## **PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

## **Course record information**

Name and level of final award	BA (Hons) Fine Art Mixed Media
	BA (Hons) Fine Art Mixed Media with Professional Experience
	The BA (Hons) Fine Art Mixed Media is a BA degree that is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible.
Name and level of intermediate awards	BA Fine Art Mixed Media Diploma of Higher Education Certificate of Higher Education
Awarding body/institution	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution	Recognised Body
Location of delivery	Harrow Campus
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode, length of study and normal starting month	Three years full time <u>OR</u> four years full time with optional placement year.  Four to eight years part time.  September start
QAA subject benchmarking group(s)	Art and Design
Professional statutory or regulatory body	N/A
Date of course validation/Revalidation	Dec 2020
Date of programme specification approval	2021
Valid for cohorts	Sept 2021/22
Course Leader	Raine Smith
UCAS code and URL	westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate WP23
Westminster course code	BAADS04F(FT) BAADS04P(PT)
HECoS code	
UKPASS code (PG only)	

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## **Admissions requirements**

There are standard minimum <u>entry requirements</u> for all undergraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information.

For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements.

More information can be found here: westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply.

## **Recognition of Prior Learning**

Applicants with prior certificated or experiential learning at the same level of the qualification for which they wish to apply are advised to visit the following page for further information: westminster.ac.uk/recognition-of-prior-certified-learning.

#### Aims of the course

The BA (Hons) Fine Art Mixed Media course has been designed to:

- Provide an environment in which students can experience and experiment with the diversity of media and practices available in contemporary Fine Art Mixed Media:
- Develop an individual practice at a very high level in contemporary fine art mediums/media employing suitable knowledge, understanding, skills and strategies;
- Prepare students for a range of future career sequels in the visual arts and beyond through the acquisition and application of creative strategies, techniques and approaches to their practice;
- Enable students to connect their work to relevant critical frameworks whether contemporary or historical and apply critical rigour to their individual practice;
- Ensure understanding and respect for health and safety requirements in Fine Art environments;
- Develop independence and self-motivation in all aspects of your programme;
- Support respect for diverse opportunities, outcomes and intentions of Fine Art, and to provide an ethical framework for art practice;
- Develop an understanding of the curatorial concerns and the ability to work collaboratively within the context of the exhibition process;
- Encourage the capacity to respond creatively to a context, environment or problem.

## What will you be expected to achieve?

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These are threshold statements of achievement the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

- The overall knowledge and understanding you will gain from your course (KU).
- **Graduate attributes** are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA).

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- **Professional and personal practice learning outcomes** are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (PPP)
- **Key transferable skills** that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course. (KTS)

Level 4 course learning outcomes: upon completion of level 4 you will be able to:

- L4.1 Demonstrate understanding of the knowledge, skills and strategies of Fine Art practice, through individual creative output in studios, workshops and elsewhere, with an emphasis on the need for play, risk and experimentation as crucial elements. (KU, PPP, GA)
- L4.2 Propose, create and present work in the artform, creative practice or discipline of study. (KU, PPP, GA)
- L4.3 Engage with and express theoretical, critical, contextual and historical ideas that demonstrate understanding of the world of contemporary Fine Art work/s, applying them through practice and discussion to your own work and that of your peers, with reference to the wider context of contemporary art practitioners. (KU, GA)
- L4.4 Express a sense of critical rigour in the appreciation, evaluation, and understanding of your own practical and written work, as well as that of your peers. (KU, GA)
- L4.5 Employ a functional level of independence in your approach to the practical and theoretical challenges of a contemporary art environment, especially the development of skills such as research, time management, problem solving, the use and application of materials and resources, and adherence to health and safety requirements. (KTS, PPP, GA)
- L4.6 Formulate and justify creative and ethical choices made about the content and display of your practical work, demonstrating awareness of curatorial concerns that affect appreciation and understanding including ethical considerations and diversity of audiences for Fine Art practice (KU, PPP, GA)
- L4.7 Articulate your awareness of potential career sequels within the context of professional practice, with regard to both subject specific and the broad range of transferable skills developed within the Fine Art discipline. (PPP, KTS, GA)
- L4.8 Negotiate collaborative working practices with other students, and critically evaluate their own performance and that of their peers. (PPP, KTS)

