

DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA ARTS

APPENDIX TO THE MASTERS BY RESEARCH STUDENT HANDBOOK 2024/25

This appendix should be read in conjunction with the [core Masters by Research student handbook](#)

The Department of Media Arts sits within the School of Performing and Digital Arts, which covers the following disciplines: Drama, Theatre and Dance, Media Arts and Music.

Welcome to your department

The Department of Media Arts welcomes new students and we hope that you will soon feel at home in our creative and critical community.

The Department of Media Arts is located on two sites. The academic offices are in the Arts Building. The technical facilities are in the Media Arts Centre, which comprises the Williams Building and adjacent TV Studio.

Bedford Square: Royal Holloway also has a central London base at Bedford Square, 2 Gower Street, WC1E 6DP. This is widely used for postgraduate activities and is situated a few minutes' walk from the British Museum and the University of London Senate House Library. The nearest tube stations are Euston Square, Goodge Street, Russell Square and Tottenham Court Road, which are all about a five-minute walk away. For room bookings, contact BedfordSquare@royalholloway.ac.uk.

Key contacts

| Role | Name | Email | Phone | Room |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------|----------|
| Executive Dean | Professor Roberta Mock | Roberta.Mock@rhul.ac.uk | TBC | TBC |
| Head of Department | Dr Nick Hall | Nick.Hall@rhul.ac.uk | 01784 276216 | ABG16 |
| School Director of PGR Education | Professor Tina K. Ramnarine, FBA | Tina.K.Ramnarine@rhul.ac.uk | 01784 443947 | WT204 |
| Department PGR Lead | Dr Manishita Dass | Manishita.Dass@rhul.ac.uk | 01784414034 | ABG04 |
| School helpdesk* | | PDA-School@rhul.ac.uk | 01784 276885 | KWB01/02 |

* For the majority of your non-academic related issues, please contact the Doctoral School.

However, for queries about teaching contracts, expenses and study space within the school, please contact the School of Performing and Digital Arts helpdesk.

Staff

[List of staff in the Department of Media Arts](#)

Research areas

[Staff research areas in the Department of Media Arts](#)

Student committees

The School of Performing and Digital Arts' PGR **Staff-Student Action Meeting** meets once a term. Please get in touch with the School Director of PGR Education if you would like to join. If you would like to raise an issue to be discussed there, please contact the [Doctoral School](#).

Ways of Working

The School of Performing and Digital Arts also provides a series of training workshops called 'Ways of Working'. This programme complements the University's Researcher Development Programme but is focused on Arts and Humanities disciplines: the aim is to encourage a sense of collegiality and interdisciplinary enquiry amongst research students in the School. You will be sent (via your Royal Holloway email address) details of the "Ways of Working" programme at the start of the academic year: please note there is no need to book in advance for these sessions and students in their first year are expected to attend the majority of programme if possible.

Department of Media Arts policies and guides

- [Health and Safety Policy in the Department of Media Arts](#)
- [Technical support for Media Arts students](#)
- [Media Arts' Guide to Filming Abroad](#)
- [Media Arts' Guide to Filming with Children](#)
- [Media Arts Production Buddy Risk Assessment](#)
- [Media Arts' headphone policy](#)

Media Arts filming and actors

The department takes very seriously the issue of providing actors with a copy of the film they worked on. They do not receive any payment for their services except travel expenses and so this is the least you can do. In the past, directors have neglected to do this and it reflects very badly on both them and the department. We will treat this in the manner that University treats those with unpaid fees i.e. you will not be allowed to graduate until the deficit has been made good.

Structure of the Masters by Research programme

- This MA by Research is assessed entirely on the research dissertation (maximum 40,000 words) which is supervised by a Media Arts staff member. It is intended to give you scope to explore your area of interest in depth, test out a possible research topic, and learn the skills of extended scholarly writing and/or film production.
- In addition to these one-to-one supervisions, students could attend an interdisciplinary core course on Critical Theory and Methodologies, which provides an overview of key thinkers and critical approaches that may underpin the research project.