

MA Gender, Media and Culture

Programme Specification

Awarding Institution:

University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)

Teaching Institution: Goldsmiths, University of London

Name of Final Award and Programme Title: MA Gender, Media and Culture

Name of Interim Exit Award(s):

Postgraduate Certificate in Gender, Media and Culture

Postgraduate Diploma in Gender, Media and Culture

Duration of Programme: 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

UCAS Code(s): Not applicable

HECoS Code(s): (100505) Sociology 50% & (100444) Media and Communications 50%

QAA Benchmark Group: Not applicable

FHEQ Level of Award: Level 7

Programme accredited by: Not applicable

Date Programme Specification last updated/approved: October 2022

Home Department: Sociology

Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Media, Communications and Cultural Studies

Programme overview

The MA Gender, Media and Culture introduces you to recent debates on gender in the disciplines of sociology and media, communications studies and cultural studies and to the interdisciplinary domains of feminist social and cultural theory.

Drawing on the internationally recognised and pioneering expertise of staff in the Department of Sociology and Department of Media, Communications and Cultural Studies the programme offers you the opportunity to develop cutting-edge critical skills in relation to cultural approaches to gender formation and gender theory. The students also benefit from the Centre for Feminist Research, which has a rich variety of events, including a Feminist Postgraduate Forum, where students can take a lead.

As well as these theoretical and analytical points of orientation, the MA Gender, Media and Culture aims to help you grasp the importance of epistemology and methodology for the evaluation of empirical investigations of gender formations.

The programme therefore introduces you to, and offers training in, the key socio-cultural methods for the study of gender in the contemporary world, including methods for the study of visual culture; the body and affect; and memory.

These two elements of the programme are brought together in a dissertation study, which involves tailored supervision in the application of research methods to a specific topic.

Programme entry requirements

In line with the College's Mission Statement and the ethos of the Departments, candidates from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to join the degree. It is important to encourage a stimulating learning environment with individuals of different ages, work and academic backgrounds and national or ethnic backgrounds. Applicants will either:

- have a first degree in Sociology, Cultural, Media or Communication Studies, Gender Studies or in a related social science or humanities degree. They will normally be expected to have at least an upper second class honours or its equivalent.

Or

- have a professional qualification in a gender and sociologically-related subject at degree level or equivalent, and/or significant work experience in the field of gender.

Non-native English speakers will normally have to satisfy Goldsmiths' requirement of IELTS 6.5 or equivalent. Wherever possible students will be offered an interview aimed at clarifying the aims and contents of the programme and determining the suitability of individual candidates. Interviews can alter the usual criteria for entry on a case-by-case basis.

Aims of the programme

The MA Gender, Media and Culture aims to introduce students to recent debates on gender in the disciplines of Sociology and Media and Communication Studies and in the interdisciplinary domains of feminist social and cultural theory. Drawing on the internationally recognised and pioneering expertise of staff in the Departments of Sociology and Media, Communications and Cultural Studies in the development of cultural approaches to gender formations and gender theory, the programme offers students the opportunity to develop cutting edge critical skills in a range of sociological and cultural, media and communication studies perspectives on gender relations specifically, and on culture more generally. As well as these theoretical and analytical points of orientation, Gender, Media and Culture aims to help students grasp the importance of understandings of epistemology and methodology for the evaluation of empirical investigations of gender

formations. Thus the programme will introduce students to and offer training in the key socio-cultural methods for the study of gender in the contemporary world, including methods for study of visual culture; the body and affect; and memory and autobiography. These two elements of the programme are brought together in a dissertation study, which involves tailored supervised training in the application of research methods to a specific topic. In addition to the development of theoretical, analytical, and methodological skills, the programme therefore also aims to provide students with the skills to carry out independent research and the ability to reflect critically upon a range of issues in research practice. Gender, Media and Culture offers advanced training appropriate to those wishing to embark upon professional careers in a range of domains (from media to government and non-governmental agencies). Students from the MA go on to pursue careers in a variety of applied and academic areas in which knowledge of contemporary gender relations is important. The module offers the opportunity to learn key analytical, presentational and communication skills, within a theoretically sophisticated interdisciplinary framework.