Level 5 course learning outcomes: upon completion of level 5 you will be able to:

- L5.1 Identify and experiment with areas of individual expression relevant to your fine art practice, utilising the knowledge, skills and strategies of contemporary fine art, consistent with an ethical framework and within sound health and safety constraints. (KU, PPP, GA)
- L5.2 Articulate and employ your understanding of the specific historical and contemporary contexts relevant to your developing fine art practice and to apply these with critical rigour where appropriate in self-evaluation of your studio practice. (KU, PPP, GA)
- L5.3 Develop independent learning skills that enable the discovery and employment of appropriate sources and their application to your academic work, including research methods and business processes. (KU)

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- L5.4 Assess the value of risks and experimentation in formulating and resolving creative work, including ethical issues, learning through reflection, experimentation and review while developing the ability to apply this knowledge judiciously in the context of your practice and in the use of materials, processes, technologies and environments. (PPP)
- L5.5 Demonstrate self-awareness, self-confidence and self-motivation, making connections between intention, process, outcome, context and methods of dissemination that reflects the ability to generate ideas independently and as self-initiated activity. (KU, KTS, GA)
- L5.6 Contribute to the processes of curation of your studio practice, working collaboratively with your peers to a professional level in the production and presentation of exhibition work. (KU, GA)
- L5.7 Demonstrate awareness of current and emerging professional working practices and opportunities in the creative and professional industries relevant to Fine Art. (PPP, KTS, GA)
- L5.8 Effectively communicate in written, oral or audio-visual modes, engaging with academic standards, professional protocols and a range of audiences. (PPP, KTS, GA)

## Level 6 course learning outcomes: upon completion of level 6 you will be able to:

- L6.1 Manage, promote and make appropriate use of the dynamic between intention, process, outcome, context and the methods of dissemination suitable and relevant to your individual Fine Art practice in the context of contemporary fine art. (KU, PPP, GA)
- L6.2 Employ the creative skills, strategies, materials, mediums and media necessary to support and sustain your Fine Art practice, being resourceful, ethical and entrepreneurial. (KU, PPP, GA)
- L6.3 Articulate and engage with the critical, contextual, historical, conceptual, economic, social environmental and ethical dimensions of Fine Art practice. (KU)
- L6.4 Demonstrate understanding of a broad and informed historical/contextual, critical and theoretical framework relevant to the discipline.. (KU, GA)
- L6.5 Manage study time and information, taking responsibility for your own learning, and apply critical reflection to this process. (KU, GA)
- L6.6 Engage and contribute to collaborative curatorial processes that culminate in the public exhibition of a substantial body of your own work, including health and safety protocols in making and presenting. (KU, GA)
- L6.7 Use planning strategies, conceptual development methods and critical tools in diverse contexts, to produce work that is situated within and critically engages with contemporary practices within the discipline (PPP, KTS, GA)
- L6.8 Effectively communicate in written, oral and audio-visual modes, meeting academic standards and professional protocols, and involving a range of audiences. (PPP, KTS, GA)

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L6.9. Make informed decisions about future career options and post-graduate study opportunities. (PPP, KTS, GA)

## How will you learn?

This is a studio based course, and as such provides each student with a permanent space. This will depend on the type of work they engage with as they progress through the Course. The teaching team are all practising artists with national/ international profiles working in and across the mediums of sculpture, painting, moving image, performance, photography and sound. Students are allocated a studio tutor who they meet with regularly for individual tutorials. This engagement is a vital part of enabling students to develop high levels of studio work.

The teaching and learning methods encourage students to create an ongoing body of work that is characterised by personal commitment and an increasing sense of autonomy.

There are developmental workshops within the facility centres and technical support is available to enable students to develop their practice with an increasing sense of independence.

