



MANCHESTER  
1824

The University of Manchester

# THE INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL PRACTICES

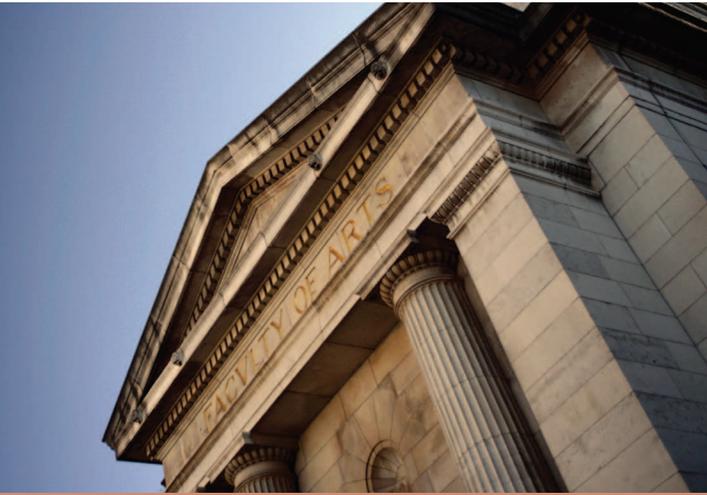
POSTGRADUATE BROCHURE 2013

SCHOOL OF ARTS, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES



## THE FACTS

- Practice-based, vocational degree courses
- Innovative teaching from academics and professional practitioners
- Excellent links to numerous regional cultural institutions
- £650 million investment in university facilities for research and study
- 4 million books in one of the UK's best-resourced university libraries
- Nationally acclaimed University Careers Service with postgraduate support
- Exciting and diverse environment in one of the best student cities in the world



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“The University of Manchester provides an enjoyable, dynamic and exciting working environment, full of enthusiastic people, and with a positive attitude towards research and postgraduate study.”

**Annette Allen,**  
postgraduate student 2012



# OUR UNIVERSITY

## **Making things happen**

At Manchester, we are proud of both our academic excellence and a pervasive 'can-do' attitude of staff and students that turns enthusiasm into achievement and ground-breaking theory into cutting-edge practice. With research that is internationally renowned across a huge range of disciplines, we work with partners across the world to effect real change in commerce and society.



Our University has leapt 38 places in the influential Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) survey in the past seven years, from 78th to 40th in the world, and sixth in Europe, confirming us as a progressive and world-class teaching and research centre. We are also ranked third in the UK for 'research power', and research in more academic areas than any other UK university.

Learn more about us:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus)

### Unrivalled investment

We've recently invested £650 million in facilities and resources for our academic community – with more still to come. Our newest development is the Alan Gilbert Learning Commons, in which we invested £24 million to create a multitude of innovative, technology-rich facilities dedicated to student-led learning across all disciplines.

Find out more:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons)

### Multidisciplinary collaboration

As the biggest university in the UK, we are proud of the advantages our size brings: a fantastic breadth and depth of knowledge, the cross-pollination of skills and disciplines, and the buzz of a large, diverse academic community. We habitually collaborate and share knowledge, expertise and resources, both across the University and with our numerous external partners in industry, business, the arts and the public and not-for-profit sectors.

This is particularly valuable for our postgraduates, whose specialist areas of study at the cutting edge of research often transcend traditional discipline boundaries, and who benefit considerably from our connections with external partners across the globe.

Find out more:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/research](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/research)

### Fuelling ambition

At Manchester, you will study programmes packed with the latest research findings, meet leading global experts from academia and industry, use cutting-edge equipment in modern facilities, and polish skills that postgraduate employers from all fields want.

Whether you're a committed researcher wanting to further the human quest for knowledge, a career-focused professional seeking a specialist qualification, or a burning enthusiast for higher learning and understanding, a postgraduate degree at The University of Manchester will help you to realise your ambitions.

### Find out more

Access online or order a copy of our 2013 prospectus:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/pg/prospectus](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/pg/prospectus)



# THE INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL PRACTICES AT MANCHESTER

The Institute for Cultural Practices, based within the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures at The University of Manchester, is an exciting contemporary centre for postgraduate study and continuing professional development.



All our masters-level degrees have a practice-based, vocational emphasis and are designed to facilitate a bridge between education and professional life. They are taught by both those working within academia and professional practitioners in a variety of fields.

Within our exciting and productive environment, innovative practice is allied to rigorous academic investigation. Our graduates are trained in different methodological and theoretical approaches in their respective fields and are encouraged to participate in lively interdisciplinary debate, alongside developing their own individual skills as practitioners.

