

## MA Interactive Media - Frequently Asked Questions

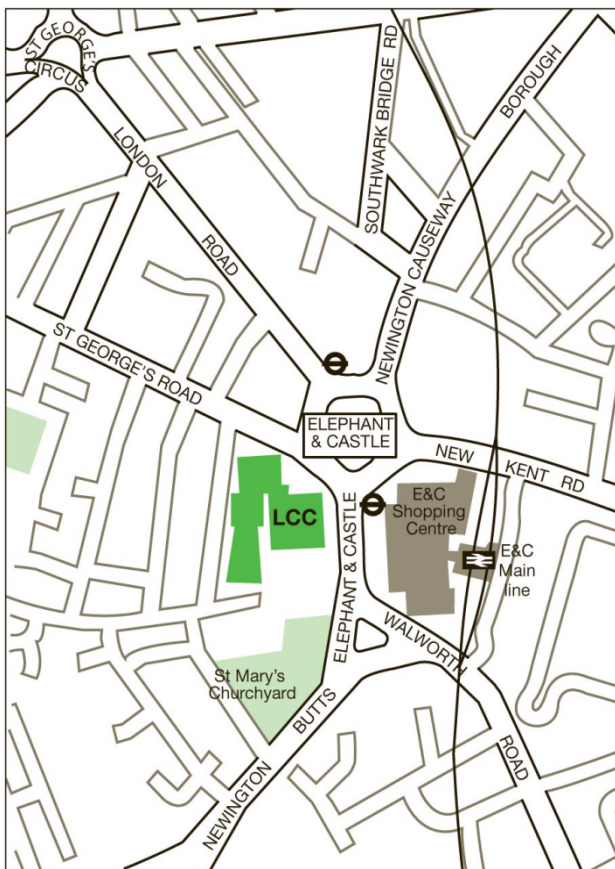
### **When are the open days and other opportunities to visit the College?**

The best way to get an idea of the LCC is by visiting the College either for an open day, for your interview or on one of our general tours ([http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk/lcc\\_open\\_days.htm](http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk/lcc_open_days.htm)). Applicants will be guided around the College and will get a real feel for the place. Applicants will also have the opportunity to meet other prospective students and Course Directors.

Our tour let you look around while the college is at work and there are also tours during the school holidays. Tour staff will be able to answer general questions, but you will need to attend an open day for academic advice.

### **How can I get to the College?**

London College of Communication Elephant & Castle London SE1 6SB



The College is easy to access via underground on the Northern and Bakerloo line.

It offers a great bus network from most major stations including Liverpool Street, Waterloo, Oxford Circus and Euston. These include 12, 453, 133, 33, 68, 468.

The best thing to do if you have doubts is to contact Transport for London Journey Planner on 0207 222 1234

### **I am going to study a postgraduate course, what funding can I apply for?**

For information about what postgraduate funding is available to you, visit the Student Services Advice and Guidance pages (<http://www.arts.ac.uk/pg-funding.htm>). These give you facts, figures and information on concessionary fees, professional career development loans, benefits, trusts and charities and lots more.

If you have any questions about whether you are eligible for funding, or if you need help applying, you can contact Student Advice and Guidance Services.

<http://www.arts.ac.uk/student/about/aboutus.htm>

### **Is there help available in finding accommodation?**

Housing Services at the University provide comprehensive advice on accommodation options. Information on both halls and private accommodation can be found on our housing services page link <http://www.arts.ac.uk/housing.htm>.

### **What do I need to bring to enrolment?**

The Joining Instruction containing full details of enrolment requirements will be emailed to all students at least 6 – 8 weeks before the start date of their course.

The main things that enrolling students need to bring are :

- Evidence of your previous qualifications (originals and photocopies)
- ID (either passport or birth certificate)
- A photograph
- Your fees
- Your offer letter/or email front page
- For students with conditional offer, please bring evidence of their fulfilment (i.e. IELTS and A Level certificates)

### **What happens if I have lost my certificates?**

If you have lost your certificate then you will need to approach the awarding body to find out how to obtain another certificate. This may come at a charge:

<http://www.arts.ac.uk/awarding.htm>

### **Can I work part-time alongside my studies?**

Many other institutions describe their MA courses as full-time but in reality attendance is only required a few days per week. The MA in Interactive Media at the LCC is an intensive full-time course. By full-time we mean 5 days per week every week for the 45 weeks duration of the course. We recognise that some students however do need to work alongside their studies. Experience tells us that to participate in the course fully you should not expect to work externally more than 15 hours per week and that this work should be either at the weekends or in the evenings. Most of the projects on the course involve working in teams and you should expect to be involved with the course on a daily basis.