The course has a lively programme of talks by visiting artists that expand their understanding of contemporary practice and the debates that inform it. Speakers often give individual tutorials and actively discuss student's work within the studios. Students have the opportunity to exhibit at a professional level and discuss work as part of the fine art practice modules at all levels.

Regular exhibitions and events take place within the studios and students are actively encouraged to look for opportunities to exhibit and promote their work across London.

There are two galleries on campus: London Gallery West and the Project Space. The course culminates with the Degree show that takes place at the prestigious Ambika P3 gallery which is at the University's Marylebone campus in central London. Students are able to take advantage of the vibrant contemporary London art scene through regular visits to galleries and attending artists' talks, screenings and performances. Exciting field trips have taken place to New York, Los Angeles, Berlin, Kassel Documenta and the Venice Biennale.

Emphasis is placed on helping and encouraging students to develop their own agenda as they progress through the course with an increasing sense of ownership of their practice. Students will be given advice through review tutorials to enable them to develop the direction of their learning throughout the course.

The course employs a number of different forms of delivery that include:

#### Lectures

The theoretical modules are lecture based and within the lecture format there are opportunities for discussions to take place so that students are actively involved.

#### **Tutorials**

Individual tutorials form the basis of the studio teaching and this engagement creates a space that enables students to develop and discuss their emerging practice. For the Research Module in the final year students are allocated a supervisor who you will meet with regularly for individual tutorials.

## **Review Tutorials**

These take place at the end of each semester and take an overview of your work across modules and create an important place for reflection.

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#### **Cross Year Tutorials.**

Tutorials are introduced at key points so students can discuss and gain feedback on your work with students from each level of the course. The constitution of each group is carefully constructed to ensure that the discussions are productive. First and second year students are encouraged to help with the installation of the Degree Show exhibition, thereby gaining valuable insight into the many different aspects of a public exhibition.

## **Group Tutorials**

Group tutorials provide an opportunity to discuss emerging ideas with tutors and peers and gain valuable feedback with regard to how students work is perceived.

#### **Presentations**

Presentations are an important part of studio assessment with students being given the opportunity to talk about the issues and concerns that inform their practice. The Workbased module at level 5 culminates in a presentation to peers and provides an important moment where different insights and experiences can be shared.

## **Studio Critique**

Students present and curate their work within an exhibition in the studios and galleries on campus at the culmination of the practice modules. The work is discussed in the form of group studio critiques and summative feedback is provided by studio tutor.

## Gallery Visits/ talks.

Gallery visits stimulate discussion and encourage primary research. The two main centres Galleries East and Galleries Central provide the setting enabling students to see exciting work by emerging and established artist.

## Field Trips.

Field trips take place approx. every two years and aim to provide an international view of contemporary practice, trips have included New York, LA, Venice, Kassell and Barcelona.

#### Screenings.

Artists' films, and documentaries about artists, form a significant part of the teaching in both the practice and theory modules.

#### **Workshops**

Workshops take place within the studios, library, 3D workshops, photography, print, emerging media centre and digital edit suites. They are developmental and allow students to explore in depth the different ways that they may develop their practice technically.

## How will you be assessed?

The course offers a variety of assessment methods that aim to enable students to see and evaluate the extent to which they have fulfilled the stated learning outcomes of the study programme for which they are registered and have achieved the standard for the award they seek. Some examples of what is used are:

- Oral and visual presentations to seminar group and to tutor group.
- Formal written reports, essays, dissertation, seminar paper.
- Proposals.
- Informal written material, notebooks and workbooks.
- Critical Journals.
- Critical Evaluations.
- Individual projects, portfolios.
- Digital presentations.
- Websites.
- Peer Assessments
- Artist's statements.

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# Students critically evaluate their work in relation to stated criteria that asks them to consider:

- The relationship between intention and outcome.
- The relationship of practice to other contemporary artists and relevant critical debates.
- Relative strengths and weaknesses.
- Potential future developments.

Both journals and evaluation are important components that give an indication of students depth of understanding and ability to contextualise and critique their practice.

