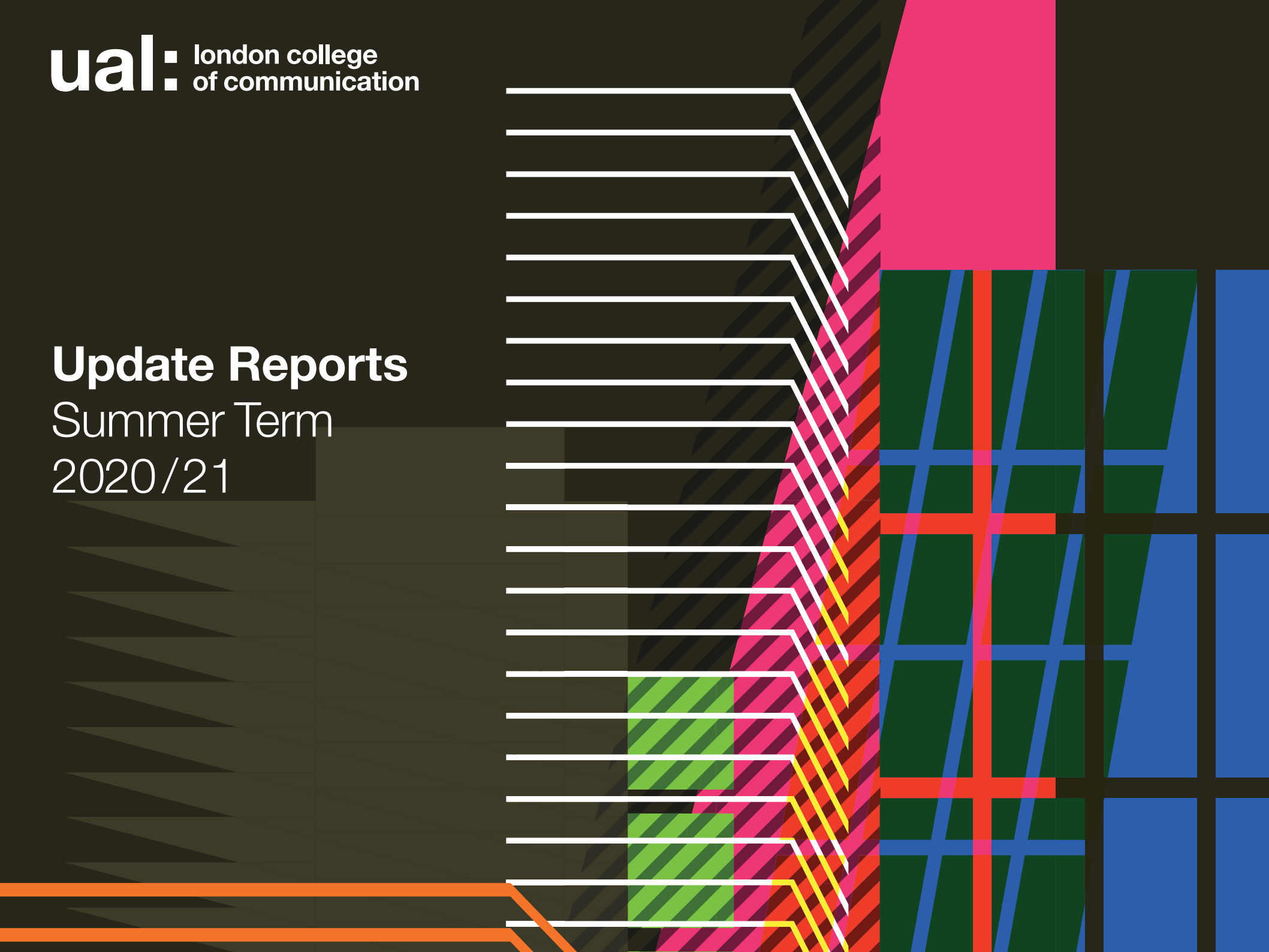
ual: london college of communication

Update Reports

Summer Term

2020/21



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Introduction

Welcome to the LCC Summer 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

Libraries are open 12th April- 20th June

Monday - Friday: 9am - 10pm
Saturday (all sites) and Sunday (except CCW sites): 10am-8pm
May 3rd and 31s Bank Holidays: Closed

Opening hours may change at short notice. Please check here for updates.

