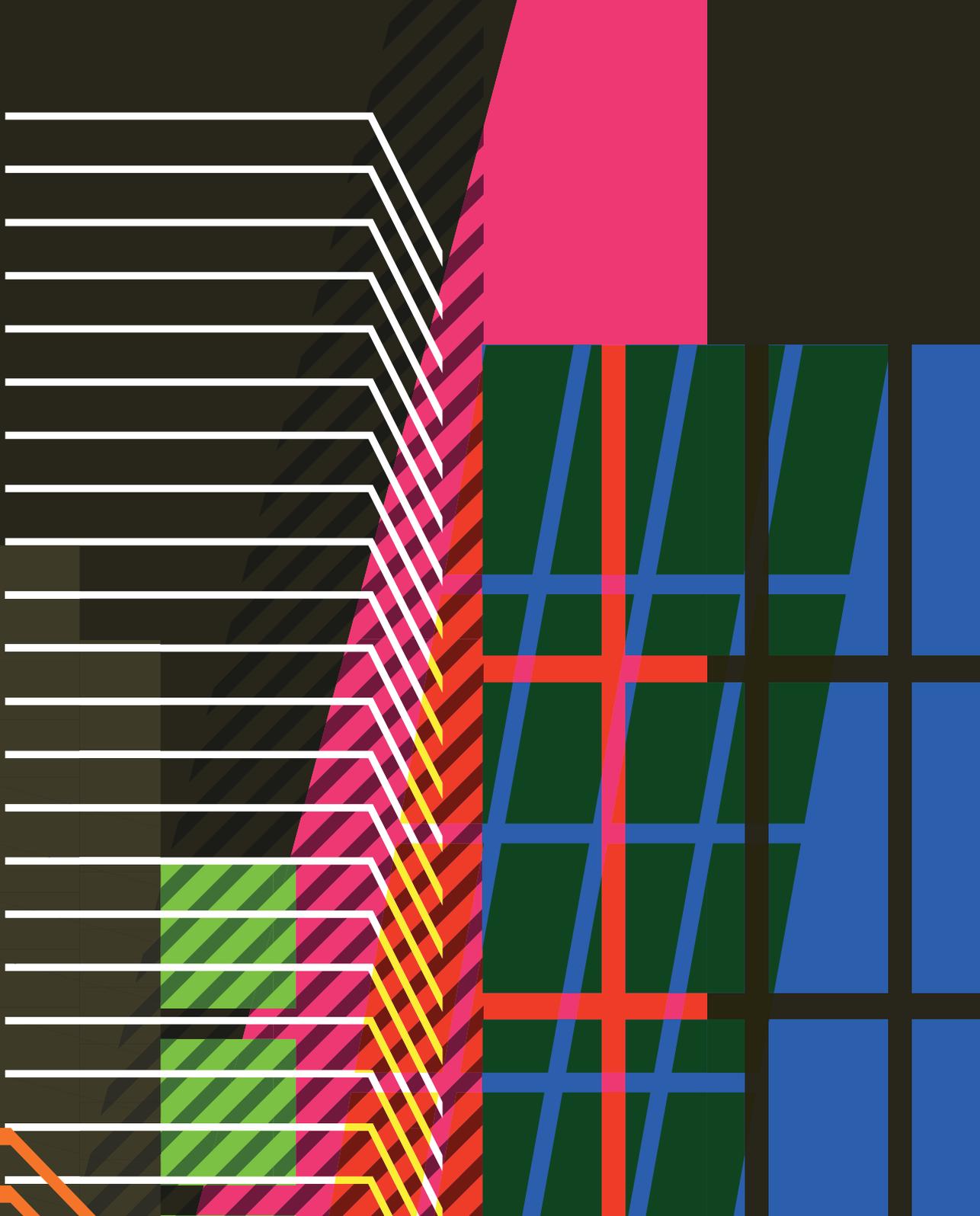


Update Reports
Spring Term
2020/21



Contents

| | | |
|--|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Introduction | 03 | James Mcdonald |
| Library Services | 04 | Tania Olsson |
| Technical Resources | 07 | Chris Purday & Marco Eastwood |
| Academic Support | 09 | Christie Johnson |
| International Student Experience | 11 | Chris Bryant |
| Learning, Teaching and Student Experience | 13 | Jason Copley & Adrienne Tulley |
| Digital Learning | 15 | Matt Lingard & Peter Beare |
| Progression and Attainment | 17 | Terry Finnigan & Lucy Panesar |
| Development and Quality | 19 | James Goulds |
| International | 21 | Ian Storey & Tom Webb |
| Work Based Learning and Placements | 23 | Evi Kontova & Mandip Takhar |
| Equality, Diversity and Inclusion | 25 | Steve Cross |

Introduction

Welcome to the LCC Spring Term Academic Update Report 2020/21

The Report provides updates from the College's academic support departments, highlighting key online events, initiatives and developments planned for the forthcoming term, as well as reporting back on recent achievements and successes.

