

Programme Specification

1	Awarding Institution/Body	Luminate Education Group
2	Delivery Location(s)	University Centre Leeds
3	Programme Externally Accredited by (e.g., PSRB)	N/A
4	Award Title(s)	BA (Hons) Creative Hair and Media Makeup Top-up BA (Hons) Creative Hair and Media Makeup (Fashion and Editorial) Top-up BA (Hons) Creative Hair and Media Makeup (Film & TV, and Prosthetics) Top-up
5	UCAS Code	Pure pathway - 8F10 Fashion and Editorial pathway - 8F12 Film, TV and Prosthetics pathway - 8F11
6	Apprenticeship	N/A
7	HECoS Code and Description	100706 - hair and make-up
8	Mode of Attendance	Full Time: 1 year Face to face
9	Relevant QAA Subject Benchmarking Group(s)	QAA Subject Benchmark Statement Art & Design 2019
10	Relevant Additional External Reference Points (e.g., <i>National Occupational Standards, PSRB Standards</i>)	National occupational standards: Create an original design for hair, wigs, make-up, and prosthetics Prepare to change the performer's appearance Research ideas to contribute to the development of hair, wigs, makeup, and prosthetics design for productions Monitor and maintain the continuity of the performer's appearance
11	Date of Approval/ Revision	September 2026
12	Criteria for Admission to the Programme (select the appropriate Entry Criteria for the award and remove the others)	

<u>Top Up Entry Criteria</u>		
	Typical offer	Minimum Offer
Foundation Degree:	An overall Pass grade (module average) on the second year of an FD in a relevant subject.	An overall Pass grade (module average) on the second year of an FD in a relevant subject.
HND:	Pass grade in a relevant subject.	Pass grade in a relevant subject.
IELTS:	IELTS 6.0 with no less than 5.5 in any component.	
International qualifications:	International qualifications will be assessed against these criteria.	
Mature applicants:	University Centre Leeds welcomes applications from mature* applicants who may not have met the academic criteria, but who can demonstrate a wealth of experience in their chosen field. Candidates in this category and otherwise are likely to be interviewed to assess their suitability for the course and may be asked to provide a portfolio of evidence to support their application. <i>*21 years and over at the start of the course</i>	
13	Educational Aims of the Programme • Provide a comprehensive and challenging practice-led programme in Creative Hair and Media Makeup which facilitates access and progression for a wide range of students from diverse backgrounds into various creative industry contexts with specialist pathways. • Offer a robust BA (Hons) Top-up programme that provides opportunities to produce resolved and technically accomplished creative work, relevant to current practices in the fashion and screen industries. • Develop students with a range of practical skills pertinent to contemporary professional hair and media makeup practice. • Produce graduates who have both subject specific skills (expressive, creative, technical) and transferable skills (communication, teamwork, project management, problem solving, questioning) which are key to being employable within the creative industries. • Produce graduates with creative flexibility and entrepreneurial ability relevant to the creative and cultural industries. • Produce graduates who understand Creative Hair and Media Makeup in the wider social and cultural environment.	
14	Learning Outcomes	

The programme will enable students to develop the knowledge and skills listed below. On successful completion of the programme, the student will be able to:	
Knowledge and Understanding	
K1	Critically evaluate key theories, issues and debates pertinent to contemporary makeup practice and its wider social and political contexts.
K2	Critically analyse creative hair and makeup practices and practitioners to contextualise own work.
Cognitive/Intellectual Skills	
C1	Critically evaluate and interpret evidence from a variety of sources.
C2	Develop an innovative makeup practice by purposefully experimenting with new approaches to equipment, products, and techniques.
C3	Employ a systematic problem-solving process to develop creative makeup solutions.
Professional Skills	
P1	Act autonomously with limited supervision or direction within agreed guidelines.
P2	Develop specialist working methodologies to produce concepts suitable to the makeup context.
P3	Skilfully communicate makeup concepts using relevant equipment, skills, and processes.
Key Transferable Skills	
T1	Effectively communicate in a range of professional contexts.
T2	Critically reflect on own performance to inform future personal and professional development.
T3	Effectively work with others in a range of situations.
15	Key Learning & Teaching Strategy and Methods ● Practical workshops ● Demonstrations ● Group critiques ● Case study analysis ● Discussion seminars ● Research discussions ● Lectures