This specification is informed by the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, reflects the College's and the Department's mission statements, and is written with consideration to the policies of both the Goldsmiths Learning and Teaching Strategy and the Sociology Department's MA Learning and Teaching Strategy.

What you will be expected to achieve

The programme has five inter-related aims:

1. To provide an in-depth inter-disciplinary knowledge of contemporary gender formations, with a special focus on the cultural field.
2. To provide theoretical, analytical and methodological points of orientation for understanding such gender formations specifically, and for culture for generally, from the disciplines of Sociology, Cultural Media and Communication Studies and from the interdisciplinary domains of feminist social and cultural theory.
3. To encourage critical engagement with these theoretical, analytical methodological tools.
4. To offer skilled supervision in the development and conclusion of a small research project which facilitates a plurality of research skills.
5. To expose students to a lively research environment and the relevant expertise of the Sociology and Media and Communication Departments and Centres to provide a catalyst for independent thought and study.

For the Postgraduate Certificate to be awarded, modules to the value of at least 60CATS (of which 30 must be compulsory) will have been passed and the following learning outcomes will have been achieved.

All options will contribute to the overall learning outcome of the programme. However, given the range of options available it is not possible to give specific learning outcomes to the option modules.

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Demonstrate conceptual and methodological knowledge and awareness of the key concepts and debates in the study of Gender, Media and Culture including new approaches within the field.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body Dissertation
A2	Synthesise, critically analyse and assess the literature on, and development of the field of gender studies and its relationship with the disciplines of Cultural, Media and Communication Studies and Sociology as well as with the cognate interdisciplinary areas of feminist theory specifically and social and cultural theory more generally.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body
A3	To analyse socio-cultural phenomena in relation to specific theoretical approaches and texts across the range of fields of topics followed in chosen option module.	Optional modules (inc. Feminist Methods) & Dissertation Workshops

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Systematically, creatively and critically engage in debates relating to the main themes in the analysis of Gender, Media and Culture in original and imaginative ways.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body
B2	Establish creative connections between theories, concepts methodologies and methods from the disciplines of Sociology and Media and Communication Studies, that is, develop interdisciplinary thinking.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Demonstrate understanding of feminist and cultural theory.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	The ability to produce and present written work of a high quality, following conventions of scholarship required for publication.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Optional modules.
D2	The ability to summarise arguments of varying degrees of complexity.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Optional modules
D3	The ability to manage self-directed learning that demonstrates a competence required for continuous autonomous professional development.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Optional modules

For the Postgraduate Diploma to be awarded, modules to the value of at least 120CATS (of which 60 must be compulsory) will have been passed and the following learning outcomes will have been achieved.

All options will contribute to the overall learning outcome of the programme. However, given the range of options available it is not possible to give specific learning outcomes to the option modules.

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Demonstrate conceptual and methodological knowledge and awareness of the key concepts and debates in the study of Gender, Media	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	and Culture including new approaches within the field.	
A2	Synthesise, critically analyse and assess the literature on, and development of the field of gender studies and its relationship with the disciplines of Cultural, Media and Communication Studies and Sociology as well as with the cognate interdisciplinary areas of feminist theory specifically and social and cultural theory more generally.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body
A3	To analyse socio-cultural phenomena in relation to specific theoretical approaches and texts across the range of fields of topics followed in chosen option modules.	Optional modules (inc. Feminist Methods Master Workshop) & Dissertation Workshops

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Systematically, creatively and critically engage in debates relating to the main themes in the analysis of Gender, Media and Culture in original and imaginative ways.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body
B2	Establish creative connections between theories, concepts methodologies and methods from the disciplines of Sociology and Media and Communication Studies, that is, develop interdisciplinary thinking.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Demonstrate understanding of feminist and cultural theory.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	The ability to produce and present written work of a high quality, following conventions of scholarship required for publication.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Optional modules
D2	The ability to summarise arguments of varying degrees of complexity.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Optional modules
D3	The ability to manage self-directed learning that demonstrates a competence required for continuous autonomous professional development.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Optional modules

All options will contribute to the overall learning outcome of the programme. However, given the range of options available it is not possible to give specific learning outcomes to the option modules.

