

Industry Mentoring Programme: Guidelines for potential mentees



Image credits: Sundeep Verdi

What is the Industry Mentoring Programme?

This programme aims to encourage and support London College of Communication final year students and recent graduates in their transition from education to industry.

This voluntary programme matches LCC students and recent graduates of all disciplines with industry professionals to support their development as they kickstart their careers.

If successful, you will be paired with a mentor - a professional working in the creative sectors.

Both will then meet up over the next 5 months to develop the mentee's career path and prepare them for industry.

Mentoring can take place online or in-person, so you don't need to be based in London to apply.

Criteria for mentees

Summer (Undergraduate)

- Current final year BA students at LCC
- 2022 graduates of a BA at LCC

Autumn (Postgraduate)

- Current postgraduate students at LCC (new and returning cohorts)
- 2021 and 2022 graduates of an MA at LCC

Programme outline

The programme consists of:

Training session

If selected for the programme will need to attend a training session, where you'll find out more about the initiative and be considered for pairing.

Launch event

The programme will officially begin with a launch event, where you will have a chance to meet your mentors, as well as others involved in the programme.

Mentoring meetings

You will contact their mentors to arrange meetings at a time and place that suits both of you. Each pairing will have a minimum of 5 meetings during the 5-month mentoring period.

What are the benefits for joining the programme?

- Work towards your objectives, goals and ideas with a mentor who works in the creative industries.
- Develop your skills in applications, interviews, teamwork, presentation and communication.
- Develop a plan for business, studio or practice.
- Build contacts and professional relationships while studying.
- Develop a greater understanding of the creative industries and your routes into industry.
- Increase your confidence in gaining employment in your chosen industry.

- Mentoring training run by a nationally accredited trainer and facilitator.
- In-person events where you can meet all the other mentors and mentees on the programme.

Key dates for the Summer (Undergraduate) programme

- May - June: 1-1 Rapid Review sessions (online)
- June - October: 1-1 Industry Mentoring Programme takes place, consisting of one training session, launch event and then 5 mentoring sessions (blended approach)
- July: Speed Networking event (in person)

Apply to become a mentee by 23 April

“The programme stripped away the unsettling fears and insecurities of entering the creative industries.”

Sydney Luntz MA Media, Communications and Critical Practice graduate and LCC mentee

FAQs

Will I be paired with a mentor if I apply?

The programme is very popular, so unfortunately not everyone who applies will be paired with a mentor. If you aren't selected this time, you'll be able to apply again as long as you continue to meet the criteria.

I'm a graduate and no longer live in London - can I still apply?

Yes! You can meet your mentor online or in-person, so you'll be able to take part in the mentoring programme from anywhere.

Both the training session and launch event take place at LCC. If you don't live in London and won't be able to attend, please let us know so we can make alternative arrangements by emailing graduates@lcc.arts.ac.uk.

Who are the mentors?

Mentors are industry professionals working in the design, media and screen industries.

Mentors have a range of experience from new-entry professionals to those with decades of experience in their field.

Mentors work at a range of companies including Meta, Google, Pentagram, Paramount Pictures, ITV, BBC, The Times, Bloomberg, etc. Others work at charitable organisations, and many are freelancers or own their own businesses.

How many times will I meet my mentor?

Mentors and mentees will meet a minimum of 5 times over the course of 5 months.

I'm interested in mentoring, but feel a bit intimidated...

Our mentors are understanding of the issues faced by students as they enter industry. Many are LCC or UAL alumni and will know first-hand what you're going through.

You'll set up meetings with your mentor and decide how and where to meet together. You may feel more comfortable meeting over Zoom or prefer to meet in-person- it's all up to you!

Mentoring Spotlights

You are welcome to read a few case studies on previous mentoring partnerships on our website <https://www.arts.ac.uk/colleges/london-college-of-communication/graduate-futures/industry-mentoring-programme>

Contact

If you're unsure of anything or need any support throughout the process, contact us at: graduates@lcc.arts.ac.uk.