

THE LONDON
INTERDISCIPLINARY
SCHOOL

“The most radical
university to open
in decades”

THE  TIMES

Culture &
Complexity

• Human
Flourishing

• Experiment
Design

Visual
Methods

Programming

Linguistics

Master of Arts & Sciences in

Complex Systems and Problems

Master of Arts & Sciences in

Complex Systems and Problems



“

I found my tribe at LIS

Richard Elson, MASc Alumni

Writer | Director | VFX Supervisor

Why Study This Degree

Answers to the problems you care about won't come from a single subject.

Learn the art & science of connecting the dots.

Some questions don't belong to a single discipline.

You might already have one in mind: a problem in your work, an idea you want to develop, or a question your existing expertise can only take so far.

Most master's degrees ask you to go deeper into one subject. We take a different approach.

The **MASc in Complex Systems and Problems** is built around questions of human coordination.

You'll learn to see problems as part of wider systems, understanding how different forces interact and why change in one place can have effects elsewhere.

From there, you'll draw on ideas and methods from across disciplines, following the problem rather than the boundaries of a single field.

Over time, you'll become more confident working with complexity and develop work that has a life beyond the degree.

This is a degree for people who think across boundaries.

It gives you the space to take your thinking further, alongside a community of people who are just as curious.

Open Days

One of the best ways to learn more about LIS and our master's degree.

Sign up to join now: lis.ac.uk/events

What you'll gain

- **Build a flexible toolkit for complex problems:** Work across data, code, language, images and experiments, learning how to braid different methods together to uncover new ways into a problem.
- **Create a substantial piece of work that's your own:** Bring your toolkit together in a Capstone focused on a question that matters to you, producing original interdisciplinary work that can become a calling card for employers, a career pivot or further research.
- **Join a community that thinks across boundaries:** Develop your ideas with the freedom and support of an eclectic faculty and a tight-knit cohort, alongside people whose interests and expertise rarely fit neatly into one field.

Beyond the course

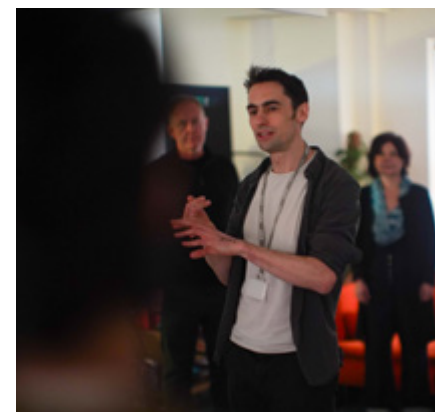
The MASc is designed for people who want to go beyond the boundaries of a single discipline. You may already have a question you want to pursue, or an area you want to explore more deeply. Either way, the course helps you sharpen your focus and develop the methods to take it further.

You'll leave better equipped to approach problems that don't sit neatly within one field, drawing on different methods depending on what the problem demands.

Your Capstone gives you a substantial piece of original work to take forward. It can demonstrate what you're capable of and act as a calling card for employers or further research.

Previous graduates have pursued PhDs at Oxbridge, while others have progressed across the private and public sectors, from mid-level roles through to director-level positions. Some have gone on to build startups of their own.

You'll also have access to 1:1 career coaching and opportunities through the LIS partner network, helping you turn that clearer sense of direction into your next step.



The Programme

A master's for system-thinkers problem-solvers

This MASc is built around a unique braided structure. Across the year, (or two years for part-time students), you'll explore a complex problem in depth, gain hands-on experience with a range of methods, and bring it all together through an interdisciplinary research project.

At every stage, these strands are designed to intersect and reinforce one another, giving you the tools to think critically, creatively, and across traditional academic boundaries. You'll learn not just to apply knowledge, but to connect it in meaningful, practical ways.

● PROBLEMS

● METHODS

● RESEARCH

STRAND 1: PROBLEMS ●

Choose a complex, real-world issue to explore in depth.