Students who successfully complete the MA Gender, Media and Culture will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Demonstrate conceptual and methodological knowledge and awareness of the key concepts and debates in the study of Gender, Media and Culture including new approaches within the field.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Dissertation
A2	Synthesise, critically analyse and assess the literature on, and development of the field of gender studies and its relationship with the disciplines of Cultural, Media and Communication Studies and Sociology as well as with the cognate interdisciplinary areas of feminist theory specifically and social and cultural theory more generally.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Dissertation

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A3	Distinguish and appraise a range of socio-cultural research methodologies and methods and their potential applicability as well as their possible limitations.	Dissertation
A4	Design and develop a research project using primary and/ or secondary sources in order to evaluate socio-cultural concepts, theories and methodologies in the study of gender through the application of research methods appropriate to the topic of the project.	Dissertation
A5	Assess the theoretical and substantive adequacy of socio- cultural theories and concepts based on the results of research practice.	Dissertation
A6	Recognise and account for sensitive ethical issues relating to research and representation.	Dissertation
A7	To analyse socio-cultural phenomena in relation to specific theoretical approaches and texts across the range of fields of topics followed in chosen option modules.	Optional modules (inc. Feminist Methods) & Dissertation Workshops

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Systematically, creatively and critically engage in debates relating to the main themes in the analysis of Gender, Media and Culture in original and imaginative ways.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Dissertation
B2	Critically engage sociological and media and communication theories, methodologies and methods relevant to contemporary gender formations, and generate intellectual engagement with	Dissertation

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	these theories and methods through a project.	
B3	Establish creative connections between theories, concepts methodologies and methods from the disciplines of Sociology and Media and Communication Studies, that is, develop interdisciplinary thinking.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Dissertation
B4	Adapt concepts and methods flexibly and imaginatively to pursue future specific aims relating to employment or further research linked to the study of Gender, Media and Culture (e.g. research degrees; studies for national agencies or government organisations; policy design, implementation or evaluation; various forms of media and culture industry research).	Dissertation

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Demonstrate understanding of feminist and cultural theory.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory
C2	Demonstrate an understanding of the gendered body in the social and cultural world.	Gender, Affect & The Body
C3	Demonstrate a synthesis of theory and empirical methodological application.	Dissertation

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	The ability to design, formulate and conduct research on a topic relevant to contemporary gender studies specifically and to the disciplines of Sociology and/or Media and Communication Studies more generally.	Dissertation

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D2	The ability to evaluate and assess a range of socio-cultural research methods.	Dissertation
D3	The ability to produce and present written work of a high quality, following conventions of scholarship required for publication.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Dissertation, Optional modules
D4	The ability to summarise arguments of varying degrees of complexity.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Dissertation, Optional modules
D5	The ability to manage self-directed learning that demonstrates a competence required for continuous autonomous professional development.	Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, Gender, Affect and the Body, Dissertation, Optional modules

How you will learn

A range of teaching methods are employed to support the learning outcomes detailed above. Students attend lectures and participate in seminars, as well as have individual tutorials to discuss written work and general progress. Additionally, a central component of the Programme consists of workshops and a dissertation.

The compulsory modules (comprising lectures, seminars and workshops) provide unity and cohesion, summarise key concepts, key developments and relevant debates. Compulsory modules also support the development and design of the dissertation. The latter develops the students' research capability, their ability to work independently under the supervision of a nominated member of staff and to present an extensive and scholarly piece of writing. The dissertation is also supported by dissertation workshops, which introduce students to appropriate skills of research design, method and methodology in regard to the study of gender as well as to ethical questions and issues relevant to this field.

Students demonstrate on-going learning through written coursework, including essays and a report. Regular feedback, either written, oral or both, is intended to develop and improve students' knowledge and understanding of the field and writing and presentation skills. Further, formal feedback on the coursework submission of the compulsory modules, and the research report will provide an important formative dimension to the development and refinement of the dissertation.

Students are encouraged to visit lecturers outside class time to discuss ideas from the module and to plan essays. After students have received feedback from their Autumn term essays, they may also meet with lecturers to discuss any implications for future work.