Formative feedback is at the heart of the teaching on the course for both practical and academic work, and we aim to develop students' ability to improve their work in the light of feedback. This takes the form of a mid-semester presentations to peer groups and academic staff of work in progress in the studio which is then the subject of feedback from both the academic staff and peers as to the relative strengths and weaknesses of their work. At every level formative feedback is provided in response to submitted or created work

Summative Assessment generally occurs toward the end of a module and can take many forms including exhibition, essays and presetations. Fine art practice assessments may take the form of a studio crit where students present work to peers and academic staff. Students generally present/exhibit their work within the studios where they work using their own individual allocated space appropriate to the curatorial concerns of their work. The experience of professionaly "hanging" or installing work in an exhibition environment is invaluable to student learning allowing students to work collaboratively towards a shared goal.

Students receive written summative feedback from all assessments, relating directly to the assessment criteria for each module students also have an opportunity to discuss feedback via a review tutorial

Intrinsic to students' development on the course is their ability to establish a meaningful relationship between the theoretical (contextual) elements of the programme and the fine art practice elements. Assessment across the programme and at every level is designed to test students knowledge and understanding across and between modules.

## Employment, employability and further study opportunities

The BA (Hons) Fine Art Mixed Media aims to create graduates who demonstrate the following five Graduate Attributes:

- Critical and creative thinkers
- Literate and effective communicator
- Entrepreneurial
- · Global in outlook and engaged in communities
- Social, ethically and environmentally aware

University of Westminster courses capitalise on the benefits that London as a global city and as a major creative, intellectual and technology hub has to offer for the learning environment and experience of our students.

## **Critical and creative thinkers**

Knowledge and understanding of contemporary fine art is developed through the practical, Programme Specification: BA (Hons) Fine Art

theoretical and contextual elements of the course. Students develop the ability to critique their practice through studio discussion with the academic staff and peers.

#### Literate and effective communicators

Studio discussion and crits encourage students to articulate sophisticated arguments and debate key issues that are central to the development of both your studio and theoretical work. Students are introduced to a number of software packages related to digital editing, AV presentation, building websites and word processing. These are important skills to develop and are very well supported by introductory, developmental and specialist workshops.

#### Innovation and risk taking

The course actively encourages students to experiment and take risks in the development of Fine art studio work.

## International (global) in outlook

The vibrant London art world provides a rich resource where internationally acclaimed artists exhibit their work.

There are regular field trips to exciting cities and these have included New York, Los Angeles, the Venice Biennale, Kassel Documenta and Berlin. These trips are important because they expand knowledge of the international contexts that contemporary artists work within.

## Socially, ethically and environmentally aware

Through a combined process of reflection upon students fine art practice and the lecture programmes at level 4 and 5 students are able to develop and establish a considered position in relationship to historical and contemporary socio- political debates.

## Key transferable skills/other attributes Key Skills

Throughout the programme students acquire key skills that support their personal development. These skills can be categorised as those that relate to Learning Resources, Information Management, Problem Solving, Communication, Group Working, Self-evaluation, Autonomy, and Professional Practice.

BA Fine Art Mixed Media is focused on developing students practical, academic and creative skills necessary to work professionally within the commercial world of contemporary fine art. Graduates are equipped for careers in a varied range of creative practice industries, from, practicing artists, curators, writers, critics, exhibition officers, gallery administrators, the public arts and community arts sectors and in education at all levels. Career development skills are embedded throughout the course:

<u>At level 4</u> students are supported and encouraged to undertake short term work experience within the creative arts industries. Employability skills are taught via review and practice-based tutorials, alumni and visiting artist lectures and workshops via the Creative Enterprise Centre to develop the skills and interests needed to enter employment within the creative industries. All level 4 students have the opportunity of taking part in at least 2 public exhibitions, in their 1<sup>st</sup> year, where they develop professional processes of curation, risk assessment and look at how their work communicates to a wider gallery audience.