At the start of the degree, you'll choose one of three problem modules:

- **Cognition & Behaviour**
- **Technology & Computation**
- **Systems & Processes**

Each is designed to support interdisciplinary investigation and challenge you to think across domains.

You'll dig deep into your chosen issue and begin to identify the questions you want to pursue through the rest of the programme.

STRAND 2: METHODS ●

Build a toolkit of practical, cross-disciplinary skills.

You'll study four methods modules covering approaches to linguistic, numeric, visual, experimental, and algorithmic data.

Whether it's coding in python, analysing discourse, or working with spatial or sensory data, you'll develop skills that allow you to investigate problems from multiple angles and speak the languages of different disciplines.

STRAND 3: RESEARCH ●

Pursue the questions that matter to you in depth through your own interdisciplinary research project.

This is where the strands converge. You'll design and deliver an interdisciplinary research project, guided by expert faculty. This can take many forms, from a traditional dissertation to a creative or practice-based submission.

Alongside the project, you'll take part in the **Integration** module, exploring the challenges and possibilities of interdisciplinarity. You'll also join a **Capstone Workshop**, which is a collaborative space to refine your thinking, test ideas, and learn from your peers.

Problems Modules

Complex problems demand more than one discipline.

Most degrees organise learning around a single subject. At LIS, we start with complex problems, bringing disciplinary perspectives and methods together to investigate them.

At the start of your degree, you'll choose one of the three problem electives. This becomes a focal point for your learning, revealing connections and possible solutions that one discipline alone might miss.

It's a shift that will change how you see the world, and how you approach the problems you want to tackle.

Problem Electives

● COGNITION AND BEHAVIOUR

This problem space focuses on the nature of what it means to be human. All aspects of human cognition, culture, and behaviour are within its scope, as are the disciplines that deal with these topics. Though cognitive science will provide the broad framework for the module, consilience with other ways of thinking about being human will be actively pursued.

● TECHNOLOGY AND COMPUTATION

The ambition of the technology and computation problem space is to study the ways in which human beings have augmented their productive and cognitive powers by artificial means. As well as learning to use the technologies themselves, the lodging of these technologies in ethical, legal, and creative systems will be investigated.

● SYSTEMS & PROCESSES

All human flourishing depends on processes and systems of organisation that create predictable patterns of expectation and experience. This module will explore the planning, administration, and values that enter into the creation and maintenance of human cultural or physical systems – with “systems” to be understood broadly as any structure that sustains human life and values.

Core Modules

Throughout your studies, you will take modules on complexity and integration. These modules are compulsory for every student.

● COMPLEXITY

This module investigates the intersection of culture and complexity, defining culture as any organized human activity. It examines how agents and subsystems interact to distribute value and establish norms. Students address the descriptive and organisational challenges of emergent phenomena. By synthesizing natural and qualitative social sciences, learners identify high-level patterns in dissimilar systems. This appreciation of complexity is a prerequisite for influencing systems in professional and intellectual life.

● INTEGRATION

If interdisciplinary inquiry is to be more than a collection of concepts and methods, it requires us to understand how novel and synthetic results can be achieved by integrating different bodies of knowledge. This module will take a step back from learning in practice and focus on the process of integration, if not dis-integration, in theory.

“
After LIS I now see fractals
in trees, complexity in city
streets, beauty in art, hidden
truths in data, and strength
in friendship. Living life
with a boundless desire to
think outside the box.

Daniel Konioukhov, MSc Alumni
Agent Based Modeller
PhD University of Glasgow

Methods Modules

Participants will complete three core methods modules and select one additional methods elective to tailor their learning.

CORE METHODS MODULES

● TRIALS AND ERRORS: DESIGNING, IMPLEMENTING, AND ANALYSING SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS

This elective will introduce you to the basic principles of scientific knowledge and experimental design, and help you to start building your scientific literacy in terms of planning, executing, critiquing and understanding scientific literature. You'll learn about different types of quantitative methods, the scientific method, and how this approach to research can enhance our understanding of real-world complex problems.