Lecturers have consultation and feedback hours to which students may arrive without advance arrangements; there is also provision for lecturers to meet with students individually by prior mutually agreeable arrangement. To facilitate the planning of essays this is particularly encouraged.

The virtual learning environment is used to give departmental guidance and regulations, access to academic and other articles and links to websites, as well as to maintain contact with the students as a group. News of relevant forthcoming seminars and conferences at Goldsmiths and other London universities is posted here.

Students are encouraged to attend seminars, workshops and conferences in the Departments of Sociology and Media, Communications and Cultural Studies and elsewhere in the College, where research students, staff and invited speakers present their work. A conference dedicated to the programme themes is organised annually. Students are also given the opportunity to benefit from the wealth of academic libraries available to students from the University of London.

How you will be assessed

The programme is assessed as follows:

1. For the compulsory modules Introduction to Feminism and Cultural Theory and Gender, Affect and the Body extended essays of 5-6,000 words are the basis of assessment. Extended essays offer the opportunity for students to develop a critical, thoughtful and elaborated argument, and the expectation is that the student will pay attention to structure and presentation. The compulsory modules carry a value of 30CATS each. The compulsory modules must be passed in all cases, unless exceptional circumstances are accepted by the Exam Board (MA, PGCert and PGDip).
2. Option essays are assessed in the term in which the module is taken – 1 or 2 (full time and part time students). Students are assessed using the criteria set out for MA option essays in the MA module books. Each option counts as either 30CATS or 15CATS (in the case of 'mini'-options).
3. The dissertation is a substantial piece of written work (12-15,000 words). It is intended to assess the full range of students' abilities and to apply the full range of learning outcomes which the programme enables students to develop. In particular it enables assessment of the ability to design, develop and write an advanced research project using primary and/or secondary materials appropriate to the topic and according to the necessary conventions of scholarly work. It requires independent motivation and self-directed learning, under supervision, and enables students to demonstrate competence for critical analysis and sustained persuasive argument.

Marking criteria

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
80-100%	Distinction (Outstanding/ Exceptional)	A mark in the 80s or even the 90s will be awarded in the case of really accomplished work, demonstrating high levels of scholarship and originality, although grades in the 90s should be reserved for work deemed to be outstanding, and of publishable quality.
70-79%	Distinction	A mark of 70-79% is awarded when candidates show evidence of an excellent application of appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills as specified the module learning outcomes. Typically this involves extensive reading and grasp of questions and their context and an exceptional degree of clarity in argument and use of evidence. Knowledge and understanding will have been presented critically, with insight and independence of thought. Argument and analysis of reading will demonstrate the candidate's own reasoning and be exceptionally clear, critical, well-focussed and cogent.
60-69%	Merit	A mark of 60-69% is awarded when candidates show a good application of appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills as specified in the module learning outcomes. This involves consistency and fluency in discussing and evaluating reading from a range of sources and an ability to relate this reading to the assessment tasks.
50-59%	Pass	A mark of 50-59% is awarded when there is clear evidence of a satisfactory application appropriate, knowledge, understanding and skills as specified in the module learning outcomes. Typically this involves evidence of knowledge and understanding where there is a limited development of ideas and critical comment.
30-49%	Fail	A mark between 30-49% is awarded when there is not a satisfactory application of appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills as specified in the module learning outcomes. There may be confusion and incoherence and unfocused comment on the literature.
10-29%	Bad fail	A mark between 10-29% is awarded when only some but not all of the learning outcomes specified for the Module have been achieved. Typically a candidate in this position will not have satisfied the examiners that they have read and understood the essential texts of the module. Research

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
		involved in the writing of coursework or the dissertation will be poorly organised and inadequately discussed.
1-9%	Very bad fail	A submission that does not even attempt to address the specified learning outcomes.
0%	Non submission or plagiarised	A categorical mark representing either the failure to submit an assessment or a mark assigned for a plagiarised assessment.

