

National Institute
of Dramatic Art

NIDA

COURSE REGULATIONS:

MASTER OF FINE ARTS (DIRECTING)
MFA (DIRECTING)

Responsibility for implementation	Director Student Engagement Learning and Quality Assurance
Approval body	Academic Board
Date originally approved	27 November 2013
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Date effective	January 2021
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Contact position	Director Student Engagement Learning and Quality Assurance
TRIM Record Number	

1. Power to award the degree

On the recommendation of the NIDA Academic Board, the NIDA Board of Directors may confer the degree of Master of Fine Arts (Directing) on any person who completes this course of study in accordance with these regulations.

2. Requirements for graduation

A minimum of 180 credit points drawn from the approved course structure is required in order for a student to graduate with the Master of Fine Arts (Directing) degree.

3. Admission requirements

In order to be admitted to this course, applicants will be required to:

- Have an undergraduate degree or at least five years documented professional experience in an area relevant to Directing.
- Demonstrate at interview and through the completion of a short project the practical ability, potential and motivation necessary to undertake graduate study in Directing.

Short-listed applicants may also:

- Undertake an “audition” with actors.
- Provide references.

Additionally, international applicants will be required to demonstrate proficiency in spoken and written English language by having achieved an overall band score of 8.0 Academic IELTS or equivalent.

4. Credit

The processes for the granting of credit are governed by the NIDA Credit Transfer and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Policy. A student may be granted credit towards this course under the provisions of this policy. An application for credit must be submitted and approved prior to commencement of this course. A student may not be granted credit after the commencement of teaching of the course in which the student enrolls.

Credit will be recommended by the relevant Course Leader and approved by the Director Student Engagement Learning and Quality Assurance.

5. Course requirements

5.1. Course structure

The Master of Fine Arts (Directing) course comprises seven (7) subjects, all of which are core. These are:

Subject	Credit Points
DIR9101 Directing Techniques	30
DIR9102 Directing Practice	60
DIR9103 Scenography	15
DIR9104 The Contemporary Director	15

DIR9105 Dramaturgy	15
Contextualising Practice	15
Generating Research through Practice Research	30

The subjects marked * are common to all MFA courses at NIDA.

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5.2. Industry placements

There is no industry placements requirement associated with this course.

5.3. Course duration

The course is of 15 months' duration, and is available only as a full-time course delivered face to face.

5.4. Attendance

Students must attend every timetabled session for every subject, except in cases of certified medical conditions or when leave of absence has been formally approved in writing by the Head of Course. Failure to attend could result in a Fail result for any subject.

5.5. Rules of progression

A student must pass every subject prescribed in the course structure. There are no pre-requisites for any subject. Should a student receive a Fail result for any subject, the Academic Board (or its representative), on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, will determine if the student is able to repeat the subject. In order to repeat a subject, a student must enroll and pay the prescribed fee for the subject.

5.6. Extension of time

The maximum period of candidature is 2.5 years (30 months). Deferrals and extensions beyond the minimum period for completion (15 months) are at the discretion of the Director/CEO on the recommendation of the relevant Head of Course.

5.7. Leave of absence

Application for leave of absence by continuing students must be made in writing with reasons to the Head of Course for consideration and recommendation to the Director/CEO. Approval for a leave of absence will only be granted under exceptional circumstances.

5.8. Withdrawal

A student may withdraw from the course at any time by writing to the Director/CEO and indicating that they wish to do so.

If a student withdraws prior to the census date, no result will be registered on the academic transcript, and the student will receive a full refund of tuition fees and/or will not incur a FEE-HELP debt.

If a student withdraws after the census date, there will be no refund of fees, and/or a FEE-HELP debt will be incurred. The student will have "Withdrawn" registered on their academic transcript providing the withdrawal takes place prior to 31 October in the year in which the student commenced the course. If a student withdraws after that date, a result of "Fail" will be recorded on the transcript for the relevant subject/s.

6. Variations

In exceptional circumstances the Board of Directors or its representative may approve a personal program which does not conform to these regulations.

End of regulations