



MSc Cosmetic Science

Programme Specification 21/22

Awarding Body	University of the Arts London
College	London College of Fashion
School	Fashion Business School
Programme	Science Programme (L017)
Course AOS Code	LCFIMCOSS01
FHEQ Level	Level 7 Masters
Course Credits	480
Mode	Full Time
Duration of Course	4 years
Valid From	September 1st 2021
QAA Subject Benchmark	Chemistry, Pharmacy
Collaboration	N/A
UAL Subject Classification	Business & management, and science
JACS Code	F100 - Chemistry
UCAS Code	W297
PSRB	N/A
Work placement offered	Yes
Course Entry Requirements	<p>The standard minimum entry requirements for this course are:</p> <p>One or a combination of the following accepted full level 3 qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three A Level passes to a minimum of 120 new UCAS tariff points (equivalent to 300 old UCAS tariff points) – one of the subjects must be Chemistry, Biology or Physics at a minimum grade of C or equivalent; • DDD at BTEC Extended Diploma in a relevant Science subject; • or equivalent EU or non-EU qualifications such as International Baccalaureate Diploma;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • and Five GCSE passes at grade A*-C or grade 9-4, including Maths and two Science subjects. <p>APEL (Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning)</p> <p>Applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements may still be considered in exceptional cases. The course team will consider each application that demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related academic or work experience • The quality of the personal statement • A strong academic or other professional reference • OR a combination of these factors <p>Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case.</p> <p>English Language Requirements</p> <p>IELTS level 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking. Please check our main English Language Requirements.</p>
Selection Criteria	<p>The course team seeks to recruit students who can demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An enthusiasm for a career in Cosmetic Science; • The potential to complete a multi-disciplinary and scientifically based programme of study; • An ability to engage with analytical and evaluative activities; • A good command of oral and written English.
Scheduled Learning and Teaching	<p>During your course you will engage with learning and teaching that includes both online and face-to-face modes. The advertised scheduled activity for the course will be delivered through a combination of live, synchronous and asynchronous on-line learning. Scheduled learning and teaching activity may include lectures, seminars, studio and workshop briefings, tutorials, external visits and project briefings.</p>

Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

Year 1

Percentage of Scheduled Learning	23
Awards	Credits
Certificate of Higher Education (Exit Only)	120

Year 2

Percentage of Scheduled Learning	24
Awards	Credits
Diploma of Higher Education (Exit Only)	240

Year 3

Percentage of Scheduled Learning	20
Awards	Credits
Bachelor of Science (Exit Only)	360

Year 4

Percentage of Scheduled Learning	11
Awards	Credits
Master of Science	480

Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide you with a unique Integrated Master's experience in cosmetic science, based on the study and practice of a range of relevant disciplines.
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop your capacity to respond to complex issues and problems independently, systematically and creatively.
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide you with an in-depth working knowledge of cosmetic science and related areas, and offer you the opportunity to apply it within a professional context.
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop your practical laboratory skills and your competence in the planning, design, execution, interpretation and reporting of experiments.
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance your ability to communicate and interact with professionals from other disciplines.
Aim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop your ability to enter employment, respond to professional opportunities or to undertake further study.
Outcome	1. Coherent and systematic knowledge of the various disciplines underpinning cosmetic science and technology.
Outcome	2. An application of appropriate theoretical scientific principles to the development, production and marketing of cosmetic products.
Outcome	3. An understanding of the structure and functioning of the cosmetic and related industries.
Outcome	4. An ability to apply your research, analytical, organisational, management and communication skills in dealing with complex issues and solving problems.
Outcome	5. Effective use of specialist laboratory and analytical equipment, appropriate to the level of study.
Outcome	6. An ability to initiate, research, plan, manage and present an independent Master's project report or dissertation in your chosen area of cosmetic science, showing originality in the application of knowledge and skills.