	• Technician support
16	Key Assessment Strategy and Methods • Digital Portfolio • Portfolio of Images • Live Event • Final Project • Presentation • Visual Report
17	Industry Specific Skills Development The programme develops a range of specialist industry skills that prepare students for employment across the fashion, editorial, film, television and prosthetics sectors. Through the Studio Practice modules, students refine advanced makeup application techniques, hair styling and wig work, prosthetic design and application, character creation, editorial and beauty makeup, special effects makeup, colour matching and correction, silicone encapsulation and colouring, and continuity procedures required for screen productions. Alongside these practical skills, students develop advanced design capabilities, including visual research, concept development, mood board creation, character and editorial design, script and brief interpretation, design communication, and the translation of creative ideas into technically resolved outcomes. Students learn to generate original concepts informed by historical, cultural and contemporary influences, selecting appropriate products, materials and processes to realise designs that meet professional production standards. Emphasis is placed on precision, hygiene, health and safety, continuity, time management, and adapting techniques to suit different lighting conditions, camera technologies, production environments and diverse performers. Alongside technical skills, students develop the professional skills expected of makeup artists. They learn to work effectively with directors, photographers, performers, costume departments and other creative practitioners, responding to feedback and adapting their work under production pressures. Through independent projects and collaborative productions, students gain experience in planning and managing photoshoots, maintaining continuity documentation, budgeting for projects, sourcing specialist materials, presenting and pitching design concepts to clients and creative teams, and producing industry standard portfolios. Students also develop digital promotional skills by creating professional online portfolios, websites and social media content to showcase their work, establish a personal brand and enhance their professional profile. The programme also develops expertise in inclusive practice through advanced colour matching across diverse skin tones, working confidently with textured hair, wigs and facial hair, and designing makeup that responds sensitively to cultural, historical and character contexts.
18	Transferable Skills Development Many industry specialists consulted in the writing of this course highlighted the need for soft and transferrable skills in the industry, discussing how vital problem solving and critical thinking skills were. Organisation, time keeping, reading the room, on-set etiquette and budgeting are

	embedded into the delivery and content of the modules. Our employers often do workshops or guest speaker sessions with the students, and students will work on live briefs, photoshoots and various practical environments that will test these skills and help the students gain confidence. Studio Practice (Fashion & Editorial) and Studio Practice (Film, TV & Prosthetics) have students working with models and photographers, developing problem solving, collaboration and organisation. Final Project extends these skills in semester 2, with students arranging their own photoshoots and collaborations, with time keeping and organisation vital. These are also vital in the Live Event planning and assessment for Professional Practice. Professional Practice, which works with the King's Trust, will also cover budgeting, organisation and entrepreneurial skills that will set the students up for success. Collaboration opportunities through the creative arts department see students from production arts, acting, concept art and more work together on projects. Collaboration and networking are encouraged, giving early opportunities to make it possible for students to form important collaborative relationships with their peers in alternative creative arts disciplines. This will allow them to form their own creative network and develop a range of soft skills, adding to the students' level of employability. Through this the students will also understand the potential application of makeup in a wide range of professional contexts developing their employment potential and widening their creative practice.
19	Sustainability This programme develops the students' understanding and approaches to sustainability as a key consideration within both theoretical and practical learning. Students are encouraged to engage with environmental, ethical, and social issues relevant to the makeup and the wider creative industries, including material use, consumables and waste reduction, the responsible sourcing of products, and sustainable production practices. Digital methods for activities and assessments are promoted where appropriate to reduce environmental impact, alongside critical evaluation of industry practices in relation to sustainability. Project briefs may be thematically framed around sustainability, encouraging students to explore environmentally conscious approaches to creative hair and makeup design. This may include the use of eco-friendly products, low waste techniques, and concepts that respond to current environmental challenges within the industry. Through this approach, students develop an awareness of sustainable practice that supports responsible professional behaviour and aligns with evolving industry expectations. Engagement with industry professionals and regular networking opportunities enable students to gain current, real-world insight into the creative hair and makeup industry, helping them to understand professional expectations and evolving industry standards as well as making useful contacts to gain experience and opportunities. Collaborative work with external partners such as Film Buddy, alongside briefs and guest speakers, supports students in developing adaptable, professional working practices and industry-relevant communication skills. The variety of practical modules allows students to build a broad and flexible skill set, increasing their employability and resilience within a competitive industry. This combination of industry engagement and diverse practical experience helps prepare students for sustainable careers

	by building adaptability, professional awareness, and access to networks needed for long-term progression and longevity in the makeup industry
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20	Programme Modules				
	Level 6				
	Code	Title	Credits	Core/Option	Compensatable / Non-Compensatable
		Final Project	60	Core	Non-Compensatable
		Professional Practice	20	Core	Compensatable
		Studio Practice (Film & TV and Prosthetics)	40	Option	Non-Compensatable
		Studio Practice (Fashion and Editorial)	40	Option	Non-Compensatable