How the programme is structured

SO71087A - Introduction to Feminism and Cultural Theory (30 CATS) - Autumn and
MC71156A - Gender, Affect and the Body (30 CATS) - Spring

Reflecting the scholarship and wide expertise of the Goldsmiths team in gender theory and cultural studies, the aim of the two compulsory modules is to allow students the opportunity to become familiar with a wide range of debates which, since the mid 1970s, have become integral to the fields of gender studies, feminist theory, and also cultural studies. These include, questions about sexual difference and the performativity of gender; gender, science, and reproductive technology; debates on affect and emotion; on gender and migration and the new international division of labour; and on feminism and autobiography. The compulsory modules do not attempt to map the field of gender scholarship chronologically, nor can they be exhaustive, but instead they extrapolate a number of themes around which some of the most influential and defining work has emerged. These modules will also incorporate new developments in feminist scholarship allowing students to be able to engage with the way in which feminist theory has globally responded to social, cultural and political transformations. All lectures on these modules will address these fields not only in terms of theoretical debates but also for the issues they raise for methodology including questions of ontology and epistemology. The methods used to make arguments and theoretical interventions will also be made explicit. In addition, the design of the two compulsory modules reflects the current research of the team from both Sociology and Media, Communications and Cultural Studies who will be involved in teaching these modules. These blocks will be updated on a regular basis, and may change in response to shifts in the associated disciplines. Each compulsory module will be taught in short blocks.

In Term One, Compulsory Module One, Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory, these blocks are:

- a) Key Issues in Feminism and Gender Studies
- b) Post-colonial Feminism
- c) Feminism and Queer Theory

In Term Two, Compulsory Module Two, Gender, Affect and The Body, these blocks are:

- a) Feminism and Visual/Literary Culture
- b) Affect, Emotion and the Body
- c) Diasporic Feminism, Migration and Transcultural Identity
- d) Memory, Autobiography, Life Writing

Learning Outcomes

The two compulsory modules offer advanced knowledge and understanding of:

- key debates which have defined and shaped the fields of gender studies, feminist theory and cultural studies
- new developments in the fields of gender studies, feminist theory and cultural studies
- the relationships between early debates in the fields of gender studies, feminist theory and cultural studies and contemporary developments

Optional Modules

Students are able to choose two 30 credit option modules from other academic departments offering modules to Department of Sociology students. The optional modules chosen would be limited to those that share core concerns with the programme and their learning outcomes reinforce the central programme learning outcomes.

Dissertation

The dissertation module has two stages. The first comprises a series of workshops and the second is the presentation of a thesis. **Workshops:** This series of two-hour workshops aims to prepare students for the primary or secondary research project they will carry out for their dissertation. It will focus on and give instruction in the practical issues of converting areas of interest into manageable research questions; the development of methods appropriate to specific research questions; research design; research ethics and dissertation writing skills. Thus the module aims to explore the interrelationships between theory, method and research practice. All of the issues to be covered will be delivered in the context of contemporary feminist debates on method; methodology; ontology; epistemology, knowledge production and ethics. In addition, staff teaching on this module will discuss the processes relating to their research allowing students exposure to research in action and to a range of socio-cultural methods and methodologies employed in contemporary feminist research.

Thesis: Students will be trained in the preparation, conduct and presentation of a thesis. This training will take place both in the context of workshop sessions on thesis preparation,

organisation and writing and via individual sessions with dissertation supervisors. The latter will involve training tailored to the topic of investigation with students being allocated a supervisor with expertise relating to the topic of enquiry. More generally supervisors will offer expert guidance, advice and instruction in the application of research methods to a specific topic, including the methodological, epistemological and ontological issues which arise from such an application especially as they relate to feminist socio-cultural research.

Learning Outcomes

This module offers understanding of:

- The relationship between theory, methodology and practice of research
- How the relationship between theory, methodology and research practice is framed in contemporary feminist socio-cultural research

This module offers the opportunity for you to acquire experience and understanding of the management and conduct of empirical social research.

On successfully completing the module, you will be able to:

- Design and complete a research report
- Formulate research questions
- Evaluate the theoretical, methodological and practical strengths and weaknesses of different research designs
- Manage and conduct research projects in a complex and changing environment
- Revise and adapt the conduct of research in a dynamic and responsive way
- Collect, analyse, evaluate and communicate research findings
- Successfully organise, write and present dissertation

Full-time mode

Full-time students will normally be expected to pass all taught components before proceeding to the dissertation.