Although the Report is designed to be tabled for consideration at College committees, it should also be of wider interest to students and staff.

If you have any suggestions on how the Update Report may be developed for future editions, please let me know j.macdonald@lcc.arts.ac.uk

James Macdonald
Dean of Academic Strategy
London College of Communication

Library Services

Library Services

Opening hours

Our virtual service is open. For library support please contact us on [ASK](#)

11 January - 26 March 2021

Monday - Friday: 9am - 10pm

Saturday: 10am - 8pm

Sunday: 10am - 8pm

Bookings

The Learning Zone (LZ) at London College of Communication is open for any students who have no study facilities where they are living. The LZ will be open 10am – 4pm, Monday – Friday and you need to book in advance. **Please select the LCC Library from the home screen before booking a library space.**

<https://librarybookings.arts.ac.uk>

The Learning Zone is open for individual study only.

The social distancing and safety measures have been updated and the following changes have been implemented for your safety:

- Unless you are exempt, students attending a UAL building for any purpose will be required to wear a medical face mask in place of a cloth face covering while on site. These will be issued to you on arrival. Students who

book into the Learning Zone at LCC at any time during lockdown will be required to wear medical face masks whilst they are using the facility.

- Everyone on site must strictly observe 2-metres social distancing rules, wash their hands frequently and for 20 seconds (and use hand gel) and wear the correct face masks and visors unless they are exempt.
- If you feel ill in any way, you must remain at home and not come onto site. If you think you may have COVID-19, you must get tested and follow the NHS Test and Trace and UAL Report and Trace processes.

Library returns

During lockdown we are asking you to keep your loans until the libraries have reopened. We are not charging fines.

If you are leaving or have already left the UK or need to return your books immediately, you can post loans please back to the LCC Library.

If you are coming on campus already you may return items to the trolley at college reception or in the library entrance.

If you have any questions or please [chat with or email us](#)

1-1 Support

- Drop in and chat with us at on [ASK](#) or make an appointment with [your librarian](#) to learn how they can help you.
- We offer 1-1 basic IT help and Adobe drop ins with Learning Zone staff 9am-9pm during term-time for all staff and students. Click on the desktop link from any library PC or Mac, or find us on Blackboard Collaborate.

Your online library

Your [virtual library](#) is open and ready to explore 24/7 to support your research and learning. There are thousands of online resources at your fingertips.

- Check out your [online library resources](#).
- Use [Articles Plus](#) to search online subscriptions and image databases.
- See our [Subject guides](#) for key resources in all disciplines.

Access to items not held at UAL

Please feel free to suggest items for purchase, either login to [Library Search](#), or contact your [librarian](#).

Library Services

Online access to physical items held at UAL

Our [scans for teaching](#) service allows staff to request copyright compliant parts of an item we have in stock in hard copy to e copy for linking to Moodle for access by students. Staff please [contact us](#) with any requests.

Covid-19 archive

What has UAL done in response to the pandemic in 2020?

Help us make an archive of change during 2020: how did such a hands-on, haptic and creative institution, thriving on experimentation and learning adapt to the challenges brought about by COVID-19?

What has been important to you in 2020?

We invite you to collaborate with us in the creation of this archive. We aim to create a body of digital material, which will enable future researchers to understand the impact of the pandemic across the university.

We need your COVID-19 stories

We ask you to identify existing digital materials which best represent your experiences of the pandemic and demonstrate how it has impacted your area of activity at UAL.

The archive will be for the use of UAL staff, students and researchers, to enable future research and assessment of the institution's paradigm shifts in working practices and the impact this will have on arts-based education. Submissions can be made using this [form](#). For further information or clarification, please email the University Archives and Special Collections Centre at archive-enquiries@arts.ac.uk.

Keeping you updated

We'll make sure we keep you up-to-date with new developments on our Stories pages or follow us on social media. [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

We will continue to review library services in 2021, as possible, maintaining covid safe processes.

