

MA Choreography

Course Summary and Additional Information

COURSE TITLE:	MA Choreography January 2026 entry
DURATION OF COURSE:	<p>Four terms, starting at the beginning of the undergraduate term in January, ending typically at the end of the Spring term (usually beginning of April), although submissions of written work can be accepted up until the beginning of June.</p> <p>To see the School's published term dates, please go to the MA Course page and then click on Term Dates.</p>
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:	<p>The MA Choreography is aimed at professional dancers and emerging choreographers with an existing choreographic portfolio, such as mid-career dance artists from a classical and/or contemporary dance background. The students will be skilled in dance performance and would usually hold a BA (Hons) degree (or equivalent) in an appropriate subject, such as dance from a professional training course.</p> <p>Candidates not holding a BA (Hons) or equivalent level of qualification in an appropriate subject will be able to apply for accreditation of prior experiential learning (APEL). This will require the applicant to possess the experience and understanding of a comparable level gained in a professional dance company or vocational school. Candidates must submit examples of their choreographic work via online links and attend an interview.</p> <p>Applicants will be asked to show a level of competence in English, where English is not their first language, providing English scores (IELTS) in accordance with the English language requirements as set out in the regulations of the University of Kent.</p> <p>Applications are by submission of a CV, evidence of a choreographic portfolio by web links (full pieces to be submitted with original sound used for performance, not clips or parts of pieces), and a statement outlining choreographic interests. This should include the reasons for wanting to undertake the MA, and how it will support professional development at this career stage.</p> <p>For applicants based outside of London or abroad, it is possible to arrange an interview via one of the online platforms (Skype, Zoom, etc).</p> <p>Applications run on a rolling basis, with interviews and offers taking place at the latest in early October. The course is full-time over four terms, beginning in January.</p> <p>Before the application is submitted, there are opportunities to request information about the course, arrange a meeting, or send emails with questions for the attention of the Course Lead for the MA in Choreography.</p>

<p>COURSE OUTLINE:</p>	<p>The MA Choreography course encourages critical engagement with questions around defining and redefining dance, drawing on the work of key practitioners as listed in the module specifications. It encourages choreographers to develop artistic individuality in establishing their own distinctive choreographic 'voice', with the potential to contribute to the development of the art form of dance through exploring new directions in which it can evolve.</p> <p>The focus of the MA in Choreography is choreography and research, and involves the development and refinement of prepared material for dance performance that may happen in studio, theatre, site-specific locations, on film or video and online / digital platforms.</p> <p>The course is unique in providing a specialisation in ballet, although there is scope within the course for traditional practices, both past and current to be redefined, expanded and developed. Students are given the opportunity to investigate the process of choreography by interrogating, identifying, developing and modifying their existing skills.</p>
<p>KEY PURPOSE AND FEATURE OF THE COURSE</p>	<p>The aims of the MA Choreography are designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an in-depth awareness and critical appreciation of a range of influences, values and attitudes informing past and current choreographic practice within the ballet sector. • Develop an understanding, in both depth and breadth, of the processes involved in creating, preparing and rehearsing choreography for public performance. • Develop advanced, practical and conceptual research skills resulting in choreographic work based on a mastery of complex and specialised knowledge of ballet and, as appropriate, contemporary dance and other movement forms. • Equip students to explore, challenge and develop their own individual choreographic practice through sustained personal, critical reflection and intensive engagement with creative processes at the highest level. • Develop choreographers who are able to synthesise technical expertise, specialised knowledge, creative originality, and who are able to demonstrate professional choreographic competencies appropriate to postgraduate level. • Encourage advanced, independent learning and the ability to be articulate, reflective practitioners, prepared for employment, with the ability to take full responsibility for furthering their own artistic and personal development. • Develop choreographers who, through sophisticated research and exploratory practice, can make a distinctive contribution to the dance profession at the highest level.

