practitioner-thinkers who are empowered to create and reflect upon theatre as a form which embraces risk, celebrates critical engagement and pushes beyond current thinking and practice.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. key processes and principles relevant to the practice and study of design/directing and production.
2. a diverse range of critical, cultural and historical perspectives on theatre as a live art form, and how these are applied or considered in scenographic practice.

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

1. a structured learning experience, which supports and enables increasing levels of autonomy with students taking substantial control over and responsibility for their own work in Year Three.
2. active approaches which aim to put students at the centre of their studies, to ensure that they are involved and engaged in all aspects of their assessment and learning.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. ethical approaches to the interpretation and communication of ideas in a creative context. 4. the role of critical analysis of their own and others' design practice through identification, appraisal and assimilation of a variety of sources. 5. their own skills and aptitudes in creative and critical practice, and how these can be applied to work in collaborative settings fostering effective teamwork 6. key professional networks, contexts and organisations relevant to their onward employability. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. engagement with fellow students both individually and collaboratively. This is encouraged and facilitated by working with other students as part of a group. 4. engagement with e- learning ensuring digital literacy and learning new technologies and developing skills that are both essential for their learning and are also highly valued by employers <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by setting a range of formative and summative assessment tasks including: practice-led performances, academic writing assignments (including essays, critical reviews, reflective research documents), poster presentations, portfolios, workbooks and practice journals, reflective oral interview/discussions.</p>
<p>B. Skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. interpret, synthesise and realise original scenographic led work, and respond creatively to given briefs 2. be resourceful and demonstrate autonomy in practice and learning. 3. critically evaluate their own and others' practice, and proactively seek and respond to feedback from a range of sources. 4. develop and refine a broad portfolio of skills, methods, techniques and crafts relevant to the creation and application of scenographic and production practice(s) 5. apply individual skills and knowledge to collaborative and group processes and integrate interpersonal and professional skills that support collaborative work. 6. consider audience and context in the creation and delivery of live performance work. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn cognitive skills through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. participation in scenography and technical theatre modules and Project Modules in each year. These are collaborative and can be workshop based or fully realised, public performances. 2. practical participation in workshops and skills sessions which aim to develop specific scenographic and production skills and competencies. 3. engagement with fellow students both individually and collaboratively. This is encouraged and facilitated by working with other students as part of a group. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed by setting a range of formative and summative assessment tasks including: performance/practical projects, portfolios and workbooks, practice journals and summative statements, workshop</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. extend and refine skills in writing, communication, digital and numerate literacy and documentation8. develop entrepreneurial and administrative skills required for a professional career in the creative industries.9. develop an individually nuanced approach to delivering highly creative work underpinned by innovation and critical insight.	<p>presentations, seminar presentations; including negotiated assessment methods for work in some Level 6 modules appropriate to the student, the project and the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria of the module.</p>
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12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12.1 Overall structure of the programme

Students take four 30-credit modules at each level, comprised of a compulsory programme at level 4 and three compulsory modules plus one optional module at levels 5 and 6. Compulsory modules engage students in an integrated study of the processes and contexts of design and theatre making, while optional modules allow students to pursue areas of specialist interest. Students intending to exit with the award **BA (Hons) Theatre Design and Production** take the following programme (with the option to exit with CertHE or DipHE at the end of levels 4/5):

Year 1	Year 2			Year 3		
Compulsory:	Compulsory:			Compulsory:		
Introduction to Design and Production (THE1002)	Theatre Industry: Applied Practice (THE2005)			Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio (THE3005)		
Perspectives on Theatre (THE1003)	The Scenographer (THE2030)			Design: Scenography and Technology (THE3030)		
Working with Theatre Technology (THE1004)	Design Project (THE2526)			Theatre Festival (THE3535)		
Making Theatre (THE1515)	Pick ONE option:			Pick ONE option:		
	The Actor and Director (THE2024)	The Writer and Dramaturg (THE2040)	Creative Collaborations (THE2045)	Solo: Stand-up Comedy / Performance Art (THE3035)	Directing: Practices and Philosophies (THE3040)	Theatre Laboratory (THE3045)
▼	▼			▼		
Exit with Cert HE Theatre Design and Production (120 credits)	Exit with Dip HE Theatre Design and Production (240 credits)			Exit with BA (Hons) Theatre Design and Production (360 credits)		

All modules 30 credits

Bridging and programme planning

All students participate in Bridging sessions at the end of levels 4 and 5 to prepare for the following year of study. During these sessions, students engage in tutor-supported programme planning to select their modules for the following years. Modules are chosen at the end of level 4 and reviewed at the end of level 5.

