COURSE SPECIFICATION

MA Creative Technologies

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	MA Creative Technologies
Final Award	MA Creative Technologies MA Animation MA Extended Reality MA Games Development MA Music Technology
Exit Awards	PGCert, PGDip
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	P3277FTC P3277PTC P3281FTC P3284FTC P3282FTC P3283FTC
Mode of study	Full time, Part time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	1 year full time, 2 years part time
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	from September 2026 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Creative and Cultural Industries
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Film, Media, and Creative Technologies
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/faculty-of-creative-and-cultural-industries/school-of-film-media-and-creative-technologies
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/ma-creative-technologies
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	N/A
Office for Students Conditions of Registration	*https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/for-providers/registering-with-the-ofs/registration-with-the-ofs-a-guide/conditions-of-registration/*
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	Level 7

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.
This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Course and Module Catalogue for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

The course aims to equip students with the creative, reflective, academic and professional skills required to pursue a career in the creative industries, focussing on Animation, Games Development, Music Technology or Extended Reality. Within the academic environment students develop a wide range of intellectual, analytical and problem-solving skills, which are then appropriately applied. This course aims to provide a framework that facilitates individual exploration and research, providing opportunities to demonstrate this advanced knowledge within specialist areas of enquiry. Particular emphasis is placed on the individual's ability to define, explore, evaluate and reflect on subject related issues. Creative practice and aesthetic discourse within their subject and across disciplines combine to locate the successful graduates at the forefront of contemporary practice.

In addition, and more generally, the course aims to:

- Provide a challenging, stimulating and self-rewarding study environment and hence provide an advanced educational experience, which develops the intellectual and practical skills of the student.
- Enable students to develop specialist interests and knowledge by way of negotiated learning.
- Provide an opportunity for students to develop as critically reflective practitioners in their chosen specialism.
- Provide students with the opportunity to develop creative practice in a critical framework of enquiry.
- Accommodate student needs in relation to maximising their career potential, or progress to higher postgraduate study, by enabling them to develop knowledge, critical understanding and advanced skills in their chosen subject area, as well as related professional and career management skills.

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

Office for Students Conditions of Registration

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
A1	Gather, critically evaluate and synthesise new and existing knowledge, for application in self-directed and original ways for the effective solution of a problem, which may benefit the economy or society.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.
A2	Critically appraise the methods of research related to the field of study and apply appropriate techniques of analysis to their own research.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.
A3	Develop advanced, critical and reflective knowledge in the field of study, including production processes or specialist hardware technologies, software techniques and programming requirements, focussing on the ability and readiness to question its principles, practices and boundaries.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
B1	Think independently, analytically and creatively, and engage imaginatively with ideas, concepts and arguments developed at an advanced level in the field of study and across discipline boundaries.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.
B2	Employ both convergent and divergent thinking in the processes of observation, investigation, speculative enquiry and creative practice.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.
B3	Evaluate scholarship, research and critical debates arising from the placing of creative practice in wider contexts and question the nature of theoretical constructs within the creative discipline.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
C1	Generate ideas, concepts, proposals, solutions or arguments independently and situate these within the critical, contextual, historical, conceptual, economic, social, environmental and ethical dimensions of the student's discipline.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and creative development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.
C2	Employ materials, media, techniques, methods, technologies and tools associated with the discipline studied with skill and imagination while observing sound and ethical working practices, and professional/legal responsibilities relating to the subject	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and creative development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.
C3	Professionally communicate a reasoned perspective on a complex aesthetic problem clearly and effectively to a range of different audiences, including face to face presentations, demonstrations and written communication.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and creative development project. This is supported by two supervisors.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios of design and development documentation, along with personal reflective reviews.

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
D1	Use current and emerging digital technologies to assist in locating, accessing and critically engaging with information.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is augmented by an explicit programme of professional development activities.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios personal reflective reviews. Presentations and Written assessments reflect direct on graduate skills.
D2	Strategically plan, successfully manage and resolve dynamically complex work whilst supporting others to achieve success.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is augmented by an explicit programme of professional development activities.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios personal reflective reviews. Presentations and Written assessments reflect direct on graduate skills.
D3	Proactively pursue academic, professional and career aspirations by addressing personal development needs.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is augmented by an explicit programme of professional development activities.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios personal reflective reviews. Presentations and Written assessments reflect direct on graduate skills.

D4	Develop a reflexive approach to work that is defined by equality, respect and ethical practice, whilst identifying enterprise and innovation opportunities.	Lectures, seminars and studio work support a framework for pursuing an individual research and development project. This is augmented by an explicit programme of professional development activities.	Formative peer review and supervisor feedback inform summative portfolios personal reflective reviews. Presentations and Written assessments reflect direct on graduate skills.

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations: Examination & Assessment Regulations will apply to this course. Approved course exemptions can be found here.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

In addition to these University support services, this course also provides:

CCI Creative Skills: One-to-one support sessions and group tutorials in creative technology, software and skills relevant to CCI courses and future careers.

CCI Academic Skills: To support learning strategies and techniques through one-to-one tutorials or group workshops.

CCI Student Success Advisors: Each student is individually allocated a dedicated Student Support Advisor who provides personalised pastoral and practical support throughout their studies.

Specialist equipment and facilities relevant to the course.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Connected Curriculum
- University of Portsmouth Vision
- Office for Students Conditions of Registration
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for **Art & Design (2019), Music (2019), Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (2019)**
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **N/A**
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Changes to your course/modules

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

Copyright

The contents of this Course Specification are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

Document Details	
CSD Template date	July 2025
Author	Brett Stevens
Date of production and version number	02/06/2021 v1.0
Date of update and version number	05/11/2025 v2.1
Minimum student registration numbers	12