<u>At level 5</u> students study the Work Based and Placement Learning module to develop further employment skills and focus upon potential career objectives. Through the legacy of previous professional practice modules, the Course has developed a network of exciting contacts within the creative arts. As part of this process we look at enabling students to further develop key transferable skills developed within the course, for example public presentation skills, independent research practice, curatorial and organisational skills.

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The module provides the opportunity to identify and explore future career options within the contemporary fine art arena, and in a number of cases the placement results in employment after graduation.

Placements have taken place at some of the London's most eminent galleries including Tate Modern and Tate Britain, the Serpentine Gallery, Camden Arts Centre, Sadie Coles Gallery, David Zwirner Gallery and Artangel, and many other commercial and non-commercial galleries.

Shadowing an artist provides an invaluable insight into life after graduation and the professional art world. In many cases this has led to opportunities beyond graduation. Artists have included Antony Gormley, Richard Wilson, Richard Woods, Tracy Emin, Keith Wilson, Jeremy Deller, Marvin Gaye Chetwyn, Doug Fishbone, Shezad Dawood, Damien Hirst, Rose Wylie, Phylida Barlow. Brian Eno and Helen Chadwick.

Students also have the opportunity to study abroad at level 5, often for a single semester, enabling them to gain a first hand glodal experience of fine art practice.

<u>At Level 6</u> students skills are further enhanced via module 6FIAR003W Contemporary fine art professional practice 3.2 '*realisation*'. Students consider their future professional options, develop an online folio and presence of fine art practice and prepare and deliver a presentation around their fine art practice and their aspirations for employment or further study.

This occurs while students prepare their fine art practice to be exhibited at Ambika P3 which provides the opportunity to showcase their work in one of London's most prestigious Gallery spaces, organise and take part in fund raising events and contribute to the design and production of the exhibition publicity.

Having developed many transferable skills during their three years of study graduates have worked at a high level in related fields. These have included graphic design, website design, theatre design, electronic imaging studios, animation studios, post and pre-production companies and art therapy.

We have a very strong record in preparing graduates for post-graduate study at the Royal College of Art, The Slade School of Art, Goldsmiths, Central Saint Martins, Chelsea and Camberwell. Subject areas have included painting, sculpture, moving image, performance and animation.

Students may also undertake an optional year-long placement between their second and third year. Students who take advantage of this option will undertake an additional year long Industry Placement module running parallel to their work placement, and their final degree award will be BA Honours Fine Art Mixed Media with Professional Experience.

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#### **Course structure**

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year. Course structures can be subject to change each academic year following feedback from a variety of sources.

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100 Core credits made up of 3 core modules +1 option or elective module to the value of 20 credits

Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
4FIAR001W	Introduction to Fine Art Mixed Media Practice.	Core	40	20
4CTAD001W	Creativity and Collaboration	Core	20	10
4FIAR008W	Contemporary Fine Art Practice Experimentation.	Core	40	20
4FIAR002W	Sources of Contemporary Fine Art Practice	Option	20	10
Various	Westminster Elective	Option	20	10

Award of Certificate of Higher Education available

#### **Credit Level 5**

80 core credits made up of 3 core modules AND 2 option modules to the value of 40 credits. Students who wish to take advantage of the Study Abroad opportunity study equivalent modules at an international institution with approval of the Course Leader, to the value of 60 credits.

Students on the 4-year route complete the Industry Placement Year after completion of Level 5.

Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5FIAR001W	Contemporary Fine Art Practice 2.1 Exploration & Development	Core	40	20
5FIAR002W	Concepts of Contemporary Art Practice	Option	20	10
5FIAR003W	Contemporary Fine Art Practice 2.2 Presentation	Option	20	10
5FIAR004W	Contemporary Fine Art: Ideas & Form	Core	20	10
5CTAD002W	Work Based and Placement Learning	Core	20	10
5IMAG016W	The Critical image	Option	20	10
5IMAG003W	Photography in Context	Option	20	10
Various	Westminster Elective	Option	20	10

Award of Diploma of Higher Education or Foundation Degree available

#### **Placement Year**

For students on the 4-year route leading to BA Fine Art Mixed Media with Professional Experience