Knowledge and skills:

- Scientific method
- Building block of empirical research
- Ethics in experimental research
- Plan, execute, critique and understand scientific literature

The most pressing social and organisational challenges that we face are **complex** in nature.

● RE:FORM: SITUATING AND ANALYSING VISUAL MEDIA

Re:Form will teach students how to understand visual thinking and the ways in which media (photography, 3D modelling, illustration) help us communicate.

To do this, students will look at how visual media can be created, analysed and archived - from both a qualitative and quantitative perspective.

Qualitative approaches centre on learning to interpret, read and curate visual media. Quantitative approaches will allow students to use their coding knowledge to engage with images at speed and scale.

Key skills and knowledge areas:

- Art
- Media analysis
- Programming (python)

● THE RIGHT WORD: ANALYSING AND CREATING IMPACTFUL LANGUAGE

The Right Word aims to demonstrate how language can be produced and analysed using insights from linguistics. This will involve exploring the meaning of language (semantics) and its function in social context (pragmatics). The module will also explore narrative as a powerful tool in communication e.g., storytelling.

This module will also teach students the basics of methods in natural language processing (NLP). NLP allows language data to be manipulated at speed and scale, and is behind many of the advances in AI that have occurred recently.

Key skills and knowledge areas:

- Linguistics
- Natural language processing (NLP)
- Storytelling

Elective Methods Modules

Students must choose a data science (Everything Counts) or a coding (Cracking the Code) entry point. It is expected that most students will take Cracking Code; Everything Counts should only be chosen by students who already have substantial experience coding in python.

● CRACKING THE CODE: LEARNING TO PROGRAMME

Cracking the Code teaches python through data science. Students will learn to code by engaging in practical applications of python libraries as they relate to data science problems. We'll also encourage students to think about the role of data science in tackling complex problems, considering the ethical and logistical dimensions of what you can actually do using python.

We teach python because it's the most popular programming language and has a variety of applications including web development and quantitative research. If you're going to learn one coding language, we think it should be python. But if you already know python, you can learn another language (e.g., R).

Key skills and knowledge areas:

- Programming
- Data science

● EVERYTHING COUNTS: PROBABILITY, STATISTICS, AND NUMERICAL ESTIMATION

Everything Counts is a quantitative module that acquaints students with different approaches to statistics (Bayesian and Frequentist).

These approaches represent two interpretations of how we can use numerical data to answer questions and inform decision-making.

It will also deal with how data can be used to tell a story, including studying the essentials of data visualisation.

Key skills and knowledge areas:

- Statistics
- Mathematics
- Critical thinking

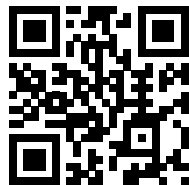
The Capstone

A SPACE TO EXPLORE THE PROBLEM
THAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU.

The capstone is where everything in the programme comes together and where you take the lead. Over three stages, you'll define a problem of personal or professional interest, investigate it from multiple angles, and develop your own response.

We've structured the process to support you at each step. In **Capstone Discovery**, you'll explore your area of interest and start shaping a question worth asking. In **Capstone Framing**, you'll begin designing your approach, identifying which methods you'll need, and how they can be combined. And finally, in **Capstone Delivery**, you'll carry out your project with the support of faculty supervision.

This is your chance to follow your curiosity, take a position, and produce a piece of original work that reflects your values, interests, and skills, whether that's a traditional dissertation, a creative project, or something in between.



For more Student Projects,
Scan to see our Repository



Example Capstones

Who do you trust? Perimenopause, menopause and healthcare

LAURA
JONES

*Psychology x Cultural Probes x Netnography
x Mixed Methods*

For many women navigating perimenopause and menopause, clinical care does not feel trustworthy or supportive. Laura's project investigates why so many turn to peers and lived experience instead. Using surveys with 69 participants, a 14 day Instagram netnography, cultural probes with Core20Plus women and a group discussion, it analysed how trust is formed, broken and rebuilt through shared experience rather than formal authority.