21	Programme Structure 13 teaching weeks per semester – 9hrs a week plus 1hr tutorial. Semester 1 – 6hrs Studio Practice, 3hrs Final Project. Semester 2 – 3hrs Professional Practice, 6hrs Final Project. <table><tr><td>Semester 1</td><td></td><td>Studio Practice (Film & TV and Prosthetics) Or Studio Practice (Fashion and Editorial) 40 Credits</td><td rowspan="2">Final Project 60 Credits</td></tr><tr><td>Semester 2</td><td></td><td>Professional Practice 20 Credits</td></tr></table>	Semester 1		Studio Practice (Film & TV and Prosthetics) Or Studio Practice (Fashion and Editorial) 40 Credits	Final Project 60 Credits	Semester 2		Professional Practice 20 Credits
Semester 1		Studio Practice (Film & TV and Prosthetics) Or Studio Practice (Fashion and Editorial) 40 Credits	Final Project 60 Credits					
Semester 2		Professional Practice 20 Credits						
22	Apprenticeships N/A							
23	Support for Students and Their Learning At the University Centre there is a HE (Higher Education) Student Support Manager, HE Welfare and Progression Officer and HE Counselling and Mental Health Officer. These roles support student welfare and offer support including counselling, well-being, and financial advice. There is also a Learning Support Officer who can assist students in their applications for DSA and provide one to one support with specific learning needs. The institution also has a Careers and Progression Officer that can support students in finding employment. A subject specific Academic Librarian also works within the HE library at Mabgate where there is an extensive range of learning resources. Students are supported by the Academic Librarian who can support students one to one with specific study skills requirements and who also provides bespoke study skills sessions for student groups. Also located in the HE Library is the department's Progress Coach, who supports staff to monitor attendance and engagement and with whom students can book in for 1-1 pastoral support, as necessary. Over the summer period a 'summer study project' is set for students progressing onto the BA(Hons) Top-up, this project promotes engagement in practice, supporting students by giving them time to assess the direction of their practice and conduct further research before beginning the programme. An hour tutorial slot is timetabled weekly for each group; in this slot they can access pastoral and personal development support with a personal tutor, this includes one to one tutorials and group tutorials on broader support topics such as time management, stress management, mental health, and wellbeing. All students have a personal tutor throughout their studies; this tutor supports the student pastorally and will also review their personal development plans throughout the programme.							

A supervisor system will be adopted to support and monitor individual specialist research and monitor student progress. Students are supported through the design of the curriculum to become increasingly autonomous and critical in preparation for the final exhibition work. Throughout semester one students are invited to become increasingly critically aware by exploring theoretical debates in the Studio Practice module. Throughout the programme students are supported to develop the curriculum in response to their personal interests and aspirational career trajectories. This along with the development of their research and academic skills within the written elements of Studio Practice will support them to undertake the Final Project module and move towards being more autonomous practitioners.

Students will be supported through regular formal and informal group and peer critiques, offering a test space to explore their creative voice and vocabulary.

The Creative Arts Network VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) supports students in finding collaboration opportunities within the department and promotes networking events that are arranged by the department for students from different disciplines to meet and interact with each other. These opportunities prepare students for the final networking opportunity within Professional Practice to promote their work and network with specialists and employers, also readying them to seek further opportunities to continue to extend their network and contacts after graduating.

A robust communications system functions to give students access to lecturers and management; this includes e-mail, Google Chat and Blackboard. All students studying at University Centre Leeds are given a device to support them in using these platforms at home. All necessary information about the programme is provided by means of the course handbook, module handbooks and the VLE which they can access easily using their device. Additional to this, technical services provide a check out service, so students have access to a range of high-quality equipment such as mac devices, laptops, iPads and pens, course specific equipment and bookable rooms and studios. Equipment can be loaned and used out of opening hours to aid students when working on projects.

The facilities at Mabgate campus are open from 8am-8pm and students are encouraged to utilise available resources and continue project work. Workshop times at Mabgate and Prime Studios are also highlighted on timetables for the students to come in and work on their individual projects with the guidance of the department technicians. During the holidays workshop sessions are available for learners to attend and are supervised by a member of staff; this allows learners to catch up with support from the team if they have fallen behind with their course work or if they want to continue work on projects and use the facilities outside of their timetabled sessions. A wider team of technicians in the Creative arts department also supports students with skills such as digital skills and use of adobe suite, use of camera equipment and studios, checking out and use of equipment such as iPad and pens.