Research and teaching are supported by rich resources within the University: in the collections of the University Library, the Race Relations Archive, Manchester Museum and the Whitworth Art Gallery, as well as in other distinguished Manchester archives and museums.

Our network of partners in research and skills training includes many leading cultural institutions.

With a suite of programmes across arts subjects, the Institute offers you a unique opportunity for fascinating and productive study and professional development in cultural practices in the North West of England.

# MUSEOLOGY

## MA in Art Gallery and Museum Studies

Art Gallery and Museum Studies (AGMS) has been taught at The University of Manchester for more than 40 years. It is one of the longest established MA degree courses in museum studies in the country, and our alumni have reached senior positions in museums and galleries throughout the UK and overseas.

Today, the AGMS course is continually being reviewed and developed in response to new research, emerging critical approaches and shifts in museum practice.

Our MA teaching is informed by our research activity and AGMS students benefit from the exciting range of projects in which Museology staff are involved. Throughout the degree, you will: examine diverse issues related to museum theory and practice; visit numerous museums, galleries and cultural organisations; and have many opportunities to discuss ideas and issues with professionals and academics in the field. The AGMS course combines both guided and independent study, and includes seminars, guest lectures and site visits.

### Course structure

#### Semester one

Full-time AGMS MA students take two core course units: The Museum and its Contexts, and Museum Objects and Exhibitions (30 credits each). These core units are designed to introduce you to key issues and ideas in museum practice, and also to different approaches to the study and analysis of museums.

#### Semester two

Our suite of optional course units builds on the knowledge and understanding you have gained in semester one, and enables you to develop expertise in a particular disciplinary area of curating, or sphere of museum practice. Full-time students take 60 credits of course units (units are offered as 15 or 30 credits).

The menu of options may include:

- Museum and Gallery Curating – with specialised routes (you select only one route):
  - Curating Art
  - Curating Archaeology
  - Digital Curating
  - Curating Ethnography
- Museum Policy and Management
- Creative Learning: Arts, Heritage and Education
- Work Placement

### Dissertation

The MA concludes with a 12,000 to 15,000-word dissertation (60 credits) on a topic of your choice, agreed in conjunction with your dissertation supervisor. The AGMS curriculum is designed to allow all students to pursue their individual interests within a broad framework of museum practice, past and present. You can either undertake a standard dissertation (12-15,000 words), or a practice-based dissertation. Practice-based dissertations may include:

- **Exhibition.** An exhibition, show or plan thereof. Outcome – exhibition and/or plan plus 8-10,000 words reflection
- **Policy.** Student to develop a piece of museum policy. Outcome - policy or report plus max 8-10,000 words reflection.
- **Digital/Online** (building on skills developed in Digital Curating). Outcome – digital media application plus max 8-10,000 words reflection



## Work placement

One of the most popular aspects of the AGMS MA degree course is the work placement in a museum, gallery or relevant cultural organisation. Each placement involves a minimum of 20 days' work on a specific project, such as a temporary exhibition, collections management project, or education programme. You can take the work placement either as 15-credit or 30-credit course unit.

Placement projects are arranged by the Centre for Museology. Part-time students who work already in a museum/gallery/cultural institution have the option to create a placement project within their organisation in collaboration with their line manager. Part-time students can do their placement either in Year 1 or Year 2.

Many students find this such a positive experience that they carry on working in their museum when the work placement has finished, and each year a few students are offered jobs by their placement hosts.

## Study Details

Most teaching takes place in small interactive seminar groups, involving, as appropriate, directed-reading, fieldwork in museums and galleries, staff and student presentations, discussion, debate, problem-solving and group-work.

Most courses run one day/week over 12 weeks and there are variations in the number of class hours per teaching day depending on the course/week. As a general rule, a 30 credit course comprises 300 learning hours, divided between classes or class-related work, independent study; and preparation of assignments.

## Postgraduate Skills and Research Training

At the heart of all our programmes is a commitment to helping students develop the skills they need to thrive at postgraduate level and beyond. MA students are offered access to skills training tailored to their own needs, through the new Arts, Languages and Cultures Graduate School. This includes training in designing and executing research projects. They are also encouraged to participate fully in the School's research community, enhancing their own skills through encounter with more experienced practitioners. Students' employability is nurtured through our innovative work placement scheme, which is available to all MA students in the School.