### **What support is available for dyslexic and disabled students?**

The **Disability Team** support those with disabilities and health conditions to make sure they get the help they need to succeed in their studies. <http://www.arts.ac.uk/student/about/ss-dis-welcome.htm>

### **How much do I have to pay for photocopying my work?**

There are many self service photocopying machines available primarily in the library. Charges will vary depending on size.

### **What does the Students' Union provide?**

The Students' Union provides a multitude of opportunities for students. They run social events, sports activities, bars and a café. You can visit their website to find out more about jobs, democracy, advice, support and volunteering. The Students' Union also organise great

on-site events and allow students to start new clubs if they feel are missing from the current range available.

<http://www.suarts.org/>

### **What are the entry requirements for this course?**

An applicant will be considered for admission who has already achieved an educational level equivalent to an Honours Degree in a field relevant to Interactive Media.

This educational level may be demonstrated by:

- a) possession of the named qualifications above
- b) possession of equivalent qualifications
- c) prior experiential learning, the outcome of which can be demonstrated to be equivalent to formal qualifications otherwise required, (as indicated by at least three years of experience which has led to a demonstrable level of expertise in the understanding and use of graphic design) or; a combination of formal qualifications and experiential learning which, taken together, can be demonstrated to be equivalent to formal qualifications otherwise required

### **Do I need an IELTS as an EU student ?**

If your first language is not English you must demonstrate competence in English to IELTS (International English Language Testing System) 7.0 level or demonstrate an equivalent level of achievement. Students from overseas should contact Vicky Gavulic in the International Office. Tel: +44 (0) 20 7514 8138. Email: [v.gavulic@lcc.arts.ac.uk](mailto:v.gavulic@lcc.arts.ac.uk)

### **Where to get an English language test ?**

The University organises a number of English Language tests for prospective and current UAL students through our Language Centre.

<http://www.arts.ac.uk/languagecentre/english.htm> .

Tel : 020 7514 7261

Fax : 020 7514 7265

Email : [language-centre@arts.ac.uk](mailto:language-centre@arts.ac.uk)

The British Council has the most comprehensive list of test centres and test types. These can be taken across the world and can be found through the British Council's website:

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/new/>

### **How do I apply for the course?**

Home/EU students should download the application form:

<http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk/application>

International students should apply directly to the College using the international postgraduate application form. Further information and application forms can be found on the University website: [http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk/lcc\\_international\\_application.htm](http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk/lcc_international_application.htm)

### **What do I need to prepare for an interview and what will happen on the day?**

Interviews typically last 30 minutes or so and are conducted by the Course Director. For those able to attend in person interviews are conducted in the dedicated Interactive Media

teaching suite. Otherwise interviews take place over the telephone or if required, using Skype.

Our objective in the interview is to determine whether the course is a good fit for your requirements and whether you as a candidate are a good fit for the course.

You may have had interviews at the end of which the interviewer asks, “and now do you have any questions?”

For us your questions are very important and are the starting point of your interview. You should prepare as many as possible.

### **Is this course affected by funding restrictions on enrolling for Equivalent or Lower Qualifications (ELQs)?**

Please visit the website at the link below to gain further information about ELQ's and the MA Interactive Media <http://www.arts.ac.uk/elq.htm>

### **When do I need to pay my fees?**

You will need to pay your fees at or prior to enrolment and by the start date of your course <http://www.arts.ac.uk/pg-fees.htm>

### **What does the materials fee cover?**

The material fees cover some of the basic materials bought for you to use during your course. There may be additional costs for specialist materials and equipment.

[http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk/docs/MAInteractiveMedia\\_leaflet.pdf](http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk/docs/MAInteractiveMedia_leaflet.pdf)

### **Is there an alternative start date?**

This course only start once a year in the autumn term.