Questions, suggestions, feedback

We are here to support you, so if you have any questions or suggestions please check our [FAQs](#), [chat with or email us](#).

Author

Tania Olsson

Learning Resources Manager ,LCC

January 2021

Technical Resources

Technical Resources to update

Information for staff and students

Staff and students can find information about technical resources on our Moodle site:

<https://moodle.arts.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=22742>

You'll find key details about each technical area, including:

opening times, health & safety guidelines, staff contact details, booking details, links to taught sessions and lots of online resources.

Online delivery

This term we have shifted our focus to online delivery once again. We will be continuing to support students through online teaching, 1:1 support sessions and digital resources.

All of our teams have developed extensive online resources that students can tap into through Moodle and our associated blogs & websites.

Some teams will continue to deliver online teaching and 1:1 support in the form of daily ad hoc online drop ins, as well as scheduled 1:1 support sessions.

We will be sending out weekly mail outs to let students know what we're offering each week. Please go to our Moodle site for more information.

Technical Resources overview video

Finally, take a look at our Technical Resources video, which gives an overview of all things technical at LCC as well as information about the changes we have made this year:

<https://ual.cloud.panopto.eu/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=01cc7780-d563-4bb2-a001-ac5a009a69d7>

Please email: technical.enquiries@lcc.arts.ac.uk if you have any queries.

Author

Marco Eastwood

Technical Resources Manager ,LCC

January 2021



Academic Support

Academic Support

Academic Support is open to all our students, FE, UG and PG – to enable them to develop as learners and enhance their academic and creative confidence.

Academic Support will be offered online in Block 2. If a student has concerns about live online learning, we aim to provide alternative forms of support and additional resources. Email us to find out more.

academicsupport@lcc.arts.ac.uk

Spotlight on

Access and Participation Plan (APP)

Academic Support's focus this year for Access and Participation is writing for first-year BA students. So far, we have worked with students in BA Animation, BA Design Management and Cultures and BA Media Communications.

Peer Mentoring

LCC Academic Support is expanding our network of Peer Mentors. We currently have 33 mentors and 46 mentees (UG and PG), and Peer Mentors have hosted 5 Student Lounges. [Watch this video to find out more.](#)

Transition

Attendance at November's Week 6 events for the Mid-term Recharge was excellent.

In addition to the Academic Support team, two Visiting Practitioners and a PG student contributed to the week's activities.

Spring into Block 2: Transition events take place 1st– 5th February.

Help-seeking behaviour

Students who are motivated to seek support typically perform better. We would love to understand more about why students in all courses and Schools self-select to seek Academic Support (or not).

Email us to let us know what we can do to help students.

Good practice

Embedded support increases across the college at all levels, with over 120 workshops in October and November.

- Wellbeing and belonging: Students have found activities which develop their reflective practices very useful, particularly in terms of countering anxiety and building confidence.
- We continue to adapt our teaching for online spaces. Some examples of enhanced provision include:

- We collated guidance on encouraging students to participate using their microphones and/or cameras.
- A session for BA students on Cultural Capitals. Students drew their own 'tree of life' representing their identities.
- Creating an online group activity from a quiz about the differences between analytical and descriptive writing.
- Providing guidance on alternative forms of assessment for students, such as visual essays.
- Encouraging students to undertake tactile activities off-screen such as visualising what one is thinking through mind-mapping and making time-management plans.
- We developed an Independent Learning Kit, now published on Academic Support Online.
- Transition events for Block 2 (1–5 February 2021) include:
Creative Writing
Practical happiness
Collaboration
Arts of attention.

Author

Christie Johnson
Head of Academic Support, LCC
January 2021



International Student Experience

International Student Experience

The Academic Progression Tool (APT)

This was piloted on a number of Postgraduate courses during the first term of the new academic year. In terms of International Student Experience this is aided by outreach work with internationally diverse cohorts. The aim is to provide course teams with early indicators and specific interventions to enable as many students as possible to successfully complete their studies. The project will expand in 2021 to reach a greater number of MA courses. The APT team will be running some online training sessions in how to use the tool, details of which will be sent out in January.

Online drop in sessions

There has been a steady flow of Tier 4 students using the online drop in appointments. With online support now firmly embedded this should increase during the spring term. Students can book through the moodle site 'Current International & EU students' which all students are enrolled on. This has a booking system which lists a number of available dates and times. Alternatively they can email the International Student Experience Officer directly. c.bryant@lcc.arts.ac.uk

[Student support leaflet](#)

Author

Chris Bryant
International Student Experience Officer
January 2021



Learning, Teaching and Student Experience

Learning, Teaching and Student Experience

Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund

The LCC's Teaching & Learning Innovation Fund is now open for applications for 2020/21.