## Career opportunities

### How will the AGMS MA support my career goals?

The AGMS MA is an important entry-level qualification for anyone seeking to pursue a career in museums or galleries. It is also a valuable resource for continuing professional development for mid-career professionals. In addition, the MA provides a thorough training in the skills needed to do further postgraduate research. These skills in research design and planning are transferable to jobs in the museum sector, as well as being a vital first step to PhD or Professional Doctorate research.

### What are the career destinations of AGMS graduates?

Of course, job destinations vary according to the interests, ambitions and skills of each individual, but most of our students are successful in obtaining professional posts in collections, exhibitions, education, interpretation, or some aspect of museum/ arts management soon after completing the MA.

Visit our website to find out more about the experiences of past students who have studied in Manchester.

# MUSEOLOGY

## Full-time or part-time?

The AGMS MA is available as a one-year full-time or a two-year part-time course. We particularly welcome part-time students and there are many advantages in combining study with work practice, whether you already have a museum post, or are just setting out on your career. Each year, a number of mid-career professionals take the MA degree on a part-time basis and find that the University provides a valuable space for reflection, as well as for further learning.

Part time students have classes one day per week; in addition, most students find that they need to come to Manchester for a further day each week in order to use the Library and conduct fieldwork. Work placements usually involve one or two days a week at your Work Placement institution (which, if appropriate and relevant, can be the organisation where you currently work, subject to our approval).

## Postgraduate life in the Centre for Museology

Both the Centre for Museology and the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures host a varied programme of activities and events for postgraduate students, including occasional master classes and workshops, as well as our regular calendar of:

- Museology research seminars
- 'Showcase' seminars at the Manchester Museum
- Institute for Cultural Practices events
- Research forum for PhD students

Our MA teaching is informed by our research activity and you will benefit from the exciting range of projects in which Museology staff are involved.

## Entry Requirements and Funding

You will normally have a good Honours degree (minimum Upper Second class Honours) in an appropriate discipline. In addition, you must have some work experience (including voluntary work) in a museum, gallery, or similar institution.

If your first language is not English, you need a minimum average score of 7.0 on the IELTS test (including 7.0 in writing), or 600 on the TOEFL paper-based test (250 computer-based), or the Cambridge Advanced Certificate (grades A-C), or the Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (grades A-C).

Further information about entry requirements can be obtained from our admissions office:  
tel +44 (0)161 306 1259

Competition for places on the AGMS degree is high, and we encourage you to apply to as early as you can.

Students accepted for the Art Gallery and Museum Studies MA programme may compete for Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) scholarships and School fees bursaries and scholarships for overseas students. You can find out more about funding online: You can find out more about funding on [www.manchester.ac.uk/museology](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/museology)



## Teaching Staff

**Dr Kostas Arvanitis:** Works in the field of digital heritage, which includes the theory and practice of digital media in museums, galleries and other heritage sites. Researches the use of in-gallery digital interactives, Web 2.0 applications and mobile media for purposes of curation, interpretation and learning. Also works in the areas of archaeological curatorship, museum archaeology, monuments in urban environments and outdoor museums.

**Email:** [kostas.arvanitis@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:kostas.arvanitis@manchester.ac.uk)

**Dr Helen Rees Leahy:** Works primarily on collections of fine and decorative art, and writes on issues of art collecting, display and interpretation, gallery space and the art market. Also works on practices of visiting and the politics of cultural access, past and present.

**Email:** [helen.rees@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:helen.rees@manchester.ac.uk)

**Louise Tythacott:** Specialises in the relationship between anthropology and museums. Has written on the relationship between non-western art and museums; present research interests focus on the history of the perception and display of non-European objects and the politics of representing other cultures in museums.

**Email:** [louise.tythacott@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:louise.tythacott@manchester.ac.uk)

## Continuing Professional development programme

The Centre for Museology offers a new professional development programme with flexible access to a range of topics and formats in the arts and cultural sectors to meet the needs of established professionals and newcomers.

Course units from our Masters degree course in Art Gallery and Museum Studies can be taken as stand-alone short courses, or as part of a programme leading to a Postgraduate Certificate (at 15 or 30 credits).

All course units involve a combination of seminar discussion, lectures and presentations, practical exercises and fieldwork.

## How to apply

Find out more online:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/museology](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/museology)

# ARTS MANAGEMENT

## MA in Arts Management, Policy and Practice

### Degree aims

- Enable recent graduates and mid-career practitioners to develop their knowledge and understanding of the history, theory and practice of arts management
- Offer insight into the range of professional opportunities in the creative and cultural sector
- Provide direct experience of the many areas of arts management

This course has a strong practical, hands-on element, including a minimum 20-day work placement and opportunities for practice-based research in assessed live projects and through dissertation.