Transfer to specialist pathway

At the end of level 5, and at the discretion of the Programme Leader, students have the option to transfer onto the **BA Theatre Directing and Production** exit award. This pathway is an opportunity for students who have demonstrated a sustained interest in theatre directing throughout their programme to have this specialism recognised in the title of their degree. The requirements for transferring to this pathway will be made clear to students throughout their programme, including at programme induction and Bridging sessions.

The exit award recognises sustained specialist practice within collaborative modules and therefore has no discrete Programme Outcomes. Students opting for this exit award take a 90-credit prescribed pathway (see below) including one discrete module: THE3536 Theatre Festival (Directing); which runs alongside THE3535 with specialised learning outcomes.

Students wishing to transfer to this exit award will typically attend a tutorial with the Programme Leader where they will be expected to demonstrate sustained engagement with the study and practice of theatre directing in their first/second years. This will typically be achieved through a combination of the following:

- Assuming a directorial role in project work on THE1515 Making Theatre and/or THE2526 Design Project.
- Engaging with the directing aspect of the syllabus on THE2024 The Actor and Director and/or THE2030 The Scenographer.
- Engaging with theories and contexts relevant to theatre directing, e.g. in THE1003 Perspectives on Theatre.

Students on this pathway will also be required to take on a directorial role in THE3536 Theatre Festival (Directing), which runs alongside THE3535 with specialised learning outcomes.

Students intending to exit with the award **BA (Hons) Theatre Directing and Production** take the following programme (with the option to exit with CertHE or DipHE in Theatre Design and Production at the end of levels 4/5):

Year 1 (entry award: BA Theatre Design and Production)	Year 2 (entry award: BA Theatre Design and Production)	Year 3 (transfer to: BA Theatre Directing and Production)
Compulsory:	Compulsory:	Compulsory:
Introduction to Design and Production (THE1002)	Theatre Industry: Applied Practice (THE2005)	Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio (THE3005)
Perspectives on Theatre (THE1003)	The Scenographer (THE2030)	Directing: Practices and Philosophies (THE3040)
Working with Theatre Technology (THE1004)	Design Project (THE2526)	Theatre Festival (Directing) (THE3536)
Making Theatre (THE1515)	Pick ONE option: The Actor and Director (THE2024) The Writer and Dramaturg (THE2040) Creative Collaborations (THE2045)	Pick ONE option: Performance: Body and Training (THE3025) Design: Scenography and Technology (THE3030) Theatre Laboratory (THE3045)
▼ Exit with Cert HE Theatre Design and Production (120 credits)	▼ Exit with Dip HE Theatre Design and Production (240 credits)	▼ Exit with BA (Hons) Theatre Directing and Production (360 credits)
<i>All modules 30 credits</i>		

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		PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: THE1002 Introduction to Design and Production THE1003 Perspectives on Theatre THE1004 Working with Theatre Technology THE1515 Making Theatre		120 Credits
Level 5 (2)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: THE2005 Theatre Industry: Applied Practices THE2030 The Scenographer THE2526 Design Project	Students must also choose 1 from the following: THE2024 The Actor and Director THE2040 The Writer and Dramaturg THE2045 Creative Collaborations	240 Credits
Level 6 (3)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: THE3005 Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio THE3030 Design: Scenography and Technology THE3535 Theatre Festival OR:	Students must also choose 1 from the following: THE3040 Directing: Practices and Philosophies THE3045 Theatre Laboratory THE3035 Solo: Stand-up Comedy / Performance Art OR:	360 Credits

<p>Students opting onto the BA Theatre Directing and Production pathway must take all of the following:</p> <p>THE3005 Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio THE3040 Directing: Practices and Philosophies THE3536 Theatre Festival (Directing)</p>	<p>Students opting onto the BA Theatre Directing and Production pathway must also choose 1 from the following:</p> <p>THE3025 Performance: Body and Training THE3030 Design: Scenography and Technology THE3045 Theatre Laboratory</p>	
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12.3 Compensation

All modules are non-compensatable (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels). Students have an opportunity to re-sit any/all assessment tasks before the following academic year. If passed they progress, if not students will re-take the module.

13. Curriculum map

See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

The Programme conforms to the Middlesex University Regulations. In view of the developmental and collaborative nature of the work on this programme, there is a 75% attendance requirement on all modules. Self-deferral of assessments is not permitted.