Outcome	7. Evidence of engagement with the principles and attributes outlined in the UAL Creative Attributes Framework.
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Distinctive Features	
1	The only Integrated MSc in Cosmetic Science in the world.
2	Situated in a unique creative and business environment, reflected in the multidisciplinary nature of the curriculum.
3	Based on 20 years of experience of delivering HE courses in Cosmetic Science at LCF.
4	Developed in consultation with industry and professional bodies.
5	Delivered by research active staff, including the LCF's Professor in Cosmetic Science.
6	Strongly and continuously supported by the industry.
7	Involved in several active Erasmus links.
8	In receipt of Industry sponsorship for 20 years (via Cosmetic, Toiletry and Perfumery Association), including 6 annual student awards of total value of £6,000.
9	Nationally and internationally recognised for its quality (e.g. Society of Cosmetic Scientists' conference attendance and travel awards, German association SEPAWA awards for best students of applied sciences).
10	Offers an optional Diploma in Professional Studies (120 credits).

Course Detail

Introduction

MSc Cosmetic Science is an applied science course designed for students who want a career in the cosmetics and personal care industries. The course focusses on the needs of those industries and their consumers.

These industries have expanded rapidly in recent years, as consumers have become more aware of the potential benefits of cosmetic products, and more critical of the way they are produced. In addition to subject-specific knowledge, the course enables students to develop the critical and analytical skills necessary to become cosmetic scientists.

What to expect

- An integrated master's course leading to a unique classification, in which students start at undergraduate level and are awarded a Master's award upon completion;
- A programme with vast laboratory experience, during which students learn to formulate and test many types of cosmetic products;
- Laboratory-based projects that will challenge students to develop their own formulations, catering for specific consumer needs;
- A solid scientific background and the opportunity to take on a year-long industry placement;
- A course that equips graduates with knowledge and understanding of the various disciplines within Cosmetic Science and of how the industry works – the Cosmetic Toiletry and Perfumery Association (CTPA) recognises the course as one 'of immediate relevance to the industry' due to its bespoke curriculum.

Graduates from MSc Cosmetic Science are employed throughout the industry, both in the UK and internationally, in a wide range of roles. These include research and development, product manufacturing, marketing, technical sales, product testing, quality assurance, logistics and regulation sectors. Employment prospects for graduates are excellent, with most of them being in professional roles within 6 months of leaving the course, while some graduates choose to take an entrepreneurial route.

Work experience and opportunities

Students will have the opportunity to undertake an optional industry placement year between the second and final year of the course, which will enhance the employability of students by offering valuable experience and contacts within the industry, as well as earning an additional Diploma in Professional Studies qualification.

Mode of study

MSc Cosmetic Science runs for 120 weeks (150 weeks with the optional Placement year) in full-time mode. It is divided into 4 stages, or 5 with the optional Placement year, over 4/5 academic years. Each stage lasts 30 weeks.

Course Units

Year 1

Year 1 is planned to help you to make the transition from school to university study successfully. A unit is included to assist you in developing the skills you will need to become an independent learner. There will be units in the core sciences that will prepare you for the specific demands of understanding cosmetic science. In Block 2 you will begin formulating a variety of cosmetic products and even get the chance to develop your own.

All year 1 students take the 'Better Lives' unit which allows you to explore diversity, social responsibility and sustainability, all themes which are increasingly important in contemporary society.

Units studied:

- Introduction to Cosmetic Science
- Applied Chemistry
- Applied Biology
- Colloidal Science
- Formulation Science
- Better Lives

Year 2

Year 2 continues with the core disciplines, but also focusses on the creation of specific products for care of the skin and hair, and also in perfumery and decorative cosmetics. In addition to formulating many different products, you will learn how to test and evaluate them for both efficacy and stability.

This year will also introduce you to the important subject of product safety and the relevant legislation governing the formulation and sale of safe, legally compliant cosmetics. Additionally, you will discuss packaging and its role in protecting cosmetic products and enhancing sales.

Units studied:

- Skincare and Colour Cosmetics

- Product Evaluation
- Product Safety, Quality and Legislation
- Product Packaging and Stability
- Haircare
- Perfumery

The optional Diploma in Professional Studies carries 120 credits, and constitutes an independent award. Credits achieved on the Diploma are not part of the final degree award.