At the same time, it offers you a solid theoretical grounding, exploring cultural policy in its historical context and encouraging critical engagement with the philosophical, political, social and economic imperatives informing contemporary arts and cultural management practice.

### Course structure

#### Semester one (60 credits)

You take two core course units:

- Arts Management: Principles and Practice
- Cultural Policy

#### Semester two – optional units (60 credits)

These are taken from a range of optional course units (subject to availability), including:

- Work placement
- Business Strategies for the Arts
- Arts, Culture and Communities
- Creative Learning

All units are available as 15 or 30 credit versions (a maximum of two 15 credit units can be taken).

Subject to availability, units may also be selected from the **MA in Art Gallery and Museum Studies**, or from elsewhere in the Faculty of Humanities.

All units include a series of guest lectures and/or practical seminars by experienced professionals based in arts institutions in and around Manchester. The degree programme also includes site visits and tours of a selection of arts and cultural venues.

### Work placement

All Arts Management students have the option to work with a cultural organisation on a credit-bearing placement. This comprises a minimum of 20 days' work on a specific project or set of activities, such as research and evaluation, business and strategy development, finance, marketing assistance and support. Whilst on placement, students will be mentored by their placement host and supervised by an academic staff member, to produce a reflective report on their experience and achievements. Students already working within arts and cultural organisations can also arrange for a project at their place of work.

### Dissertation (60 credits)

The MA concludes with either a dissertation of 12,000-15,000 words or, for a practice-based dissertation, 8,000– 15,000 words, plus documentation of a practical project.

### Duration

#### Full-time

12 months

#### Part-time

24 months



## Entry requirements

- A First or good Upper Second class Honours degree, or overseas equivalent, normally in a relevant humanities or social science area
- Experience and/or significant understanding of the professional issues surrounding arts management and/or practice
- Applicants who don't have English as their first language will be required to demonstrate they have achieved English language test scores of IELTS 7.0 overall and in writing (or equivalence in TOEFL)
- Mature applicants with evidence of substantial prior professional experience will be considered on an individual basis.

## MEnt in Arts and Cultural Management

The Master of Enterprise provides a targeted route for you to develop an enterprise project for your degree in the area of arts and culture, by offering taught course units and supervision from relevant staff via the Centre for Arts Management and Cultural Policy and the Manchester Enterprise Centre.

The MEnt comprises an integral programme of enterprise training, with a focus on knowledge transfer. This allows you to both develop an idea and experience how it is developed into a real commercial opportunity.

## Course structure

You will choose two subject-based units from 15-credit options:

- Arts Management: Principles and Practice
- Work placement
- Business Strategies for the Arts

These supplement two 15-credit enterprise units, provided by the Manchester Enterprise Centre, which is part of the Manchester Business School:

- Shaping Ideas for the Market
- Business Creation and Development

You will then develop a 120-credit enterprise project, which must have potential commercial application.

Research and development is performed within the School that you are registered to, and supervised by both Centre for Arts Management and Cultural Policy and Manchester Enterprise Centre academic staff. Appropriate project ideas and sector/industry mentors can also be sourced through both Centres.

## Career opportunities

The MEnt enables you to develop your entrepreneurial skills and go on to either start your own business, or work for organisations where enterprise and innovation are valued.

## Entry requirements and applications

You will need a First or good Upper Second class Honours degree, or overseas equivalent, and should also be able to demonstrate experience and/or significant understanding of the professional issues surrounding arts management practice.

Applications are based on a provisional application, including project proposal, to the Manchester Enterprise Centre.

For full details on how to apply, contact Claire Gill at the Manchester Enterprise Centre:  
tel +44 (0)161 306 8487  
claire.gill@manchester.ac.uk

# DRAMA

## MA in Theatre and Performance

### Course director

Dr Jenny Hughes

The MA Theatre and Performance degree course integrates contemporary theatre practice and theory, and is designed to cater both for students wishing to enhance their artistic and professional careers, and those seeking to prepare for doctoral study. For both experienced, skilled practitioners and recent graduates, there are opportunities for you to focus on research through practice and explore a range of performance methods and concepts.

Core elements (totalling 120 credits) include [artsmethods@manchester](mailto:artsmethods@manchester), part of our Postgraduate Skills and Research Training (see p18), a research methodologies course, a critical performance theory and practice course, and a

15,000-word dissertation. You will select a further 60 credits drawn from a number of MA study options, or 'directed reading' courses.