CORE MODULES AND ANY OPTIONAL MODULES: (Including no of credits)	There are five modules on the MA and all the modules are compulsory. There is the scope to complete modules in a timeframe that works around other professional commitments and individual projects.			
	Module Code	Module Title	When module usually takes place	Number of credits
	CSBA401	Choreography: Theories and Practice	Term One	30
	CSBA402	Choreography: Practice and Principles	Terms Two and Three	30
	CSB403	Choreography for Performance	Terms Two and Three	30
	CSB404	The Choreographer in the Professional Context	All Terms (One-Four)	30
	CSB405	Professional Performance Project	Term Four	60
	<p>Compulsory modules: All modules are compulsory</p> <p>Award: MA Choreography</p> <p>Credit requirements: 180 from the above specific level 7 modules</p>			
METHOD OF STUDY: (for example, lectures, seminars, work placements)	<p>A range of learning and teaching methods on the course include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workshops; • studio-based practice; • tutorials; • lectures; • theatre visits; • working collaboratively with dancers and other theatre professionals; • observing and researching the work of other practitioners both past and current; responding to mentor feedback and peer review; and • engaging in reflective / evaluative practice. <p>Studio practice, including working with dancers and preparing material for performance, is central to the development of choreographic skill and understanding. The learning and teaching methods support the development of independent learners, although supervised / collaborative learning and peer review also feature as integral to the programme. Assessment will be through a mixture of studio presentation, public performance, verbal presentation and written submission.</p> <p>Places on the MA Choreography are restricted to no more than 3 students in one cohort to ensure students gain close access to individual, bespoke mentor support and opportunities to rehearse and stage work. Students are expected to meet regularly with the lead tutor (some meetings may be done through online conference calls) and negotiate the timing of projects and the completion of assessments.</p> <p>Feedback is given through tutorials and one to one discussion. For each module students receive a written summary of the feedback, usually around 500 words per module, with the marks. We aim to give verbal feedback within 10 days of an individual assessment and the written feedback is provided once the whole module is complete.</p>			

	<p>There are no supervised or assessed placements as part of this course, however as part of the portfolio work students can arrange their own observational visits or learning activities, for example watching other choreographers rehearse or going to the theatre.</p> <p>The choreographers will also develop independent professional projects within the framework of the MA.</p>
<p>WORKLOAD (including number of contact hours with School staff and expected self-study):</p>	<p>During the course there is on-going mentor support, with mentors meeting with students throughout the four terms. The on-going mentoring and tutor supervision from members of staff and visiting professionals consists of tutorials, seminars, lectures and workshops as well as one-to-one coaching and guidance. The range of areas covered includes aspects of both creative working and business, leadership and career guidance.</p> <p>Understanding the needs of professional company and freelance dance artists, the course offers as much flexibility as possible to organise projects around other dance work, along with the possibility to work away from the school using dance company members and other colleagues as dancers on creative projects, although sufficient time must be allocated to carry out necessary research and preparation.</p> <p>Within all modules students will engage in both academic and practice-based research. Students are expected to carry out independent study, managing workloads and meeting deadlines. A high proportion of the work is through self-study. Feedback and discussion can occur through emails, online meetings, and by phone, in addition to face-to-face meetings. At least 16 hours a week should be dedicated to private study and project preparation.</p> <p>Observation of rehearsals and feedback from the tutor during a rehearsal period will be at least once or twice a week.</p> <p>At times throughout the course, choreographers need to be available to work intensively on a full-time basis towards completing projects including rehearsals in the studio, working with other collaborators and meeting with relevant tutors.</p>
<p>THE OVERALL METHODS OF ASSESSMENT FOR THE MODULES (for example exams, course work or practical assignments):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSBA401 Workshop series or lecture demonstration (70%), with a supporting written submission (30%) • CSBA402 Studio based performance (70%), with a supporting verbal presentation (30%) • CSB403 Assessment final performance (80%), with a supporting written submission (20%) • CSB404 Submission of portfolio (100%) • CSB405 Professional Performance Project: Assessment of performance in the theatre (80%) with reflective written submission (20%).
<p>AWARD: the award students will receive on successful completion of their course:</p>	<p>MA Choreography</p> <p>The degree is validated and awarded by the University of Kent.</p>