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Introduction to Feminism and Cultural Theory	SO71087A	30	7	Compulsory	1
Optional modules to the value of 60 CATS from other academic departments offering modules to	Various	60	7	Optional	1-2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Department of Sociology students.					
Gender, Affect and the Body	MC71156A	30	7	Compulsory	2
Dissertation	SO71089A	60	7	Compulsory	3

Part-time mode

Part-time students will normally be expected to complete and pass both compulsory modules in their first year before proceeding to the second year; “Introduction to Feminism and Cultural Theory” 30 CATS and “Gender, Affect and the Body” 30 CATS.

Academic year of study 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Introduction to Feminism and Cultural Theory	SO71087A	30	7	Compulsory	1
Gender, Affect and the Body	MC71156A	30	7	Compulsory	2

Academic year of study 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Optional modules to the value of 60 CATS from other academic departments offering modules to Department of Sociology students.	Various	30	7	Optional	1-2
Dissertation	SO71089A	60	7	Compulsory	3

Academic support

Support for learning and wellbeing is provided in a number of ways by departments and College support services who work collaboratively to ensure students get the right help to reach their best potential both academically and personally.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor (one in each department for joint programmes) who has overall responsibility for their individual progress and welfare. Personal Tutors meet with their student at least three a year either face-to-face, as part of a group and/or electronically. The first meeting normally takes place within the first few weeks of the autumn term. Personal Tutors are also available to students throughout the year of study.

These meetings aim to discuss progress on modules, discussion of the academic discipline and reports from previous years if available (for continuing students). This provides an opportunity for progress, attendance and assessment marks to be reviewed and an informed discussion to take place about how to strengthen individual learning and success.

All students are also allocated a Senior Tutor to enable them to speak to an experienced academic member of staff about any issues which are negatively impacting their academic study and which are beyond the normal scope of issues handled by Programme Convenors and Personal Tutors.

Students are provided with information about learning resources, the [Library](#) and information available on [Learn.gold \(VLE\)](#) so that they have access to department/ programme handbooks, programme information and support related information and guidance.

Taught sessions and lectures provide overviews of themes, which students are encouraged to complement with intensive reading for presentation and discussion with peers at seminars. Assessments build on lectures and seminars so students are expected to attend all taught sessions to build knowledge and their own understanding of their chosen discipline.

All assessed work is accompanied by some form of feedback to ensure that students' work is on the right track. It may come in a variety of forms ranging from written comments on a marked essay to oral and written feedback on developing projects and practice as they attend workshops.

Students may be referred to specialist student services by department staff or they may access support services independently. Information about support services is provided on the [Goldsmiths website](#) and for new students through new starter information and induction/Welcome Week. Any support recommendations that are made are agreed with the student and communicated to the department so that adjustments to learning and teaching are able to be implemented at a department level and students can be reassured that arrangements are in place. Opportunities are provided for students to review their support arrangements should their circumstances change. The [Disability](#) and [Wellbeing](#) Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

The [Careers Service](#) provides central support for skills enhancement, running [The Gold Award](#) scheme and other co-curricular activities that are accredited via the Higher Education Achievement Report ([HEAR](#)).

The [Centre for Academic Language and Literacies](#) works with academic departments offering bespoke academic literacy sessions. It also provides a programme of academic skills workshops and one-to-one provision for students throughout the year

Placement opportunities

Not applicable

Employability and potential career opportunities

Graduates from this programme will find employment for those wishing to embark upon professional careers in a range of domains (from media to government and non-governmental agencies). Students from the MA go on to pursue careers in a variety of applied and academic areas in which knowledge of contemporary gender relations is important and a percentage of the student body will continue into research degrees. Careers talks are organised specifically for the Masters students by the College Careers Service.

Programme-specific requirements

Not applicable

Tuition fee costs

Information on tuition fee costs is available at: <https://www.gold.ac.uk/students/fee-support/>

Specific programme costs

Not applicable