

ual:

APPROVED

BSc (Hons) Cosmetic Science

Awarding Body	University of the Arts London
College	London College of Fashion
School	University of the Arts London
Programme	LCF Science Programme(L017)
Course AOS Code	LCFBSCOSS01
FHEQ Level	Level 6 Degree
Course Credits	360
Mode	Full Time
Method	Face to Face
Duration of Course	3 years
Valid From	September 1st 2025
Collaboration	N/A
UAL Subject Classification	Business & management, and science
UCAS Code	W298
PSRB	N/A
Work placement offered	Yes
Course Entry Requirements	<p>The standard minimum entry requirements for this course are:</p> <p>One or a combination of the following accepted full level 3 qualifications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three A Level passes to a minimum of 120 UCAS tariff points – one of the subjects must be Chemistry, Biology or Physics at a minimum grade of C or equivalent;• DDD at BTEC Extended Diploma in a relevant Science subject;• or equivalent EU or non-EU qualifications such as International Baccalaureate Diploma at 25 points minimum;• and Five GCSE passes at grade A*-C or grade 9-4, including Maths and two single Science subjects (or one

double award in Science).

APEL (Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning)

Applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements may still be considered in exceptional cases. The course team will consider each application that demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by:

- Related academic or work experience
- The quality of the personal statement
- A strong academic or other professional reference
- OR a combination of these factors

Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case.

English Language Requirements

IELTS level 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking. Please check our main [English Language Requirements](#).

Selection Criteria

The course team seeks to recruit students who can demonstrate:

- An enthusiasm for a career in Cosmetic Science;
- The potential to complete a multi-disciplinary and science-based programme of study;
- An ability to engage with analytical and evaluative activities;
- A good command of oral and written English.

Scheduled Learning and Teaching

Details of the Scheduled Learning and Teaching can be found on your student portal on SITS, the UAL student records system, at the following link:

https://sits.arts.ac.uk/urd/sits.urd/run/siw_lgn

Click on the "Scheduled Learning and Teaching" tab on the home screen when you have logged in using your UAL details.

Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

Year 1

Awards	Credits
Certificate of Higher Education (Exit Only)	120

Year 2

Awards	Credits
Diploma of Higher Education (Exit Only)	240

Year 3

Awards	Credits
Bachelor of Science (Exit Only)	360

Year 4

Awards	Credits
Master of Science	480

Scheduled Learning Split by Level	
Level 4	18%
Level 5	17%
Level 6	14%
Level 7	11%
Total Scheduled Learning Split	15%

Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	To provide you with a unique cosmetic science educational experience, based on the study and practice of a range of relevant disciplines.
Aim	To develop your capacity to respond to complex issues independently and as part of a team, in a critical, systematic and creative manner.
Aim	To provide you with an in-depth working knowledge of cosmetic science and related areas and offer you the opportunity to apply it within professional or entrepreneurial contexts.
Aim	To develop your research and practical laboratory skills, alongside your competence in the planning, design, execution, interpretation and reporting of experiments.
Aim	To enhance your ability to communicate and interact with cosmetic science professionals and those from other disciplines.
Aim	To develop your ability to enter employment, respond to professional opportunities or to undertake further study.
Outcome	Synthesise knowledge of the various disciplines underpinning cosmetic science and technology.
Outcome	Apply relevant scientific principles and regulatory frameworks to the development and marketing of cosmetic products.
Outcome	Research and evaluate scientific and commercial information relevant to cosmetic science showing critical thinking.
Outcome	Communicate effectively with relevant audiences in a variety of formats.
Outcome	Create solutions to issues independently and as part of a team.
Outcome	Use specialist laboratory equipment appropriate to the level of study.
Outcome	Plan, execute and present an independent cosmetic science project, showing criticality in the application of knowledge and skills.