Failure or deferment of an assessment is normally allowed a resit at the next available opportunity. In the case of practical work particularly group practical work, and individual practical work where the material is developed through the process of a taught module – your reassessment may need to be planned as part of the next scheduled run of the module. This may mean that your resit has to happen in the following academic year and involve you attending classes and workshops for part or all of the module to support the reassessment.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support

A new Level 5 module, THE2045 Creative Collaborations, will specifically facilitate students in gaining academic credit for participating in external project work. All students are also offered the opportunity to participate in a work placement as part of the compulsory Level 6 module THE3005 Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio.

The department has an extensive portfolio of long-established placement providers. These are supported in-house by a Placement tutor in conjunction with the University's MDXworks team, which provides extensive resources and support for placements.

16. Future careers (if applicable)

Students have access to the University's Careers service, MDXworks, and careers development and planning is one of the University's Graduate Skills. Specialist tutors on the programmes address employment-related issues as they arise in the course of teaching, and they are embedded in the compulsory Theatre Industry modules THE2005 and THE3005.

Theatre Design and Production students typically graduate to diverse career paths directly in the theatre industry as well as its many peripheral industries. Theatre design students typically progress to scenography-related careers in set, lighting, sound, costume and video design, directing, producing and arts management, art direction, technical and production management; as well as careers in arts administration, teaching and non-theatre based careers within film, media, events, fashion and other creative industries. A large number of graduates go on to form their own companies, collectives and arts organisations, while many also opt to continue study at post-graduate level. Middlesex offers postgraduate routes such as MA Theatre Arts and MA Arts Management.

Recent industry reports describe Theatre as an excellent subject area for graduate study, and we flag here that the programme aims address all five Middlesex graduate employability skills directly.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Students on this programme have access as needed to specialist studio and performance space and equipment, workshops and staff.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	W400 W460 W442
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Drama, Dance and Performance

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing the Programme:

- Middlesex University Corporate Plan
- QAA Subject Benchmark and Qualifications Level Descriptors
- Middlesex University Learning and Teaching Strategy
- Middlesex University Regulations

21. Other information

N/A

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 rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for BA Theatre Design and Production

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Skills	
A1	Key processes and principles relevant to the practice and study of design/direction and production	B1	Interpret, synthesise and realise original scenographic led work, and respond creatively to given briefs
A2	A diverse range of critical, cultural and historical perspectives on theatre as a live art form, and how these are applied or considered in scenographic/directorial practice	B2	Be resourceful and demonstrate autonomy in practice and learning
A3	Ethical approaches to the interpretation and communication of ideas in a creative context	B3	Critically evaluate their own and others' practice, and proactively seek and respond to feedback from a range of sources
A4	The role of critical analysis of their own and others' design practice through identification, appraisal and assimilation of a variety of sources	B4	Develop and refine a broad portfolio of skills, methods, techniques and crafts relevant to the creation and application of contemporary scenographic production practice(s)
A5	Their own skills and aptitudes in creative and critical practice, and how these can be applied to work in collaborative settings fostering effective teamwork	B5	Apply individual skills and knowledge to collaborative and group processes and integrate interpersonal and professional skills that support collaborative work
A6	Key professional networks, contexts and organisations relevant to their onward employability	B6	Consider audience and context in the creation and delivery of live performance work
		B7	Extend and refine skills in writing, communication, digital and numerate literacy and documentation
		B8	Develop entrepreneurial and administrative skills required for a professional career in the creative industries
		B9	Develop an individually nuanced approach to delivering highly creative work underpinned by innovation and critical insight

Highest level achieved by all graduates														
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Module title	Module code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9
		Introduction to Design and Production	THE1002	✓			✓					✓	✓			✓
Perspectives on Theatre	THE1003		✓		✓											
Working with Theatre Technology	THE1004	✓									✓					
Making Theatre	THE1515	✓		✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			
Theatre Industry: Applied Practices	THE2005			✓			✓						✓		✓	
The Actor and Director*	THE2024	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓						
The Scenographer	THE2030	✓			✓			✓		✓	✓					✓
The Writer and Dramaturg*	THE2040				✓				✓					✓		
Creative Collaborations*	THE2045					✓	✓		✓						✓	
Design Project	THE2526	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓			✓
Theatre Industry: Placement and Portfolio	THE3005			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	
Design: Scenography and Technology	THE3030		✓		✓						✓	✓				
Solo: Stand-up Comedy / Performance Art*	THE3035	✓	✓						✓				✓			
Directing: Practices and Philosophies*	THE3040	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓				✓				✓
Theatre Laboratory*	THE3045		✓		✓				✓							✓
Theatre Festival	THE3535	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
Theatre Festival (Directing)*	THE3536	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓

*Optional module