WHERE THE COURSE IS TAUGHT:	<p>The course will take place in part on site at Central School of Ballet in London, UK, with options for remote working. 'Tutorials and mentoring will be delivered either in person or online; a blend of in-person and online delivery can be negotiated for non-UK-based students. The Course Team will work with students to negotiate an optimum pattern of delivery that best supports the individual student's success on the Course. Projects may take place at Central School of Ballet as well as on location at other dance venues - theatres, studios, galleries etc. as well as filming locations.</p> <p>Students based overseas may have the option to work remotely. UK-based students will also have that option with an invitation to come to site whenever feasible for all candidates. To ensure collaborative learning, online meetings of the cohort will be arranged in the case of working remotely.</p>																		
LENGTH OF THE MODULES:	<p>The School academic year is 36 weeks. Length of delivery of modules is varied:</p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Title</th><th>Delivered over:</th></tr><tr><td>CSBA401</td><td>Choreography Theories and Practice</td><td>12.5-13 weeks</td></tr><tr><td>CSBA402</td><td>Choreography Practice and Principles</td><td>25 weeks</td></tr><tr><td>CSB403</td><td>Choreography for Performance</td><td>25 weeks</td></tr><tr><td>CSB404</td><td>The Choreographer in the Professional Context</td><td>65 weeks</td></tr><tr><td>CSB405</td><td>Professional Performance Project</td><td>12.5-13 weeks</td></tr></table>	Module Code	Module Title	Delivered over:	CSBA401	Choreography Theories and Practice	12.5-13 weeks	CSBA402	Choreography Practice and Principles	25 weeks	CSB403	Choreography for Performance	25 weeks	CSB404	The Choreographer in the Professional Context	65 weeks	CSB405	Professional Performance Project	12.5-13 weeks
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STAFF WHO ARE DELIVERING THE TEACHING:	<p>Course Lead MA Choreography Visiting mentors and teachers</p>																		
THE FEES WHICH STUDENTSCAN EXPECT TO PAY:	<p>Course fees for the MA Choreography (January 2026 entry) are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• £10,589 for UK students• £21,624 for international students <p>Full information about fees can be requested from the Head of Registry and Admissions via email admissions@csbschool.co.uk. There may be an opportunity during the application process to apply for funding towards fees, although to be eligible for Leverhulme funding, applicants need to show proof of UK citizenship and/or residency.</p> <p>For further information on fees please see the School's MA Choreography Fees Policy (Annex A to the MA Choreography Terms and Conditions) at https://www.centralschoolofballet.co.uk/training/policies-and-procedures/</p>																		

<p>ANY EXTRA COSTS (in addition to fees) which students may have to pay to complete the course and estimated cost:</p>	<p>Students are responsible for their own costs of living. Where students are receiving in-person Course delivery, they should take into consideration the cost of London transport as well as some additional travel costs and expenses linked to producing work.</p> <p>Other expenses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting up a website, with website domain annual cost of around £35 - Visits to the theatre for performances, at around £20 per ticket, once a month for one year = £250 <p>Central students are eligible for a Totum student card, which is valid for discounts in shops and theatres. The cost of a student card is currently £24.99, however is subject to annual adjustments.</p> <p>Students may wish to take out personal medical insurance, against injury and to cover physical treatments during the course. Costs for this will vary depending on the insurance provider and level of cover. Contact the School for further information.</p> <p>The majority of the School's Courses of study and their assessments can be physically demanding. In addition, ballet and other dance and theatre skills by their very nature include elements of risk including injury. Whilst we take reasonably practicable measures to reduce or eliminate these risks, it is not possible to eliminate them all. For this reason, you may wish to consider taking out private health insurance to support you with any medical treatment that you may require.</p> <p>International students will need to ensure that they are able to meet any medical costs whilst a student on the MA Choreography, and are therefore advised to take out private medical insurance.</p> <p>International students will incur additional costs when they apply for the Student Visa. Please see https://www.gov.uk/student-visa and contact admissions@csbschool.co.uk for further information.</p>
<p>ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION</p>	<p>This is a flexible course designed for professional choreographers who wish to develop their choreographic profile and professional skills. The course has been developed to allow you to combine critical reflection and practice research linked to the making of choreography, with ongoing work as either a freelance dance practitioner or a dance company member.</p> <p>You will have opportunity to define your own unique qualities and develop your creative voice. Collaborative work with other artists such as composers, designers, film makers and theatre professionals may feature.</p> <p>The course is unique in providing postgraduate study within a professional ballet training context. Central School of Ballet is renowned for its well-established association to many areas of the dance industry, including leading dance companies. The MA in Choreography is validated by the University of Kent and is known for the high calibre of its alumni careers.</p> <p>Course Highlights</p> <p>The making of choreography is at the centre of all of the work of the MA. The majority of the work is studio based, leading to performances. You will have the opportunity to explore, challenge and develop your own individual choreographic practice.</p>

	<p>You will become more aware of the range of influences informing your work and the processes involved in creating, preparing and rehearsing choreography for public performance.</p>
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	<p>Critical reflection and research underpin all aspects of the work. The overall aim is to develop choreographers who, through sophisticated research and exploratory practice, can make a distinctive contribution to the dance profession at the highest level.</p>
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	<p>On successful completion of the course, you will have an internationally recognised qualification awarded by the University of Kent. You will have developed a range of complex practical and theoretical skills and will have increased your choreographic portfolio. Many of our students have gone on to further develop their careers within the dance profession, taking up leadership roles and contributing to the artistic development of UK and international dance companies.</p>
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