Students can only visit their own College library except on Sundays. Contact us to book a Sunday at another site.

Vacation opening times:
21st June – 26th September
Monday – Friday: 10am - 6pm

Bookings

Students can pre book a study space twice a day for up to 4 hours.

Bookings are for individual study only (no groups or household bubbles)

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 face covering while on site. These must be worn at all times in the Libraries according to the government rules.

Everyone on site must strictly observe 2-metres social distancing rules, wash their hands frequently and for 20 seconds (and use hand gel).

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 were asking you to keep your loans until the libraries have reopened. Now we are open you may return items to the trolley at college reception or in the library.

If you are still unable to come on site to return your books when they are due we are asking you to post loans back to the LCC Library. Contact us for a return label.

We do not charge fines on library items.

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.
- UAL staff and students can access the Digital Skills Library Drop-ins for live support with software queries such as Adobe.

Access to physical items held at UAL

You can continue to reserve items for click and collect to borrow. You will receive an email when they are ready collect, and they will be ready, issued to you, when you arrive. All items are quarantined for 72 hours once you return them, so will be taken off your account after this time.
Access to items not held at UAL

Please feel free to suggest items for purchase, either login to Library Search, or contact your librarian.

NEW: Access to reference items

Students and staff can now request to view up to 3 open access reference items from their own library (journals/reference books not available for

Library Services

loan) and closed access materials (Zines, special collections).

We require at least 48 hours notice. These requests are subject to availability. They may be in use or in quarantine (72 hours). If we cannot locate your item we will email you before your booking starts.

Students will make requests when booking a study space for reference items in the Library bookings system.

Staff should contact us via Ask or their librarian. Covid-19 archive

Your online library

If you cannot come on site and you need access to resources that you cannot find online please contact Your Librarian to help you locate e-resources or discuss alternatives.

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.
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Scans for teaching

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.

Access to items not held at UAL

Please feel free to suggest items for purchase, either login to Library Search, or contact your librarian.

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
May 2021

Technical Resources

Technical Resources

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

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
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May 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 term 3. If a student has concerns about live online learning please Email us to find out more. academicsupport@lcc.arts.ac.uk

See our flyer for independent learning development events and workshops:

- Overcoming creative blocks
- Dissertations (aimed at second-year students)
- Exploring the postgraduate academic journey
- Community building across courses and programmes in World Conversations
- Creative writing

Spotlight on

Dialogues about assessment
Giving students opportunities to ask about assessment opens up a space for clarifying expectations and requirements. Make the Grade is a learning intervention that the LCC Academic Support team can facilitate in partner-ship with course teams.
Further information is online.

Peer Mentoring
LCC Academic Support now has 16 more Peer Mentors (49 in total) and 24 more mentees (70 in total), who have participated in 7 Student Lounges. Our pilot with Design Management includes 3 mentors and 15 mentees.
Watch this video to find out more.

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) – please email us.

Access and Participation Plan (APP)
Academic Support's focus this year for Access and Participation is writing for first-year BA students. We continue to work with students on BA Animation, BA Design Management and BA Media Communications.

Good practice

- Embedded support takes the form of workshops integrated into courses and devised in partnership with course teams. From pre-degree through UG and into PG, we continue to work with all students at all levels.