In response to our changing circumstances we have revised the fund to reflect that project work will be on a smaller scale this year and the funding can be used to respond to issues we're facing in the current teaching & learning landscape, as well as on-going areas of priority for the college.

We invite proposals for innovations and interventions against one or more the following criteria:

- Develop physical and online learning spaces that respond to the current pedagogic landscape and build learning communities
- Liberate the curriculum & promote inclusive teaching and learning through decolonization and internationalization of the curriculum.
- Enhance assessment for equity: sharing good practice around assessment & effective feedback; developing students' assessment literacy
- Develop sustainable practices across all areas of academic practice

- Support students' well-being in response to Covid 19 and the development of compassionate pedagogies
- Improve student experience in key areas as identified in survey metrics with a focus on course organisation & management and learning community
- Support development of students' creative attributes amid the impact on the Design, Media & Screen industries of Covid-19

If you would like to discuss an application, please contact your Teaching & Learning Innovation Lead:

Mark Ingham - Design School
Frania Hall - Media School
Susi Wilkinson - Screen School

[Applications](#) can be submitted throughout the year up until May 1st.

Please submit applications to Chris Bryant
c.bryant@lcc.arts.ac.uk

LCC Teaching and Learning Hub

We continue to add resources to the Hub to support teaching and learning - this includes updates to the [LCC Tutor Handbook](#) as well as resources and guides to support your [Online Teaching](#)

Date for the Diary

The annual UAL Teaching and Learning Conference will take place on the 6th July 2021. A programme of events will be issued nearer the time.

[Author](#)

Adrienne Tulley
Learning and Teaching Development
Project Manager
January 2021

Digital Learning

Digital Learning

Digital learning focuses on how we make use of digital spaces in teaching and learning activities. The Digital Learning platforms at UAL will continue to play a significant role in 2021 as the blended learning approach continues. LCC courses continue to use Moodle as the core hub for online teaching and learning. Moodle is used along with a suite of other digital learning platforms and tools: Collaborate ULTRA, Workflow, myblog, Padlet, Panopto and Microsoft Office 365.

Studying and Teaching Online

Staff and students can find information, guides and videos about teaching and studying online at these dedicated websites:

UAL Teaching Online:
arts.ac.uk/teachingonline

UAL Studying Online:
arts.ac.uk/studyingonline

The Digital Learning Team

The LCC Digital Learning Team provide front-line support for the digital learning platforms, but can also support you in the integration of digital learning into your curriculum; assessment; teaching and learning activities; student support; and quality processes. We can advise on the optimal online tools for your specific needs.

We encourage and promote good practice in digital learning through Blend-it, our self-paced Moodle course for staff about the principles and practicalities of blended learning and teaching. We host regular events such as the LCC Digital Learning Open Forum and the Digital Pedagogy Reading Group. We deliver staff-development sessions in liaison with fellow digital-learning colleagues across UAL. We also advocate on matters of UAL digital learning policy and practice on behalf of LCC.

The LCC Digital Learning Team has undergone some expansion, and some staff roles have changed.

Digital Learning Director: Matt Lingard
 Digital Learning Producer: Peter Beare
 Senior Digital Learning Coordinator: Lee Leewis
 Digital Learning Coordinator: Puiyin Wong

LCC DL Peer Support Network

In addition to team above, the LCC Digital Learning Peer Support Network are a small team of students who have been recruited to provide digital learning support to fellow students, and are presently offering support for users of Workflow.

Contact

For more information about digital learning at LCC, contact LCCDigitalLearning@lcc.arts.ac.uk or join the Teaching @ LCC Microsoft Team. LCC staff can also find support materials and information at lcc.teaching.myblog.arts.ac.uk/digital-learning/

Author

Peter Beare
Digital Learning Producer
January 2021

Progression & Attainment

Progression & Attainment

Academic Progression Tool (APT)

Last year APT was offered to every LCC undergraduate course. This academic year, APT has been offered to all LCC undergraduate and postgraduate courses. This offer includes an APT workbook, prepared by APT Administrator Veronica Otero, for tracking and identifying students needing support, and outreach assistance from Student Experience Officer, Chris Bryant.

Evaluation will be undertaken at the end of block 1 to understand APT's use and impact, which will inform the development of APT moving forward, alongside broader work looking at tutorial practice at the college.