### Course aims

To encourage you to refine your skills in such a way as to develop your interests in theatre and performance studies, and to provide the tools of analysis for future PhD research and/or reflective professional practice.

### Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate a good grounding in research tools and methodologies
- Analyse and evaluate the current issues and critical debates in the field of drama, theatre and performance
- Display a systematic understanding of theatre and performance as creative, cultural processes through the analysis of, and research into, historical and contemporary performance
- Evince a critical awareness about the medium, which can be translated into individual research
- Communicate research findings through presentations, written form and/or theatre practice to an appropriate audience demonstrating critical insight into the process



## Course structure

### 1. Theatre Studies Research Methods

(Semester one)

Introduces you to salient research methodologies and the University's relevant research facilities and archival collections, and equips you for independent postgraduate study.

### 2. Performance in Theory and Practice

(Semester one: 30 credits)

Introduces you to the key concepts relevant to contemporary performance theory and practice, and its responses to a changing social and political context. Through seminars and presentations, you will engage with contemporary theories of performance (live and recorded), performance history and historiography, and performance analysis. In addition, you consider themes relevant to performance, including interdisciplinarity, multimedia work and digital technology.

### 3. MA Study Option

(Semester two: 15 or 30 credits)

Options totalling 60 credits may be selected from a number of course units in Drama. Students wishing to focus on practice may opt to choose the work placement unit (30 credits) and/or a Directed Reading (Practice) (15 credits or 30 credits).

The work placement unit offers you an opportunity to gain experience in a 'real-world' professional theatre context. During this unit, you complete an enhanced placement in a professional setting, working to a brief set out in advance by the theatre organisation. Work placements have taken place in theatre organisations such as Contact Theatre, the Library Theatre, or the Royal Exchange. The unit enables you to develop imaginative and critically perceptive solutions to practical, organisational and creative problems.

Directed Reading (Practice) follows the structure and principles of the Directed Reading option (see below), but here the learning process takes place primarily through an engagement with creative,

hands-on, practical exploration. The unit allows you to test and explore theory through practice and apply technical and interpretative skills through directing and/or devising. Through workshops, seminars and rehearsals, you will develop your own projects in directing and/or devising.

You may also select 60 credits from a range of other course units in Drama. Recent examples include:

- Popular Theatre and Entertainment 1820-1890: Texts, Theories and Historiography
- Performance and war
- Boal in action

Please note: the availability of optional course units and work placements varies from year to year.

Alternatively, you may take an appropriate MA-level unit offered by another discipline within the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures, or within the Faculty of Humanities.

### 4. Directed reading

(Semester two: 15 or 30 credits)

Options totalling 60 credits may be taken as 'directed reading' course units. These independent study course units engage students in the independent study of an area not currently offered as an MA option. They provide you with an opportunity to work one-to-one with a tutor on an area of interest to the student and research specialism of the member of staff. You may also take a Directed Reading (Practice) unit, where the learning process takes place primarily through an engagement with creative, hands-on, practical exploration.

### 5. Dissertation

(60 credits)

A compulsory element of 15,000 words on an approved topic.

# DRAMA

## MA in Applied Theatre

### Course director

Dr Jenny Hughes

The Manchester MA in Applied Theatre is open to graduates who are interested in the practice and research of socially engaged theatre in a diverse range of contexts, from prisons, schools, community agencies, public and voluntary sector organisations, and health and development settings. It offers you a diverse and flexible programme of study, with opportunities to combine a specialist focus on applied theatre with the study of cutting-edge examples of contemporary performance practice. The MA integrates theory and practice, and caters for students wishing to enhance their artistic and professional careers as well as those preparing for doctoral study.

Previous students have worked in a range of locations – from Manchester’s Strangeways Prison, to local schools, to factories in Peru. Students have researched creative work ranging from arts programmes with vulnerable or excluded young people, to theatre-based anger management courses with prolific offenders.

### Course aims

- To encourage the research and practice of socially engaged theatre and drama
- To encourage you to refine your skills in such a way as to develop your interests in applied theatre, and to provide the tools of analysis for future PhD research and/or reflective professional practice

### Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Engage in and analyse socially engaged theatre projects in a diverse range of contexts
- Analyse and evaluate your own practice
- Demonstrate academic strength in disciplines related to the field
- Accomplish a substantial piece of original research

### Course structure

#### 1. Theatre Studies Research Methods

(Semester one: 30 credits)

Introduces you to salient research methodologies and the University’s relevant research facilities and archival collections, and equips you for independent postgraduate study.