Findings show a form of embodied, experience based trust grounded in emotional resonance, peer validation and wisdom gained through lived experience. Many participants described feeling dismissed in clinical settings, prompting a shift toward community support networks and hybrid expert peers. The research proposes a Trust Triangle framework to support healthcare design that centres relational connection and lived expertise rather than relying solely on clinical credentials.

After Grenfell

A functional analysis of institutional and cultural response

BENJAMIN RALPH

*Complexity theory x Natural Language Processing
x Discourse Analysis x Cultural Studies*

How do communities make sense of disaster after institutional failure? This project examines how society makes sense of the Grenfell Tower fire after the loss of 72 lives. It analyses four voices responding to the catastrophe: the public Inquiry, protest signs, a verbatim play, and song lyrics. Using zero-shot NLP classification, thousands of utterances were scored across eight discursive functions, including attributing blame, seeking clarity, demanding justice, and expressing emotional impact.

The findings show each voice plays a distinct role in restoring order after systemic failure. The Inquiry focuses on factual clarity and procedural stability. Protests assert moral certainty and accountability. Artistic responses hold emotional complexity and communal memory.

Together, they form a distributed sense-making system, showing that no single process can address a crisis of this scale. Technical, moral, and emotional work are all required to metabolise disaster and support collective recovery.



To what extent can engagement with a purpose-designed perceptually ambiguous art piece evoke insight and joy by making individuals aware of their own predictions and inferences?

HANNE PEERAER

*Visual Methods x Experimental
Methods x Neuroscience x
Philosophy*

Hanne's project explores how perception and self-awareness can affect mental wellbeing. She designed an "interactive illusion", a perceptually ambiguous artwork, to test whether becoming more aware of how we interpret what we see could influence our emotional state.

Participants experienced the artwork while wearing EEG devices, allowing Hanne to track brain activity associated with moments of insight, rest and meditation. She also used surveys and conversational interviews to understand how participants felt before, during and after the experience. Alongside the study, she kept an auto-ethnographic journal documenting the process and her own observations.



©Hanne Peeraer

How do veterinary interventions compare to other supply- and demand-side strategies in delivering cost-effective and contextually legitimate reductions in rhino poaching incidents in Southern Africa?

SEBASTIAN
CARROLL



Ecology x Biotechnology x Decision Science

Efforts to stop rhino poaching often rely on single interventions, but the problem demands a systems view. This project used Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis to compare eight strategies for reducing rhino poaching, assessing them across effectiveness, cost, feasibility, and ethics. It evaluated interventions from routine dehorning and dispersal to horn-suppression via gene-editing.

Using sensitivity testing, scenario modelling, and decision-science methods drawn from game-theoretic thinking about incentives, the study examined how strategies perform under different future conditions and stakeholder priorities. The analysis found that horn-suppression shows promise, but only when supported by established measures such as dehorning, dispersal, and demand reduction.

It produced a practical evaluation framework and an interactive tool to support evidence-based conservation planning.



No Regrets

RICHARD ELSON

Psychology x Game Design x Creative Writing x Mixed Methods

Richard's Capstone project explored how we make sense of regret and whether play can help people process difficult experiences. His capstone combined a board game, a Choose-Your-Own-Adventure essay, and real anonymous confessions collected both online and across the London Underground using postcards and QR codes. These confessions were used as research data and later transformed into gameplay cards drawn from real regrets shared by strangers in public spaces

The final board game, No Regrets, invites players to navigate life decisions, trade regrets, and reflect on values through conversation and strategy. By blending survey analysis, secret confession collection, and playful interaction, the project reframes regret as something to learn from rather than hide.

Designed to spark honest dialogue and connection, the game turns a private emotion into a shared experience.

Does the UK Civil Service have the skills to end ‘sticking plaster’ politics?