	Distinctive Features
1	Situated in a unique creative and business environment, this course offers a distinctive multidisciplinary curriculum.
2	Industry, subject experts and professional bodies are consulted on the development of this course.
3	The course is based on the experience of delivering higher education cosmetic science courses at LCF since 2000 by research active staff.
4	Cosmetic formulation expertise provided by extensive cosmetic science laboratory experience.
5	Every unit in the course has a curriculum that is applied to cosmetic science.
6	Strongly and continuously supported by the industry for its quality through the Society of Cosmetic Scientists and the Cosmetic, Toiletry and Perfumery Association, which sponsors the course and awards best students annually.
7	Offers an optional Diploma in Professional Studies (120 credits), awarded via a placement in the industry or the completion of an enterprise project.

Course Diagram

BSc Cosmetic Science – PLEASE NOTE DUE TO VACATION DATES, SPECIFIC DELIVERY WEEKS MAY CHANGE.

S=summative assessment

E1, E2=summative element assessment

LEVEL 4 – Stage 1																													
BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2														
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Introduction to Cosmetic Science (20 credits)						S																							
Applied Chemistry (20 credits)														S															
Applied Biology (20 credits)														S															
															Product Development and Legislation (20 credits)										S				
															Cosmetic Formulation Principles (40 credits)												E1		E2

LEVEL 5 – Stage 2																													
BLOCK 1															BLOCK 2														
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Product Quality and Packaging (20 credits)														S															
Product Formulation I (40 credits)										E1				E2															
															Brand Development and Marketing (20 credits)										S				
															Product Formulation II (40 credits)								E1				E2		

OPTIONAL DIPLOMA YEAR – LEVEL 5

LEVEL 6 – Stage 3																																	
BLOCK 1																BLOCK 2																	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
Product Evaluation and Claims Substantiation (40 credits)											E1					E2																	
																Innovation in Cosmetics (40 credits)											E1		E2				
Product Launch Project (40 credits)																											S						

Course Detail

Introduction

The cosmetic industry continues to expand rapidly while consumers have become more aware of the potential benefits of cosmetic products and more critical of the way they are developed. Therefore, a career in cosmetic science is currently very relevant and associated with a wide range of professional fields.

The BSc (Hons) Cosmetic Science is an applied science degree designed for students who want a career in the cosmetic, personal care and affiliated industries. In addition to subject-specific knowledge, the course enables students to develop the critical, creative and technical skills necessary to become cosmetic scientists.

What to expect

- A programme with extensive laboratory experience, during which students learn to develop and test many types of cosmetic products;
- Laboratory-based projects that will challenge students to develop their own formulations for diverse consumers and their needs;
- A solid scientific background and the opportunity to take on a year-long industry placement or, for those wishing to become business owners, to complete an enterprise project;
- A course that equips graduates with knowledge of the various disciplines within Cosmetic Science, relevant technical skills and an understanding of how the industry works – the Cosmetic Toiletry and Perfumery Association (CTPA) recognises the course as one 'of immediate relevance to the industry' due to its bespoke curriculum.

Cosmetic Science graduates from LCF are employed throughout the industry, both in the UK and internationally, in a wide range of roles. These include research and development, product manufacturing, marketing, technical sales, product testing, quality assurance, logistics and regulatory sectors. Employment prospects for graduates are excellent, with most of them being in professional roles within 6 months of leaving the course, while some graduates choose to take an entrepreneurial route.

Work experience and opportunities

Students will have the opportunity to earn an additional Diploma in Professional Studies, by completing an industry placement or an enterprise project. This award is optional and takes place between the second and third year of the course. It is offered to enhance your

employability by offering valuable professional experience. You will be required to apply for this Diploma.

Mode of study

The BSc (Hons) Cosmetic Science runs for 90 weeks (120 weeks with the optional Diploma in Professional Studies) in full-time mode. It is divided into 3 stages, or 4 with the optional Diploma in Professional Studies year, over 3/4 academic years. Each stage lasts 30 weeks.

Climate, Social and Racial Justice

We are committed to developing ethical practices. To achieve this, we are working to embed UAL's Principles for Climate, Social and Racial Justice into the course.

Course Units

Year 1

Year 1 is planned to help you to make a successful transition from school to university. A dedicated unit is included to assist you with developing the skills you will need to become an independent learner. There will be units in the core sciences that will prepare you for the specific demands of understanding cosmetic science. You will be introduced to formulating a variety of cosmetic products and even get the chance to develop your own.