24 Distinctive Features

The specialist pathways provide the opportunity to choose a course that is specific to their area of interest. Students can choose to study a specialist area from L4 to L6 something that will set learners apart from graduates from other institutions making the offering more distinctive locally and competitive with other courses nationally.

The programme has a high level of engagement with industry and focusses on providing opportunities for students to make contacts and extend their professional networks alongside learning technical skills and gaining invaluable insights into the industry. Throughout the modules, guest speakers are invited to deliver talks and run masterclasses. Previous guest speakers have included Kate Benton (Last Kingdom, Hugo, Love Actually), Stuart Bray (Game of Thrones, Doctor Who), Calico Heslop (Wicked, The Lion Kiing) Laura Lawrence (Peaky Blinders, Boss Model, and Industry Model Management) Dan Wood (Boohoo), Stefanie Kemp (Bridgerton, Luther) Illamasqua and Fenty amongst others.

Students can gain practical experience on productions and events, these include local companies such as Leeds Grand Theatre, Leeds Playhouse, local film and tv productions (Ackley Bridge, Official Secrets, Overshadowed) and at events such as the Leeds RAG Fashion Show, FB Fashion Ball, Leeds International Festival, and The Prosthetics Event. Students also have opportunities to collaborate with students from UC Leeds, for example with the Acting and Film students as well as other institutions such as the Northern Film School and the MET Film school at Prime Studios. The high level of opportunities to gain experience in industry throughout the programme makes the offer distinctive and students recognise these links can provide them an increased opportunity to enter the makeup industries during their studies and once they have graduated.

Students are provided with opportunities to showcase their work to a specialist audience of industry professionals and local employers, providing a final opportunity to gain recognition for their work and extend their industry contacts.

The unique training environment in a working production studio sets the course apart from competitors and has grown the reputation of Creative Ambition amongst industry professionals, providing further opportunities for students to gain real life insights into the workings of industry settings. The close location of the studios to ITV has also provided opportunities to link with the makeup department at Emmerdale from which past graduates have gained opportunities for employment.

Students will also train in the makeup studios within the recently built and developed I Mabgate Campus, which is based in the Cultural Quarter of Leeds, providing excellent links to the Playhouse Theatre (with whom the department has close contact) BBC and Channel 4 who have their headquarters in the city centre.

The department is part of Screen Yorkshire's Connected Campus initiative which works to forge closer links between TV and Film professionals, production companies, broadcasters, and students. Through this initiative the department has access to a range of boot camps, masterclasses, and special events, including visits to live sets and studios, industry workshops and visiting speakers. The scheme is encouraged and supported by the broadcasters based in the region, including Channel 4, the BBC and ITV. As well as this, the department is part of the Craft Hair and Makeup Certificate that is coordinated by COSE: Y (Centre of Screen Excellence Yorkshire). This scheme provides practical upskilling, high end work experience, guest speakers, collaboration, and industry insight. Due to our involvement in the scheme graduates from Creative Ambition have a higher chance of acceptance on to the scheme. The teaching team work closely with COSE: Y to deliver practical training and skills.

The department is also a member of Film Buddy UK, who offer bespoke employability services to encourage, inspire and assist students directly into work experience placements and employment within the Film, Television & Creative Media Industries. This provides UCL

Creative Arts students with free membership with the company whilst on programme giving access to live Q&As with some of the world's leading specialists, mentoring support, access to work experience opportunities and FB-1, an online catalogue of interviews and podcasts with specialists from the screen industries.

The team has considerable experience in teaching and within the makeup industry, and this wide expertise has been a strength of the programme throughout its development. Current students have commented positively that they appreciate the industry relevance of the team and the fact that they still work in and have strong links within industry.

As the only provider for makeup degrees in Leeds, the region itself makes the course distinctive due to recent investment and growth in the local region to make Leeds and Yorkshire a hub for the screen industries. The construction of the new Leeds Studios and initiatives by Screen Yorkshire are bringing more productions to the region and local talent is in real demand creating more opportunities for local make-up graduates.

The inclusion of hair and wig skills within the programme addresses the recognised shortfalls of much of the makeup training offered nationally and follows on from the modules delivered at FD level. The importance for learners to build confidence in hair and makeup skills for a diverse range of models continues to be at the forefront of the consultation with industry experts and has been included within the planning of the restructured course, setting us apart from competitors.