Latest update on the Teaching Hub:

<https://lccteaching.myblog.arts.ac.uk/tracking-and-supporting-students-this-term/>

Changemakers

The LCC Changemakers initiative started in April, and since October 2020 all nine programmes have had a Changemaker working with them. The Changemakers are a group of current students and recent alumni, from both BA and MA courses, of mixed ethnicities and fee status, employed through ArtsTemps to work with us for four hours each week during term-time.

In the autumn term of 2020 the Changemakers have been very busy and in much demand. They have been playing an active role in co-developing decolonised curricula through the course reapproval process, working closely with BA and MA course teams, course reps and the quality team. They have also been supporting BA courses currently in AEM, and the work streams of decolonising curricula, fostering belonging and equity in assessment. These have provided valuable opportunities to embed the practice of decolonising and liberating curricula through looking not only at the representation of diverse practices and practitioners on course reading lists, but also in course content and course delivery.

Through this work, and through attendance to course committees, programme meetings and staff development sessions, Changemakers are building relationships with courses that will lead to more work to co-develop decolonised curricula through the first months of 2021. This will be alongside evaluation of the initiative and recruitment of the next Changemakers.

Latest update on the Teaching Hub:

<https://lccteaching.myblog.arts.ac.uk/changemakers-update/>

Decolonising Wikipedia Network

Changemakers are also playing a lead role in the establishment and facilitation of LCC's new Decolonising Wikipedia Network, a partnership project with Wikimedia UK. The network supports students and staff to edit and create Wikipedia entries through a decolonial lens at a scale and pace that suits them. This includes anything from a small intervention to an existing Wikipedia page in a day, to a writing one new Wikipedia page over a month, solo or in collaboration with other network members.

In doing this, the network aims to prompt and support more of the college community to play an active role in decolonising knowledge production and increasing the visibility and credibility of under-represented figures and topics connected to our subject disciplines. Over 30 LCC students and staff have signed-up to the network so far, and several were able to attend the network's first live event on 16 December.

Latest update on the Teaching Hub:

<https://lccteaching.myblog.arts.ac.uk/curriculum/decolonising-wikipedia-network/>

Author

Prepared by Lucy Panesar

Progression and Attainment Project Manager →
January 2021

Development & Quality

Development and Quality

Annual Course Monitoring (ACM)

A reminder to UG course leaders that the deadline for Annual Monitoring reports and enhancement plans is the 4th February. Please get in touch with a member of the quality team if you have any questions. There is also guidance available on [canvas](#).

Extenuating Circumstances

The quality team is responding to students queries and claims as soon as we can. For this academic year we have received 2700 claims to date, and the vast majority have been approved. If colleagues are discussing EC claims with students, please refer them to the guidance and categories before they submit their claim, as they are then more likely to be approved.

<https://www.arts.ac.uk/study-at-ual/academic-regulations/course-regulations/extenuating-circumstances-and-time-out>

Author

James Goulds

LCC Quality Manager

January 2021



International

International

Resuming of student / staff exchanges

We will resume student exchange programmes this Spring with a small number of LCC students participating from February onwards. The College will also be welcoming c.10 students from exchange partners at the start of the next UG block of teaching in February. The University will also shortly resume Erasmus+ staff exchanges from the Spring of 2021 onwards. An announcement to all College staff on how to apply for staff exchanges will be made early in the Spring Term.

All staff and student travel will have enhanced risk assessment in place, along with additional procedures to ensure compliance with post-Brexit immigration policies in the UK and EU.

Virtual collaborative projects with partner universities

Although some staff and student international travel will resume in 2021, in order for more LCC students to have some form of international experience this year, a number of virtual collaborations will be progressing over the course of the Spring Term:

- Communications & Media programme with Ryerson University Professional Communication

- Moving Image & Digital Arts programme with Ryerson University's Global Campus Studio
- Interaction Design & Visual Communication programme with RMIT University

More information is available on our [Canvas](#) pages for course teams looking to develop projects like this in the future.

Creative Cities

As part of UAL's deepening relationship with the city of Bilbao, students and staff in LCC's Photography Programme will co-deliver a summer school with staff and students from University of the Basque Country this June, provisionally entitled Images, Community and Partnerships in Practice on the island of Zorrotzaurre in Bilbao. Development work for the project will be continuing over the course of the Spring term.