Web content

- Our Independent Learning Kit for students has been published on Academic Support Online.
- Visual essays resource (Padlet): Asynchronous 'Essay Film, Video Essay and Desktop Documentary' library/resource.
- Read the student story about the benefits seven students at different levels found from working with LCC Academic Support.
- Overview for Staff of LCC Academic Support.
- Overview for Students of LCC Academic Support
- LCC Academic Support's flyer for events and workshops

Video content

- Watch a video about LCC Academic Support

Author
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Head of Academic Support, LCC
May 2021

International Student Experience

International Student Experience

The Academic Progression Tool (APT)

The academic progression tool is continuing to gain traction amongst the BA and Postgraduate cohorts. 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. Currently the APT team are piloting support that can be run at cohort level, including sessions around blended delivery.

Career Networking Sessions

LCC will be offering a series of careers networking sessions during May. The week long programme will offer students at all levels, the chance to network with industry professionals from a range of creative fields. Tier 4 and Home/EU students will be able to gain valuable insight into areas such as networking, portfolio's, freelance work and establishing industry connections.

Online drop in sessions

There has been a steady flow of Tier 4 students using the online drop in appointments in 2021. With online support now firmly embedded this should continue to increase throughout the 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

c.bryant@lcc.arts.ac.uk

Author
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International Student Experience Officer
May 2021

Learning, Teaching and Student Experience

Learning, Teaching and Student Experience

PG CERT / MA Academic Practice

AL staff can now apply for a place on the PgCert or MA Academic Practice in Art, Design and Communication commencing in January 2022. The final application deadline is 5pm on Friday 17 September 2021, although we are advising people to apply as soon as possible, as earlier applicants are more likely to be placed on their first choice of cohort.

Please follow the link to the updated PgCert and MA pages
https://www.arts.ac.uk/about-ual/teaching-and-learning-exchange/professional-development

There are two stages to the application process again this year:

1. Applicants need to complete the Staff authorisation form - available on the website.
2. Once applicants have completed the authorisation form you can submit an online course application form via SITS.

As you can see from the website the PgCert and MA have changed this year. There are no elective units, and the Standalone course has been discontinued. The Exchange are currently developing a CPD programme that will include some elements of the former elective units, but these courses will not carry University credits. The CPD programme will be confirmed later in the year.

As previously, we do not charge fees for any UAL staff, including Associate Lecturers.

Further information about these qualifications will be published on the LCC Teaching Hub.

July Staff Development weeks

The July staff development weeks will take place between the 5th and 16th of July. These two weeks will be online and include sessions on Teaching and Learning, Professional Development, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. We will also be running Wellbeing sessions.

The full programme and booking information will be disseminated in June.

UAL Education Conference

The annual UAL Conference will take place on the 6th and 7th July 2021.

The conference is online and has been extended to two (shorter) days to make the experience more manageable for more staff. To encourage wider educational and transformational debate, the title and focus of the Conference has changed from ‘Learning and Teaching’ to ‘Education’.

Thinking Teaching: July

The Teaching, Learning and Employability Exchange will be delivering two Talking Teaching sessions in July. If you don’t have a teaching qualification these sessions are a good place to start.

For bookings and to find out more please follow the link.
https://www.arts.ac.uk/about-ual/teaching-and-learning-exchange

Author
Adrienne Tulley
Learning and Teaching Development Project Manager
May 2021

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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 the Summer Term as the blended learning approach continues. LCC courses use Moodle as the core hub for online teaching and learning. Moodle is complemented with a suite of other digital learning platforms and tools including Collaborate ULTRA, Workflow, MyBlog, Padlet, Panopto and Microsoft Office 365.

Improving the accessibility of Moodle

In May a new feature called Ally will be activated in Moodle. Ally is an accessibility enhancement service that will give students additional options for accessing online content, and give staff contextual advice on making materials more accessible.
Whenever you upload a supported document to Moodle, Ally works behind the scenes to convert this file into several accessible alternatives. Students and staff will be able to download the converted material as a variety of documents to customise for reading on all sorts of devices. Supported files can even be transformed into speech-based audio files, so you can hear, instead of read the materials.

Ally integrates automatically into Moodle, and does not require any set-up by staff. It also gives staff contextual feedback on the accessibility of the original documents, with instructions on how to make files more accessible.

