

National Institute
of Dramatic Art

NIDA

COURSE REGULATIONS:

MASTER OF FINE ARTS (DIRECTING)
MFA (DIRECTING)

Responsibility for implementation	Director Learning and Innovation
Approval body	Academic Board
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Contact position	Director Learning and Innovation
TRIM Record Number	

1. Scope

These course regulations apply to the following degree:

- Master of Fine Arts (Directing)

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. Admission requirements

The following admission requirements apply:

Abbreviated Course Title	Educational and Other Qualifications Required
MFA (Directing)	<p>Applicants seeking entry into the Master of Fine Arts (Directing) must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.• Undertake an “audition” with actors.• Provide references. <p>Overseas students intending to enrol in the course must be fluent in spoken and proficient in written English language (equivalent to an overall band score of IELTS Academic 8.0).</p>

5. 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 approved by the Director of Learning and Innovation, on the recommendation of the Directing Course Leader. Any Recognition of Prior Learning or course credit for international students that impacts their course duration will be advised in advance of a Confirmation of Enrolment being issued. The Confirmation of Enrolment will reflect the shortened duration of the course.

6. Course requirements

6.1. 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
COM9101 Contextualising Practice*	15
COM9102 Generating Research through Practice*	30
Total Credit Points	180

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

6.2. Industry placements

There is no industry placement requirement associated with this course.

6.3. Course duration

The Master of Fine Arts (Directing) is of 15 months' duration and is available only as a full-time course delivered face to face, barring compassionate or compelling circumstances, such as pandemics.

6.4. 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 Directing. Failure to meet the attendance requirements could result in a Fail result for any subject.

6.5. 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 enrol and pay the prescribed fee for the subject.

6.6. 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 of Learning and Innovation on the recommendation of the MFA Directing Course Leader.

Where an international student requires a course extension, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the Credit Transfer and Recognition of Prior Learning Policy, the Deferral, Suspension and Cancellation Policy and Academic Progression and Intervention Policy.

6.7. Leave of absence/deferral

Application for leave of absence by continuing students, must be made in writing with reasons, to the Course Leader Directing for consideration and recommendation to the Director of Learning and Innovation. Approval for a leave of absence will only be granted under compassionate or compelling circumstances.

For international students where a deferral has impacted the duration of their course the process will be managed in accordance with the 'Deferral, Suspension and Cancellation of Study - International Students Policy and Procedure', and students will have a course variation reported via [PRISMS](#) Students should seek advice from the Department of Home Affairs as to the impact on their visa.

6.8. Withdrawal - Domestic Students

A student may withdraw from the course at any time by completing the Notification of Withdrawal form.

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.

6.9 Withdrawal - International Students

A student may withdraw from the course by completing the Notification of Withdrawal form.

Withdrawal to transfer to another provider must be done via accessing the Course Transfer Policy and Procedures. NIDA will notify Department of Home Affairs via PRISMS of any changes to course enrolment for an international student.

7. Variations

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

End of regulations