

Higher Education Courses at West Thames College

High quality and great value for money courses to give you the skills you need that employers want.



Performing Arts & Dance



Performing Arts and Dance HNC or HND

Dance Practice HNC or HND

Careers in the world of performing arts and dance require a dedicated range of professionals, both offstage and in the spotlight which is challenging but also highly rewarding. To be successful you need to be tenacious and versatile, with the ability to move across a range of different genres, and on our courses, you will study a range of contemporary



techniques in our specialised dance studios and perform in the 140-seat Endeavour Theatre with professional sound and lighting rig.

Our teachers have exceptional industry experience and you will take part in workshops led by directors and industry professionals. Alumni have gone on to perform with professional dance companies and on ITV's Britain's Got Talent.

You will have work experience opportunities and go on visits to prestigious West End venues such as Sadler's Wells, the Donmar Warehouse, and Lyric Theatre Hammersmith. An entire team is needed to make shows and recordings happen: not only actors and entertainers but directors, producers, set designers, choreographers, lighting technicians, and talent scouts. We have a great record for success, with previous students starring in film, TV, and theatre roles, or finding work behind the scenes as technicians or in costume and makeup departments.

Estimated salary

£35,900
Actors, entertainers, &
presenters

£43,200
Arts officers, producers,
& directors

£44,000
Dancers and
choreographers

Higher Education at a lower cost

We proudly offer several Higher National Certificates and Diplomas (HNC/HND), which are highly valued by employers in the UK and overseas. An HNC is one year and an HND takes two years, with both offering you a chance to study a subject to make sure you like it before taking it to the degree level.

Direct industry experience

Our students love the practical emphasis on our courses and our strong links with industry. Real-life briefs and projects, work placements, industry-sponsored competitions, and field trips are essential to our courses. You may also visit trade shows, galleries, museums, exhibitions, and relevant organisations in the UK, Europe, and beyond.

In today's highly competitive jobs market, this vocational experience is key to your success, as you will gain the essential skills that employers are looking for – which looks great on your CV and helps you stand out from the crowd.

Careers advice

Our Careers Team will give you all the advice you need to plan your future career.

While you study we take care of you

- ▶ **Gym:** Our gym is equipped with treadmills, cycling & rowing machines, cross trainers, resistance machines & weights to keep you fit and active.
- ▶ **Hair and beauty salon:** Get pampered with a beauty treatment or new hairstyle and buy professional products for a fraction of the normal cost.
- ▶ **Nursery:** Our nursery offers full and part-time places for children aged 3 months to 5 years, providing a safe and stimulating learning environment for your child.
- ▶ **Student common room:** You can watch music, sport or films on the plasma TV screens, go online, play pool, table tennis, table football and other games or just meet with friends.

Fees & accommodation

Home students do not usually have to pay fees up front. Your fees will be covered by a student loan and you will not start repaying this until after you have graduated and are earning a salary of over £26,575.

Student finances

To cover the cost of studying if you can demonstrate that you are in financial hardship, you can apply for:

- ▶ A Tuition Fee Loan to cover your tuition fees in full
- ▶ A Maintenance Loan to help you with your living costs
- ▶ Extra financial support if you have a disability or children or adults who depend on you.

You may not have to pay tuition fees if:

- ▶ You receive state benefits and qualify for concession
- ▶ You are aged 19-23 and do not already have a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification.

Living in London is exciting but it does come at a price. We recommend you start your search for accommodation early as most specialist providers book several months in advance.

Private accommodation providers

- ▶ crm-students.com
- ▶ host-students.com
- ▶ freshstudentliving.co.uk

Your application

Applications should be made direct to UCAS via their website **ucas.com**. Alternatively, you can apply through the college website **west-thames.ac.uk**. We will then contact you and help you through the admissions process.

Entry requirements

- ▶ At least one relevant A Level pass or Level 3 qualification
- ▶ GCSE English and maths at grade 5 (C) or above are desirable, or functional skills English and maths at Level 2
- ▶ Mature students are encouraged to enter with a pass in an appropriate Access Certificate
- ▶ Relevant skills or work experience will be considered
- ▶ Additional course-specific requirements are detailed on the course page and may include an audition or a portfolio.

Please refer to the course page below on our website for more information: **west-thames.ac.uk/higher-education**

Next steps

You can apply using the 'Your Application' information in this leaflet. Alternatively, you may want to speak to the subject expert in this area for a quick chat about our performing arts & dance courses. You can contact

Lucy Palmer on:

- ▶ **020 8326 2007**
- ▶ **Lucy.Palmer@west-thames.ac.uk**

Further information

For general questions about student loans and how to apply, call the College's Information Centre on 020 8326 2000. They will help directly or book an appointment for you with our Careers Team.