Leeds has a thriving fashion scene and opportunities for digital marketing and online promotion has led to further need for creatives to provide high quality content for promotion and marketing of online retail. Large online fashion companies such as Boohoo setting up their headquarters in the North has brought greater opportunities to the region and hair and makeup is an integral role to the creative teams that work for companies such as these. Consumer behaviours have been accelerated by online retail, promotion and marketing for fashion brands continues to have increasing influence providing local opportunities for makeup trainees. This alongside the growing reputation of Creative Ambition as a high-quality provider of makeup degrees and our strong links with industry make the course desirable to students nationally, not just locally.

Before advancing onto the BA, learners acquire foundational knowledge of equality, diversity, inclusion, and sustainability as it is integrated into various modules within the Creative Hair and Makeup Foundation Degree. Fundamental Techniques of the Inclusive Artist focuses on developing skills to become an inclusive makeup artist, working with different skin tones and textures, ages, genders, and hair types and textures. In Historical Influences in Hair and Makeup students are encouraged to look at global historical impacts on hair and makeup, as well as focussed sessions on LGBTQ+ rights history, civil rights movements, and women's rights movements. In the Creation of a Showcase module learners explore topics impacting the industry and beyond with regards to representation, diversity in models (age, race, gender, disability) and sustainability, when deciding on their own photoshoot direction.

Within the BA learners extend their prior knowledge within these areas within the Studio Practice modules and the Final Project module. Studio Practice modules explore key issues regarding topics such as gender and identity, intersectionality, expression, inclusivity in the industry, stereotypes, and cultural developments within characters within prosthetic based makeup and hair design. Students are encouraged to explore these topics and their links to/impact on the contemporary industry, responding to them through their research and practice. This will build on discussion of such topics from previous levels, developing critical

understanding of these key issues and incorporating them into inspiring, creative outcomes. The module will draw from the recently published book by lecturer Charli Butterfield on the topic of gender expression and identity through makeup. The book explores historical and modern uses of makeup for self-expression, with a focus on gender, providing terminology and contextualising examples of makeup as a vehicle for this. The book covers gender theory, intersectionality, queer history, global trends, identity in the digital age, subcultures and more and will align perfectly with the modules delivered in the BA.

Skills will be advanced further to address inclusivity focusing on colour theory. Recent research into colourism conducted by the Lecturers delivering on the modules have led the teaching team to investigate the Monks Skin Scale, a system developed by Harvard professor and sociologist Dr Ellis Monk. Now adopted by Google, this ten-shade scale was developed for digital platforms to improve representation. The shades have been translated by the teaching team into realistically textured, large silicone skin samples which can be used for reference and practice by students to advance their skills within the integrated prosthetic silicone colouring process, colour matching and blending to actors' skin tones in both prosthetic makeup application and fashion-based makeup applications.

Other research conducted by the teaching team has focused on the contextual as well as the knowledge and skills gap within hair diversity and its significance in cultural identity from past to present. These themes will be explored and underpin design and practice within the Studio Practice module and Final Project module to create meaningful and genuine representation.

Appendix 1
Map of Outcomes to Modules

Outcome Key											
Module Titles	K1	K2	C1	C2	C3	P1	P2	P3	T1	T2	T3
Studio Practice (Film, TV & Prosthetics)	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		
Studio Practice (Fashion & Editorial)	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		
Final Project		X	X	X		X				X	X
Professional Practice					X	X			X		X

Appendix 2
Map of Teaching and Learning Methods
Level 6

Methods								
Module Titles	Lectures	Practicals (design and production sessions)	Group activities- Group critiques/debates	Guest speakers	Tutorials	Demonstrations	Presentation Skills	Academic Writing Development
Studio Practice (Film & TV)	X	X	X	X	X	X		X

and Prosthetics)								
Studio Practice (Fashion and Editorial)	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Final Project	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Professional Practice	X	X	X	X	X		X	X

Appendix 3

Map of Assessment Methods

Level 6

Methods						
Module Titles	Visual Report	Portfolio of Images	E-Portfolio	Live Event	Poster Presentation	Final Project
Studio Practice (Fashion and Editorial)	40% (3000 words + 8 images wk. 8)	60% (4 final looks min 8 pages wk. 15)				
Studio Practice (Film)	40% (3000 words + 8	60% (Min 8 pages wk. 15)				

& TV and Prosthetics)	images wk. 8)					
Final Project					30% (20 min presentation wk. 12)	70% (Final Project wk. 30)
Professional Practice			30% (Min 8 images wk. 24)	70% (Live Event wk. 29)		