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

Additional guidance for LCC staff can be found on the LCC Teaching Hub lccteaching.arts.ac.uk

The Digital Learning Team

The LCC Digital Learning Team provide support for staff for the digital learning platforms and the integration of digital learning into your teaching, learning and assessment activities. We deliver staff development sessions in liaison with digital learning colleagues across UAL and advocate on matters of UAL digital learning policy and practice on behalf of LCC.

The LCC Digital Learning Team are:
· Matt Lingard, Digital Learning Director
· Peter Beare, Digital Learning Producer
· Lee Leewis, Senior Digital Learning Coordinator

Two new Digital Learning Coordinators will join the team later this year.

Contact for staff
Contact LCCDigitalLearning@ lcc.arts.ac.uk or join the Teaching @ LCC Microsoft Team. colleagues across UAL.

Author
Matt Lingard
Digital Learning Producer
May 2021

Progression & Attainment

Progression & Attainment

Academic Progression Tool (APT)

The majority of LCC Undergraduate course teams are now using some aspect of the LCC Academic Progression Tool to support the progress of their year 1 students, and increasing number of Postgraduate courses too. Courses are using the APT workbook to track student progress and identify students who need support, and they are working with members of the APT team to reach out to students as needed.
A new Task and Finish Group are meeting through the summer term to:
1. Review APT 2019-2021 evaluation and good practice examples;
2. Confirm APT's aims and place within student support/tutorial systems;
3. Establish the need for a new or evolved tool;
4. Make recommendations for tool development, staff/student communications and impact assessment methodology.

Changemakers

The first generation of LCC student and alumni Changemakers have now worked a full year and in this time they have established productive relationships with course teams and senior management that future Changemakers can build on. And one Changemaker, Rachel Williams, will be affecting change across the university as the new Arts Student Union Education Officer!

Changemakers have also published their own inspiring stories and spoken at public events, including: · Choosing to Challenge story by Changemaker Prachee Mashru · Women Behind the Lens story by Changemaker Ana Blumenkron · Changemakers Support Students to Diversify Curricula story by former Changemaker Sofia Bordin · Decolonising the Curriculum Value Talk video with Changemakers Rachel Williams and Prachee Mashru.

When asked to feedback on their work this past year, one Changemaker said:
'I wholeheartedly believe the work is transformative and the start of a new LCC and educative system'.

The current generation of Changemakers will continue to work with us until the end of this academic year and will help recruit and train LCC's next generation of Changemakers to start this autumn. Read more: https://lccteaching.myblog.arts.ac.uk/changemaking-through-2020-21/

Decolonising Wikipedia Network

Changemakers continue to play a role in facilitating knowledge activism in the public realm, as part of the Decolonising Wikipedia Network. The Network now has over 60 student and staff members, who meet to share experiences and examples of Wikipedia editing, and to support each other with the technical and decolonial aspects of editing. The DWN website now contains examples from members of the network, and these will be used as resources in workshops for LCC students and staff.

One member, Lydia Wilks, is co-editing a Wikipedia page with Lucy Panesar as part of a new LCC Knowledge Exchange project examining the 1911 Festival of Empire through a decolonial lens. DWN members have also supported students on the MA Collaborative Unit to create new Wikipedia pages for ethnic communities previously unrepresented on the platform. The Network is open to all LCC students and staff and members are happy to drop into classes to talk about its aims and how to get involved.

For more information visit: https://decolonisingwikipedianetwork.myblog.arts.ac.uk/

Author
Prepared by Lucy Panesar
Progression and Attainment Project Manager
May 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.

PG Annual Course Monitoring (ACM)

PG Annual Course Monitoring will be taking place this term. The quality team will be sending the relevant information to PG Course Leaders by 7th May. The deadline to return the forms will be 4th June

Author
James Goulds
LCC Quality Manager
May 2021

International

International

Turing

Over the Summer Term, we will apply for and establish the UK government's replacement for the Erasmus+ staff/student mobility programme – Turing – which will support outward student mobility (inc. international work placements) from 2021/22.