#### 2. Performance in Theory and Practice

(Semester one: 30 credits)

Introduces you to the key concepts relevant to contemporary performance theory and practice, and its responses to a changing social and political context. Through seminars and presentations, you will engage with contemporary theories of performance (live and recorded), performance history and historiography, and performance analysis. In addition, you will consider a range of contexts of ‘application’, including education, refugees, development, prisons and therapeutic settings.

#### 3. MA Study option

(Semester two: 15 or 30 credits)

Options totalling 60 credits may be selected from a number of course units in Drama. Students wishing to focus on practice may opt to choose the work placement unit (30 credits) and/or a Directed Reading (Practice) (15 credits or 30 credits).



The work placement unit offers you an opportunity to gain experience in a 'real-world' applied theatre context. During this unit, you complete an enhanced placement in a professional setting, working to a brief set out in advance by the theatre organisation. Work placements have taken place in theatre organisations such as Contact Theatre, the Royal Exchange, TIPP, and Waters Edge Arts. The unit enables you to develop imaginative and critically perceptive solutions to practical, organisational and creative problems.

**Directed Reading (Practice)** follows the structure and principles of the Directed Reading option (see below), but here the learning process takes place primarily through an engagement with creative, hands-on, practical exploration. The unit allows you to test and explore theory through practice and apply technical and creative skills through an applied theatre project that you initiate and carry out.

You may also select 60 credits from a range of other course units in Drama. Recent examples include:

- Popular Theatre and Entertainment 1820-1890: Texts, Theories and Historiography
- Performance and war
- Boal in action

Please note: the availability of optional course units and work placements varies from year to year.

Alternatively, you may take an appropriate MA level unit offered by another discipline within the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures, or within the Faculty of Humanities.

#### 4. Directed reading

(Semester 2: 15 or 30 credits)

Options totalling 60 credits may be taken as 'directed reading' course units. These independent study course units engage students in the independent study of an area not currently offered as an MA option. They provide an opportunity to work one-to-one with a tutor on an area of interest to the student and research specialism of the member of staff. You may also take a Directed Reading (Practice) unit, where the learning process takes place primarily through an engagement with creative, hands-on, practical exploration.

#### 5. Dissertation

(60 credits)

A compulsory element of 15,000 words on an approved topic.

# DRAMA

## MA in Screen Studies

### Course director

Dr Rajinder Dudrah

This interdisciplinary MA degree course in Screen Studies is taught collaboratively across the Faculty of Humanities. Course units are offered in a range of areas, including European (German, Spanish, French, Russian, British) cinemas, Latin-American cinema, Hollywood and Asian cinema. As well as a thorough introduction to film theory, you will have the opportunity to cover issues such as film style, auteurism, theories of stardom and star culture, and new technologies. The degree provides a mixture of taught course units and opportunities to research independently, with individual supervision.

### Course aims

- Introduce you to general approaches to film as a theoretical, social, political and historical medium, while allowing you to study aspects of the subject to a specialist level
- Encourage the study and analysis of film as an interdisciplinary medium that speaks to a range of normally discrete subject areas
- Foster your skills in analysis, argument, independent thinking, and effective written self-expression
- Enable you to refine and develop your research skills and interests in screen studies and/or to provide the tools of analysis for future doctoral study
- Equip you with a range of transferable skills, which will prepare you for further study into both print media and visual culture (eg the ability to describe and critique film structure, comprehend and deploy skills in narrative analysis, comprehend and deploy a range of narrative and critical theories)

### Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate a thorough grounding in a number of research methodologies and different theoretical approaches to screen studies
- Analyse film and film criticism within an interdisciplinary context
- Display specialist knowledge and skills in a number of areas appropriate to your particular research and professional interests
- Accomplish a substantial piece of original research

### Course structure

You must take a total of 180 credits. There are three compulsory elements: a research training course unit (30 credits), a core study course unit – Screen Theories and Cultures (30 credits), and the dissertation (60 credits). The remaining 60 credits are gained through a combination of optional course units.

#### 1. Screen Research Methodologies

(Semester one: 30 credits)

Examines key research methodologies in screen studies, encouraging you to analyse film from perspectives you might not normally consider, so as to broaden the range of analytical tools you will have at your future disposal

#### 2. Screen Theories and Cultures

(Semester one: 30 credits)

Explores key debates in screen studies, incorporating film, television and new media. In particular, it provides a comprehensive understanding of the trends in contemporary screen theories and cultures responsive to a changing social, political and technological context since the turn of the century.