6CTAD002W	Industry Placement Semester One	Option	60	30
6CTAD003W	Industry Placement Semester Two	Option	60	30

#### **Credit Level 6**

100 Core credits made up of 2 core modules. 1 elective module to the value of 20 credits

Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6FIAR001W	Contemporary Fine Art Practice: Research and Development 3.1	Option	20	10
6CTAD001W	Research Project	Core	40	20
6FIAR003W	Contemporary Fine Art and Professional Practice: Realisation 3.2	Core	60	30
Various	Westminster Elective	Option	20	10

Award /BA Fine Art Mixed Media available

Award /BA Honours Fine Art Mixed Media available.

Award /BA Honours Fine Art Mixed Media with Professional Experience available.

Award /BA Honours Fine Art Mixed Media with International Experience available

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. In addition, timetabling and limited spaces may mean you cannot do your first choice of modules.

## **Professional Body Accreditation or other external references**

#### Internal

Internally the course design incorporates the research, professional practice and scholarship of the course teaching team who are recognized practitioners in the field of Fine Art. The observations and comment from current students and recent graduates had also contributed to development of the curriculum and considerations for the general student experience. A healthy course is not static but needs to remain flexible in its curriculum, teaching and provision of learning to external change, student feedback, developments in the field and input from the academic and support staff.

#### External

The course has a number of external reference points, guest speakers and alumni working in contemporary fine art.

## **Academic regulations**

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at <u>westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations</u>.

## How will you be supported in your studies

## **Course Management**

The Course Leader has overall management and administrative responsibility of the course programme answering to the head of the School of Art. Levels 4,5 and 6 each have a year co-ordinator who is the first port of call for accedemic issues and questions. Module leaders take managerial and administrative responsibility for individual modules and make a significant contribution to the teaching of that module. The course programme is delivered through a combination of appointed staff, technical support staff, visiting lecturers, and guest lecturers. Students and staff keep in touch through email, Blackboard and regular studio meetings. All teaching and support staff are involved in main course events such as exhibitions, the degree show, open days, and recruitment, assessment and personal tutoring. As a staff team we make considerable use of the Course Representitive and Committee Meetings, at least twice each year these meetings bring representatives from the student body and staff together. Students and staff can formally raise issues and comment

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on the course from their various perspectives and involvements.

The outcomes of these meetings form a significant part of the Universities Annual Monitoring process where action points are raised and emerging issues are resolved.

## **Academic Support**

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Campus Registry. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or Director of Studies. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students. Further information on Blackboard can be found at westminster.ac.uk/blackboard.

## **Learning Support**

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend Study Skills workshops and one to one appointments. Further information on the Academic Learning Development Centre can be found at <a href="west-minister.ac.uk/academic-learning-development">west-minister.ac.uk/academic-learning-development</a>.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students¹ can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught in their College. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

## **Support Services**

The University of Westminster Student and Academic Services department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. Further information on the advice available to students can be found at <a href="westminster.ac.uk/student-advice">westminster.ac.uk/student-advice</a>. The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University. Further information on UWSU can be found at <a href="westminster.ac.uk/students-union">westminster.ac.uk/students-union</a>.

## How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in 1994. The panel included internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university and a representative from industry. This helps to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and the relevance to employers.

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The course is also monitored each year by the College to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the evidence of student surveys, student progression and achievement and reports from external examiners, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the course.

A Course revalidation takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Students meet with revalidation panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

#### How do we act on student feedback?

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways.

- Through student engagement activities at Course/Module level, students have the
  opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Course representatives
  are elected to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the
  Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the course
  representatives.
- There are also School Representatives appointed jointly by the University and the Students' Union who meet with senior School staff to discuss wider issues affecting student experience across the School. Student representatives are also represented on key College and University committees.
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module.
   The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- Final year Undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.

**Please note:** This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification should be read in conjunction with the Course Handbook provided to students and Module Handbooks, which provide more detailed information on the specific learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods for each module.

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