Units studied:

- Introduction to Cosmetic Science
- Applied Chemistry
- Applied Biology
- Product Development and Legislation
- Cosmetic Formulation Principles

Year 2

In Year 2 you will focus on the creation of specific products for care of the skin and hair and in decorative cosmetics. In addition to formulating and testing many different products, you will learn about the importance of microbial preservation, analytical methods in product quality and the role of packaging in protecting products. The crucial roles of marketing and brand development in the cosmetic industry will also be discussed.

Units studied:

- Product Quality and Packaging
- Product Formulation I
- Brand Development and Marketing

- Product Formulation II

Optional Diploma Year

Industry DIPS

This optional diploma can be taken between years 2 and 3. With support from your tutors, you will undertake an industry placement for a minimum of 100 days/20 weeks. As well as developing industry skills, you will gain an additional qualification upon successful completion.

Enterprise DIPS

This optional diploma can be taken between years 2 and 3. With support from your tutors, you will undertake an enterprise placement year where you will explore a business idea from proposal to minimal viable product (MVP). As well as developing enterprise skills, you will gain an additional qualification upon successful completion.

CCI Creative Computing

Between years 2 and 3, you can undertake the year-long Diploma in Creative Computing. This will develop your skills in creative computing alongside your degree. After successfully completing the diploma and your undergraduate degree, you will graduate with an enhanced degree: BSc (Hons) Cosmetic Science (with Creative Computing).

CCI Apple Diploma

Between years 2 and 3, you can undertake the year-long Diploma in Apple Development. This will give you an opportunity to become an accredited Apple developer alongside your degree. After successfully completing the diploma and your undergraduate degree, you will graduate with an enhanced degree: BSc (Hons) Cosmetic Science (with Apple Development).

Final Year

In the final year you will learn how to evaluate the efficacy of cosmetic products and develop and substantiate claims using instrumental and sensory methods, which will include an element of statistics. You will also explore subjects associated with innovation and scientific development in the cosmetic industry with a focus on sustainability. This year will culminate in an independent Product Launch Project, which will allow you to follow the stages required to take a new product from concept to market.

Units studied:

- Product Evaluation and Claims Substantiation
- Innovation in Cosmetics
- Product Launch Project

Learning and Teaching Methods

The following teaching and learning methods are employed to support the integrated achievement of the course outcomes:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Visiting speakers
- Group and individual tutorials
- Group presentations
- Laboratory workshops
- Specialist equipment training
- Laboratory supervised access
- Formative assessments
- Self-directed study

Assessment Methods

The following assessment methods are employed to support the integrated aims of the course outcomes:

- Time-constrained examination
- Practical examination
- Group presentation
- Laboratory report
- Project report
- Case study

Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- Learning, Teaching and Enhancement Strategy 2015-2022: Delivering transformative education [https://myintranet.arts.ac.uk/media/arts/about-ual/teaching-and-learning-exchange/2015-2022 Learning,-Teaching-and-Enhancement-Strategy.pdf](https://myintranet.arts.ac.uk/media/arts/about-ual/teaching-and-learning-exchange/2015-2022%20Learning,-Teaching-and-Enhancement-Strategy.pdf)
- UAL Tutorial Policy http://www.arts.ac.uk/study-at-ual/academic-regulations/tutorial-policy_
- The UAL Creative Attributes Framework Overview and Guidance for Course Teams <http://www.arts.ac.uk/about-ual/teaching-and-learning/careers-and-employability/creative-attributes-framework>
- LCF Credit Framework (various updates)
- Feedback from the cosmetic industry, academics, alumni and students <https://www.arts.ac.uk/search?collection=ual-main->

[meta&query=alumni%20and%20friends&start_rank=1&sort=relevance](#)

- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/qualifications-frameworks.pdf>
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Chemistry (relevant elements) <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements>
- QAA Subject benchmark Statement: Biosciences (relevant elements) <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements>

The University will use all reasonable endeavours to provide the Course and the services described in this Output. There may be occasions whereby the University needs to add, remove or alter content in relation to your Course as may be appropriate for example the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body, or in response to student feedback, or to comply with applicable law or due to circumstances beyond its control. The University aim to inform you of any changes as soon as is reasonably practicable