### 3. MA study option

(Semester two: 30 credits)

A total of 60 credits must be selected from any of the appropriate film course units offered in the disciplines of Drama, Modern Languages, English and American Studies (including directed reading courses – see below). Units may be of either 15 or 30 credits.

Recent examples include: Black On Screen; A Score Is Born: Meaning and Ideology in Film Music; Beyond the Method: Traditions of Performance on Stage and Screen; Gender and Contemporary French Cinema; Screen Musicals; Filming War, Filming History; The Stranger in Modern Society; and Dada and Surrealist Films and Legacies.

From 2012/13, you can also take a work placement unit, which offers you an opportunity to gain experience in a 'real-world' screen media context. Here, you complete an enhanced placement in a professional setting, working to a brief set out in advance by the organisation. In the past, our students have worked in a diverse range of screen and media related settings as part of their postgraduate studies (including the BBC, Radio 4, independent film and media production companies based in the region and Cornerhouse cinemas).

Please note: the availability of optional course units and work placements varies from year to year.

### 4. Directed reading

(Semester two: 15 or 30 credits)

Options totalling 60 credits may be taken as 'directed reading' course units. These independent study course units engage you in an independent study of an area not currently offered as an MA option. They provide an opportunity to work one-to-one with a tutor on an area of interest to the student and research specialism of the member of staff.

### 5. Dissertation

(60 credits)

Compulsory element of 15,000 words on an approved topic.

## POSTGRADUATE SKILLS AND RESEARCH TRAINING

At the heart of all our programmes stands a commitment to helping students develop the skills they need to thrive at postgraduate level and beyond.

MA students are encouraged to participate fully in the School's research community, enhancing their own skills through encounter with more experienced

practitioners. Students' employability is nurtured through our innovative work placement scheme, which is available to all MA students in the School.

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Students from the UK or Europe can apply to the School for postgraduate studentships to support MA or doctoral study, as part of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Block Grants scheme. AHRC studentships for UK students cover the tuition fee and provide a maintenance grant. Studentships for EU students usually cover fees only. Because of our strong track record of successful AHRC-funded students, the rigour of our research training and breadth of our resources, Manchester has been awarded among the highest number of studentships under the AHRC's Block Grant scheme of any UK university. If you intend to apply for an AHRC award, you should consult the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures website and contact the School early in the academic year in which you intend to apply.

Some students – mainly those in economic and social history and certain kinds of cultural history – may instead apply to the Economic and Social Research Council.

In addition to MA studentships funded by the AHRC, the Faculty of Humanities and School of Arts, Languages and Cultures offer a number of bursaries for postgraduate study. These include Overseas Research Student Awards (ORS) for research students from outside the EU. In all cases, the awards are highly competitive. Further information on AHRC, Faculty and School awards is available on our website.

You are urged to enquire and to apply to your chosen degree programme as early as possible and certainly no later than 15 February. Candidates not intending to apply to the AHRC, ESRC, ORS, or other internal studentship schemes may apply up until 31 August.



## SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

For further information about the courses,  
or about qualifications, please contact:

Postgraduate Admissions  
School of Arts, Languages and Cultures  
Mansfield Cooper Building  
The University of Manchester  
Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M13 9PL  
United Kingdom

**tel** +44 (0)161 306 1259

**email** [masalc@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:masalc@manchester.ac.uk)

For the most up-to-date course information,  
please visit our website:

**[www.manchester.ac.uk/alc](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/alc)**

# SCHOOL OF ARTS, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

The newly formed School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is the largest grouping of arts, languages and humanities scholars in the UK. It is home to some 6500 students, of which about 1000 are postgraduates, and around 350 academic staff working at the forefront of seventeen disciplines:

- Archaeology
- Art History and Visual Studies
- Classics and Ancient History
- Drama
- East Asian Studies
- English and American Studies
- French Studies
- German Studies
- Linguistics and English Language
- History
- Italian Studies
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Music
- Religions and Theology
- Russian and East European Studies
- Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies
- Translation and Intercultural Studies

The School is also home to the University Language Centre.

The School's interests are in the fields of human cultures, beliefs, institutions and languages (from the most widely spoken global languages to those which are endangered). Its work embraces the material, visual, linguistic, textual, social and performative dimensions of human society past and present, and as such fosters a rich interdisciplinary culture led by world-renowned scholars with a diversity of expertise, from analysts to creative artists, from formal linguists to cultural critics, from historians to cultural theorists. The units which make up the School have an outstanding research profile as demonstrated by the fact that two of those units were ranked top in their subject area in the UK, following the results of the government's Research Assessment Exercise in 2008, and a further two were ranked in the top 3. Overall, more than 50% of our research was rated 'world leading' or 'internationally excellent'. Our commitment to research enriches our teaching, by bringing renowned international speakers to the School and sustaining a culture of research seminars, workshops and conferences. It also ensures that our curriculum is continually refreshed.

