

ITALIA CONTI

Programme Specification

MA Creative Arts Leadership (*Online*)

Academic Year 2026/27

Programme approved by University of Chichester



Italia Conti is an Associate College of
University of Chichester

Programme descriptor

Programme summary information		
1	Programme title	MA in Creative Arts Leadership
2	Programme code	TBC
3	Awarding institution	The University of Chichester
4	Teaching institution (if different)	Italia Conti
5	PSRB accreditation	N/A

6	Programme description (text for website), including information on employability
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The MA in Creative Arts Leadership is a dynamic and forward-thinking programme designed for those who are shaping the future of the performing arts. Whether you're leading organisations, teams, projects, or strategic visions, this course equips you with the insight, tools, and confidence to lead with clarity, creativity, and purpose.

The programme supports you to explore your leadership identity, examine the values that drive your work, and engage with the complexities of leading in today's cultural performing and creative arts industries. You'll develop strategic thinking, reflective practice, and the ability to respond to evolving challenges in arts and cultural leadership.

This course is for those ready to lead change, whether that is within their leadership practice, their organisation, or in the wider sector. Through collaborative learning, personal research, and professional innovation, you'll design your own leadership development journey, shape a bold professional strategy, and graduate ready to make a lasting impact in the performing arts.

Whether you're already in a leadership role or stepping into one, this programme encourages you to refine your vision, challenge established models and lead the sector forward with ambition and insight.

7	Programme awards		
7a	Name of final award	Level	Credits awarded
	MA in Creative Arts Leadership	7	180
7b	Exit awards	Level	Credits awarded
	PGDip in Creative Arts Leadership	7	120

8	Exemptions from the Academic Regulations
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Students on this course are expected to maintain excellent engagement to progress effectively through the levels of study and achieve the learning outcomes.

Poor engagement may be considered a disciplinary matter (professional conduct) and may after due process lead to termination of studies on the course.

The course runs according to specific academic regulations and policies which may diverge from standard frameworks to uphold the professional vocational standards expected and to ensure the principles of holism, integrated skills development and embodied learning are fully supported.

9	Mode of study
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Online, distance learning, fully remote

10	Entry requirements
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Typical offer (individual offers may vary)

- 2:2 or above BA (Hons) degree in related performing arts discipline (e.g. Acting, Musical Theatre, Dance), and/or significant relative performing arts industry experience (e.g. as a Leader, an Actor/performer / practitioner / professional in the performing / creative arts field).
- IELTS English Level 6.5, or equivalent recognised test (if applicable). For further information, please see: [English Language Requirements - University of Chichester](#)

EU: as above

International: as above

Access to HE: not applicable

11	Programme aims and outcomes
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| i | To develop critical and reflective leaders, who are capable of and confident in navigating and influencing the complexities of leadership in the performing arts. |
| ii | To acquire advanced research skills applicable to performing arts leadership, enabling originality in the application of knowledge, and ambition in applying and implementing research. |
| iii | To enhance self-reflection and analysis of leadership practice, identifying areas for improvement, devising strategies for self-development, and assessing the impact of learning and development on real-world practice. |
| iv | To enable students to design and implement impactful leadership strategies that support long-term sustainability, cultural relevance, strategic change, and organisational or freelance innovation. |
| v | To empower confident, values-led leaders who understand the ethical, social, and cultural responsibilities of leading in the performing arts. |
| vi | To embed awareness within leadership practice and build leaders who can critically engage with and influence the wider performing arts industry. |
| vii | To position students as thought leaders and agents of change within the performing arts |

12	Programme requirements (Please include optional modules / replace with L7 for postgraduate provision)
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12a	Level 7: In order to complete this programme a student must successfully complete all the following modules, totalling 180 credits:
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Module code	Module name	Credit value
TBC	Reflective Leadership	30
TBC	Leadership and Professional Development	45
TBC	Your Leadership in Practice	45
TBC	Innovation, Influence and Impact	60

13	Structure diagram (Please include optional modules)
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Level 7	Induction			
	T1	Module 1	Module 2	
	T2	Module 2	Module 3	
	T3	Module 3	Module 4	
	T4	Module 4		

14	Overall student workload
Overall student workload consists of directed and independent learning, with each credit equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. Whilst actual contact hours may depend upon the modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities. Directed learning includes scheduled lectures, practical classes, workshops and laboratory time specified in their timetables. This also includes placements, work-based learning, visits, online activity and peer learning. Independent learning includes private study and preparation for assessments and examinations.	

Level 7	
Activity	Hours
Directed learning	360
Independent learning	1440
Total hours	1800

Please replace the above for postgraduate provision, for Level 7 (1800 hours).

15	Other information	
A1	Start date	January 2026
A2	Institute/Department	Italia Conti (partner)
A3	Programme leader	Jenny Coyle
A4	UCAS code	
A5	JACS/HECoS Code	
A6	Language of study	English
A7	Subject benchmark statement	Dance, Drama and Performing Arts (2024)
A8	Date initial programme approval	June 2025
A9	Additional programme costs	• Course deposit £150 (refundable) • Laptop / PC capable of running Microsoft 365, including Teams, with webcam and microphone (if not already built into the webcam). • Headphones. • Strong and reliable internet connection. • Please ensure all available updates are installed, e.g., the latest possible operating system for your device. • You will have access to Office 365 online through your student registration and student email address. Submission of work When you submit work, it will need to be in the following format:

		• written work saved as: .doc or .pdf • recorded or video work saved as: .mp4 or .mov
A10	Accreditation	N/A