While aspects of Turing will be similar to Erasmus+, it is anticipated that there will several key differences, including a reduction in the minimum duration of placements (from 3 months to 4 weeks), funding to support placements in any country and additional support for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. UAL still has a full allocation of Erasmus+ funding in place until 2023, so the two funding schemes will run concurrently for the next couple of years.

Erasmus+ staff mobility

We are currently accepting applications from staff to undertake an Erasmus+ staff mobility (either teaching or training) at one of the University's partner organisations in the EU over the course of 2021/22. More information is available on Canvas, and applications are due by 15 May 2021.

London Design Festival planning

LCC's participation in the London Design Festival this year will be coordinated through the University's Europe group, and is intended to spotlight the work of our international partnerships in key creative cities through a range of virtual showcases. Over the course of the term, we will be identifying the projects and partnerships we intend to use, as well as create a design identity for use on the UAL and LDF websites.

Internationalisation at Home working group

LCC's Head of International Partnerships and Associate Dean Progression, Attainment & Support will be representing the College on this new cross-UAL group that has been set up to scope and articulate a definition of 'Internationalisation at Home' for the University. It will assess existing practices and provision within the University in a range of areas, including language and intercultural awareness and the sense of community and belonging amongst student groups. An interim report will be completed in June, with a final report submitted to UAL's International Strategy Group by December.

Author
Tom Webb
International Development Manager
May 2021

Work Based Learning and Placements

Work Based Learning and Placements

Digital Grid Partnership

The Digital Grid Partnership has now come to an end. The project provided funding for 23 placement opportunities for LCC students to work with SME's in the London area. The feedback from the SME's and the placement students has been excellent and a number of the placement students continued to work with the SME's separately from the DGP. The placement opportunities were advertised via the LCC Work Placement moodle page to ensure that the process was as inclusive as possible and included a diverse student cohort.

The PLACE

The PLACE will remain closed until further notice and the online event series in collaboration with Careers and Employability, The Language Centre and various external organisations will continue to support LCC Students.

The LCC Work Placement moodle page will continue to provide online resources for LCC Students regarding work placements and employability.

'Ask Me Anything' sessions are taking place online every other Wednesday to promote resources and teams that can support students such as: Arts Temps and Diploma in Professional Studies.

Online events/workshops will be promoted via moodle and 1-2-1's regarding work placements are available on request.

Placements System Development

Mandip Takhar (Placements Manager) has been working with colleagues from across UAL as one of the business leads to develop a SITS plug- in that will provide a compliant and streamlined process for submitting placement information for approval via an online form. The project is progressing well and implementation updates will be provided in due course.

Authors
Evi Kontova - Work based Learning Curriculum Development Project Manager
Mandip Takhar - Placements Manager
May 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. Members are using 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

Decolonising Wikipedia

LCC's Decolonising Wikipedia Network, established in November 2020, 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 currently has over 60 members, who have attended workshops on how to edit Wikipedia through a decolonial lens. These have been co-facilitated by Lucy Panesar and LCC Changemakers, in partnership with Richard Nevell from Wikimedia UK and Alex Duncan from the arts + Feminism Editathon. 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. So far, DWN has been embedded into units on MA Photojournalism Documentary Photography and on BA Media Communications

Safety and Freedom Reading Group

LCC's Safety and Freedom reading group, run by Lucy Panesar and Pratap Rughani, have met three times since it first formed in July 2020. At the last meeting, the group looked at the Equality and Human Rights Commission guidance on free speech for higher education, and discussed specific scenarios in which teacher might find themselves having to reconcile student safeguarding needs with freedom of expression. A workshop will take place to discuss this some more in the 2021 summer staff development weeks.

Author
Lucy Panesar
Progression and Attainment Project Manager
May 2021