Our programmes are designed to teach people how to think, and our students tell us they find them challenging and rewarding, as well as good preparation for careers or further study. The student experience combines the advantages of belonging to a specific subject community with the extensive choice that a large and diverse School can offer. We use a wide range of teaching methods, both traditional and innovative. These include lectures, small-group seminars, and tutorials as well as various on-line activities which draw on the latest technology.



We strive to integrate work-related skills and experience into our degree programmes, and we encourage our students to think about and develop their career interests, aims and abilities, through both academic and extra-curricular activities. Our awardwinning Careers Service will work in partnership with you throughout your degree to improve your employability and prepare for the competitive jobs market.

Research and teaching in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures are supported by rich resources within the University. These include the John Rylands University Library, with its unique Special Collections housed in the refurbished Deansgate building; the University Language Centre, with its own language multi-media resource library; the Race Relations Archive; the Manchester Museum; the Whitworth Art Gallery, as well as other distinguished Manchester archives and museums. Other cultural assets at the University of Manchester include the Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, Jodrell Bank Observatory, and, new for 2012, the Alan Gilbert Learning Commons.

We maintain a network of partners in research training that involves a wide range of major cultural institutions across the North West. The University and the city also offer superb facilities for almost any academic or recreational interests you might wish to pursue. High profile festivals are a major part of Manchester's cultural life, and the School is involved in many of these, including the Manchester Literature Festival, Manchester Histories Festival and Manchester International Festival.

The School has a strong interdisciplinary orientation and houses the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in the Arts and Languages (CIDRAL).

## Conclusion

The new School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is determined to become a global beacon for the study of Arts and Languages. Our objective is to create a top quality educational environment within which all our students will thrive. We have a strong commitment to social responsibility and public engagement. We want our graduates not only to be highly sought after by employers but also ready to play a constructive role as citizens in wider society. Through our research we seek to create and develop knowledge that makes a difference in the world; through our teaching we want to inspire our students to achieve their full human potential.



# FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

Our University website holds a wealth of information on the many varied aspects of postgraduate student life. Here are some of the most popular topics – use the links for full details.

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**Accommodation** – Discover your potential new home:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation)

**Admissions and applications** – Everything you need to apply to Manchester:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/pgapplication](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/pgapplication)

**Alan Gilbert Learning Commons** – Our brand-new, ultra-modern student learning environment:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons)

**Careers** – Many major recruiters target our postgraduates; find out why:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/careers](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/careers)

**Childcare** – Support for students who are also parents:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/childcare](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/childcare)

**Disability support** – For any additional support needs you may have:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/dso](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/dso)

**Funding and finance** – Fees, scholarships, bursaries and more:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/pg/fees](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/pg/fees)

[www.manchester.ac.uk/pg/funding](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/pg/funding)

**International students** – Discover what we offer our multinational community:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/international](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/international)

**IT services** – Online learning, computer access, IT support and more:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices)

**Library** – One of the UK's largest and best-resourced university libraries:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/library](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library)

**Manchester** – Britain's 'original modern' city is right on your doorstep:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/manchester](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/manchester)

**Maps** – Visualise our campus, city and University accommodation:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/travel/maps](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/travel/maps)

**Prospectus** – Access online or order a copy of our 2013 prospectus:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/pg/prospectus](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/pg/prospectus)

**Sport** – Clubs, leagues, classes, facilities and more:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/sport](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/sport)

**Support** – Dedicated academic, personal, financial and admin assistance:

<http://my.manchester.ac.uk/guest>

**Students' Union** – Societies, events, peer support, campaigns and more:

[www.manchesterstudentsunion.com](http://www.manchesterstudentsunion.com)

**Videos** – See and hear more about our University:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/video](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/video)

[www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester](http://www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester)

## **Disclaimer**

This brochure is prepared well in advance of the academic year to which it relates. Details of courses may consequently vary with staff changes. We therefore reserve the right to make such alterations to courses as are necessary. If we make you an offer of a place, it is essential that you are aware of the current terms on which your offer is based. If you are in any doubt, please feel free to ask us for confirmation of the precise position for the year in question, before you accept our offer.

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