Values-based partnerships

LCC International will be contributing to a University group over the course of the Spring looking at how UAL may develop a set of guidelines on embedding common ethical concerns and UAL values in to our international partnership work.

Progress on Autumn 2020 update

- UAL International Mobility Working Group (looking at future provision of student mobility in the wake of Brexit, Covid19 and the climate crisis) has now presented to UAL's Executive Board and produced its final report making over 30 recommendations on the future provision and organisation of mobility, as well as addressing some of the barriers to it at UAL. This work will now be taken forward with an implementation plan coordinated by the International Relations Unit.
- Collaboration with Universities UK on producing sector guidance on internationalisation at home activities and short-term mobility will conclude this term with focus group meetings and profiles of LCC students and courses who have delivered projects in these areas.

[Author](#)

Tom Webb

International Development Manager

January 2021



Work Based Learning and Placements

Work Based Learning and Placements

Diploma in Professional Studies

We have been working on the expansion of the Diploma in Professional Studies (DPS) to the Screen and Media School undergraduate courses. DPS, currently on offer in the Design School, is the optional industry placement year, taking place after the second year in an undergraduate course. DPS offers students the opportunity to undertake placements, self-initiated or freelance projects, socially engaged and entrepreneurial activities. Students who opt-in DPS gain significant experience, contacts and skills contributing to improved attainment results.

We have been working with courses to develop and organise a DPS offer either via modification or as part of their re-approval. The following five courses across Screen and Media are the first to launch DPS:

- BA (Hons) Animation will introduce the first DPS year in 2022/23
- BA (Hons) Magazine Journalism and Publishing will introduce the first DPS year in 2023/24
- BA (Hons) Journalism aims to introduce the first DPS year in 2023/24

These courses will join forces to offer a joint Professional Practice unit which will prepare students for DPS.

- BA (Hons) Film Practice and BA (Hons) Film and TV aim to offer the first DPS year in 2022/23

Our development work so far has involved:

- Consultations with academic teams to introduce DPS to courses
- Identifying parts of the curriculum best suited to prepare students going out in the industry
- Modifying units where appropriate
- Developing content for new professional practice units
- Support with the modification and reapproval paperwork
- Working on versions of the DPS handbook to make it bespoke to the three Schools
- Collaborating with teams across LCC including Business and Innovation, and UAL Careers and Employability, to create additional support and resources that will be available to DPS students on their journey in the industry.

The Digital Grid Project

The [Digital Grid Project](#) is continuing into the Spring term and the requirements are to engage 23 placement students with SMEs in the London area. 5 placements have already commenced and the remainder are currently being processed and advertised via the Paid Opportunities section of the LCC Work Placements moodle page.

These placements aim to assist SMEs with Digital Marketing, User Experience and Graphic Design whilst also developing the placements students' experience and professional practice. All placements are paid at £13.35 per hour (including holiday pay) via Arts Temps. The Digital Grid Project is open to all LCC students with the relevant skills and experience.

The PLACE

The PLACE remains closed due to Covid- 19 until further notice. Therefore the student offer is being moved to online events/workshops in collaboration with Careers and Employability during the Spring term.

Events/workshops are being created in response to the most common queries from LCC Students in order to help build their knowledge and confidence .These will be advertised via the [LCC Work Placement Moodle page](#) .

Placements advice sessions are available on request by emailing: placements@lcc@arts.ac.uk

Authors

Evi Kontova - Work based Learning Curriculum Development Project Manager

Mandip Takhar - Placements Manager

January 2021



Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

Anti-Racism Community of Practice Teams site

LCC's Anti-Racism Staff Development Teams site now has over 260 staff members, and continues to receive requests from managers for new staff to be added. A number of members are using the site to share resources to help develop our understanding and confidence as a community including resources on critical race theory, decolonising curricula, and freedom of speech. Other members have been getting in touch to say how helpful they find updates to the site, for their personal and professional development.

LCC's Safety and Freedom reading group, run by Lucy Panesar and Pratap Rughani, will meet again this term to look at the Equality and Human Rights Commission guidance on free speech for higher education.

Spring term staff development

The newly established Decolonising Wikipedia Network has now been introduced to staff and students across college comms channels, and was presented as part of the January Digital Open Learning Forum. It already has over 50 members.

Staff and students are encouraged to join the network to support them to make editorial interventions in Wikipedia on an extra-curricular basis, whilst the LCC Changemakers work with courses to explore possibilities for also embedding this practice into curricula.

Author

Lucy Panesar

Progression and Attainment Project Manager

January 2021