The Diploma year is a single unit, undertaken as a form of full time study, with placement activity at its core. For those who take up the option of studying the Diploma, the experience is designed to be an integrated and assessed part of a student's journey through the course. It allows students the opportunity to experience the atmosphere, pace and discipline of working in the industry, through total involvement in the day-to-day activities of a company. It will build on the knowledge gathered through course work to practically demonstrate the roles and functions, and operations typical of the fashion industry and the student's chosen specialism.

The Diploma is undertaken after successful completion of stage 2 of the course. Placements may be in the United Kingdom or abroad and may be in a range of relevant roles within the industry depending on your area of interest. Graduate Futures offer a comprehensive programme, including workshops and tutorials, which prepares students for the application process and interviews. Both Graduate Futures and the academic team support students throughout the placement year.

Year 3

Year 3 of the course is more dedicated to the business aspects of the industry, providing you with an understanding of how all aspects of product development and production come together in the finished project – the manufacturing, packaging, efficacy testing and marketing of products will be considered. You will also continue to develop your formulation skills. Block 2 will culminate in a product launch project, which will allow you to follow the stages required to take a new product from idea to sale.

Units studied:

- Applied Product Formulation
- Production and Distribution Management
- Strategic Marketing
- Cosmetic Product Claims
- Product Launch Project

Final Year

The final year of your course brings together all the topics that you have covered during your time at the College. The Advanced Cosmetic Science unit gives an overview of current trends in cosmetic science and the industry. The main focus of your studies, however, will be your MSc project. Choosing from a list of available topics, with the option to suggest your own, you will begin by creating a Project Proposal which will form the basis of your project report (laboratory-based projects) or dissertation (theoretical, literature-based projects). All topics are expected to address issues of practical or theoretical importance for the cosmetics industry.

Units studied:

- MSc Project Proposal
- Advanced Cosmetic Science
- MSc Project for Cosmetic Science

Learning and Teaching Methods

The following teaching and learning methods are employed to support the integrated achievement of the course outcomes:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Visiting speakers
- Group and individual tutorials
- Group and individual presentations
- Laboratory workshops
- Statistical software training
- Laboratory open access
- Self-directed study

Assessment Methods

The following assessment methods are employed to support the integrated aims of the course outcomes:

- Time-constrained examination
- Practical examination
- Oral presentation (individual or group)
- Laboratory report
- Project report
- Master's report

- Master's dissertation
- Essay
- Reflective statement

Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- Learning, Teaching and Enhancement Strategy 2015-2022: Delivering transformative education UAL Tutorial Policy
- The UAL Creative Attributes Framework Overview and Guidance for Course Teams
- LCF Credit Framework (various updates)
- Feedback from the cosmetic industry, alumni and students
- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Chemistry (relevant elements)
- QAA Subject benchmark Statement: Pharmacy (relevant elements)

Course Diagram

MSc Cosmetic Science – PLEASE NOTE DUE TO VACATION DATES, SPECIFIC DELIVERY WEEKS MAY CHANGE.

S=summative assessment

E1, E2=summative element assessment

LEVEL 4 – Stage 1															LEVEL 4 – Stage 1																										
BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2																										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30												
Introduction to Cosmetic Science (20 credits)										S																															
Applied Chemistry (20 credits)																																									
Applied Biology (20 credits)						E1								E2																											
															Better Lives (20 credits)										S																
															Colloidal Science (20 credits)											S															
															Formulation Science (20 credits)																	E1	E2								

LEVEL 6 – Stage 3																															
BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2																
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Applied Product Formulation (20 credits)														S																	
Production and Distribution Management (20 credits)															S																
Strategic Marketing (20 credits)							E1					E2																			
															Cosmetic Product Claims (20 credits)											S					
															Product Launch Project (40 credits)														S		

LEVEL 7 – Stage 4																															
BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2																
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Advanced Cosmetic Science (40 credits)														S																	
MSc Project Proposal (20 credits)											S																				
										MSc Project for Cosmetic Science (60 credits)																E1					E2

The University will use all reasonable endeavours to provide the Course and the services described in this Output. There may be occasions whereby the University needs to add, remove or alter content in relation to your Course as may be appropriate for example the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body, or in response to student feedback, or to comply with applicable law or due to circumstances beyond its control. The University aim to inform you of any changes as soon as is reasonably practicable