### **What are the term dates and how long is the course?**

Autumn Term	11th October to 16th December
Spring Term	6th January to 13th April
Summer Term	5th May to 13th September

### **How much attendance is expected of me in term-time?**

MA Interactive Media is a 1 year full-time Post Graduate course of 45 weeks duration. The course comprises 3 Phases beginning in early October and finishing the following mid September.

*(The timing of these 3 Phases differs significantly from the published undergraduate term dates).*

Indicative learning hours are 600 hours for each Phase of the course making a total of 1800 hours over the 45 weeks (an average of 40 hours per week). During all course Phases you will be working on team based projects that will in most instances require students to attend the college for lectures, workshops, research, presentations or self-directed study for up to 5 days per week. Some projects may involve a level of fieldwork off campus.

The course is extremely intense and opportunities to undertake part-time paid work outside the published timetable are limited to evenings and weekends.

### **What facilities are available to me?**

The course is exclusively taught within the Faculty's dedicated Interactive Media teaching studio equipped with Apple Mac computers (*some of which are also configured to run Windows XP*). The studio also has high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity, enabling students to use their own laptops, iPhones, iPads or other devices. The course also runs its own Apple servers to store your work on and to publish web sites. It also has its own dedicated printing facilities.

The studio is equipped with data projection & audio-visual equipment for use in lectures and presentations and comprises two distinct areas; one for computer workstations and desks, the other a computer-free brainstorming/team-working space. The facilities are designed to replicate a similar commercial environment.

### **What equipment am I supposed to provide?**

You should ideally have access to a computer at home. Previous students have indicated that having a personal laptop is very advantageous. Those students wishing to purchase Apple computers after enrolment are entitled to a significant discount through the online Apple Higher Education Store UK.

### **What is the balance between practical work and theory work?**

The course is designed to be approximately 50% theoretical and 50% practice oriented. This balance is reflected in all assessable projects and is also the case in the Final Major Project which comprises of a written dissertation and a group-based practical project weighted at 50% for each component.

### **Is there a lot of writing expected on the course?**

Yes. Each project requires at least one written summative reflective report and for some projects several such reports are required. In a typical project you may expect to write at least 2,500 words. Your final dissertation should be a minimum of 7,000 and a maximum of 10,000 words. Increasingly the course requires the contemporaneous use of academically oriented wikis and blogs.

### **What kind of assessments will I have?**

The majority of assessments will take the form of a written summative reflective report that enables us to assess an individual's learning within a team-based project. On this course we assess your learning as opposed to assessing artefacts. The practical component of your Final major Project is assessed by means of a viva (oral examination).

### **What kind of career can I expect on completing the course?**

Graduates of the MA Interactive Media are frequently recruited into mid-level or senior positions by a wide range of London based media companies, Those students entering organisations at a more junior level very soon find themselves promoted to increasingly more senior positions. The course maintains strong links with industry partners who attend our annual Degree Show exhibition searching out new talent.

Some international students choose to remain here in London to gain valuable industry experience whilst others return to their home countries to pursue successful careers. The types of positions gained are varied but include; project manager, user experience architect, interface designer, senior web designer, information architect, programmer, usability specialist, producer, SEO specialist, content strategist, developer & interaction designer.

A significant proportion of our graduates start their own companies and in some instances further develop their course Final Major Projects and take them to market. This process can be aided by the University's Enterprise Centre for the Creative Arts - ECCA.

### **Are there opportunities for further study after I complete the course?**

The London College of Communication is committed to a broad range of research degrees, including theoretical, experimental and practice-based studies. In particular, students may undertake a programme of research in which their own creative work forms, as a point of origin or reference, a significant part of the intellectual enquiry. The creative work may be undertaken in any appropriate field but must be clearly presented in relation to the argument of the thesis and fall within its theoretical, historical, critical or design context.

Research degrees may be undertaken at MPhil or PhD level. Master of Philosophy (MPhil) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) are achieved through an individual research project in a programme of study agreed with the Director of Studies.

### **How do I speak to someone for personal advice?**

Each student is allocated a personal tutor with whom you will have 3 personal tutorials during the MA. The University's Student Services also provides a wide range of support, as does the Student's Union.