MARK GRIFFITHS

Politics x Natural Language Processing x Machine Learning

This Capstone investigated whether Whitehall has the skills needed to deliver mission-led government. It combined interviews with leaders in mission-driven organisations with NLP analysis of more than 2,000 Civil Service job descriptions, comparing the skills being recruited for with those identified in mission-led research.

The analysis found significant gaps in areas including co-design, citizen engagement, participatory approaches and experimentation, suggesting that delivering missions may require changes not just to policy, but to the capabilities government hires for.

This Capstone research was presented to Whitehall.

Multiscale simulation: a case study of plant morphogenesis and neural cellular automata towards the complex modelling challenges of collective intelligence

ALEX CLARKE

*Complexity Theory x Computer Science
x Biology x Mathematics*

This project combines a biological case study with the development of a novel simulation framework for modeling complex systems. It constructs a multiscale model of plant growth, using real data and literature to explore how flexible simulation architectures can improve understanding of system dynamics. The study addresses challenges in modeling complex systems like collective intelligence by integrating interdisciplinary insights from biology, computer science, and physics, aiming to design adaptive, self-organizing systems.

Through a better understanding of how to grow complex phenomena, we may design more adaptive architecture, more adept forms of artificial, collective intelligence, and more targeted medical interventions with nanotechnology.



Pattern Development during Model Training
©Alex Clarke

Student Experience

The MASc will expose students to intellectual and practical content outside the curricular offering by way of termly immersion weeks and weekly student-led seminars. Ad-hoc masterclasses in interdisciplinarity will also be scheduled.

IMMERSION WEEKS bring together in-person and online students by way of a deep dive on a particular theme. The themes are expressly chosen to be outside the curriculum and are not assessed; the idea is to enable students to take intellectual risks. Typically, immersion weeks start with a high-profile external speaker who delivers a keynote talk, with the subsequent days having lectures and workshops.



THINKING OUT LOUD is a space where students share intellectual curiosity, ideas, or activities. The ambition is to create a space that is participant run and which allows us to explore ideas not featured in the programme. Above all else, it should be a stimulating, fun, and a social occasion to explore ideas and perspectives that we might not otherwise be exposed to. The structure of the session will be broadly similar every week: a presentation of about 20 mins followed by a 40 minute group discussion.

THE ID MASTERCLASS is an online series of talks dedicated to exploring the themes of interdisciplinarity and integration, designed to bridge gaps between different fields of knowledge. The series brings together experts from diverse academic and professional backgrounds to discuss how interdisciplinary approaches can address complex societal, scientific, and intellectual challenges. Each speaker offers a unique perspective on how integrating various fields can foster innovation, broaden understanding, and create new methodologies for research and problem-solving.



Modes of Study

Deciding to study for a master's is a significant commitment as you'll need to dedicate time for classes, skills development, learning and assessments. It's important to consider the mode of study and pace at which you are expected to complete the programme.

Whether you study full-time or part-time, you'll still be able to access campus facilities throughout the duration of your studies (should you wish); whether you want somewhere quiet to work on an assignment, or to meet up with a faculty member to discuss a topic in more detail.

Both our full-time and part-time programmes have September only intakes.

Part-time, Remote-first:

Designed for people that have other commitments and/or want to continue to work alongside study. For those that don't want to regularly commute or live in London.

- ✓ 2 years to complete
- ✓ 8-10 hours per week
- ✓ 2-3 hrs online workshops per week
- ✓ Plus intensive on-campus days (twice a year)

Full-time, Campus-first:

Designed for those that want an immersive social experience and to complete your master's in one year. For those that already live in or near London or would like to.

- ✓ 1 year to complete
- ✓ Full-time
- ✓ 5-10 hours classes per week
- ✓ Flexible self-paced online prep

MODES OF STUDY

Part-time, Remote-first:

Part-time study is the same as doing a full master's but spread out over two years and with more flexibility. You might want to consider part-time remote study if you:

- Want to work alongside your studies
- Have other commitments (e.g., family responsibilities) that take up your time and energy
- Simply want to take things at a slower pace

Full-time, Campus-first:

Students who choose to study full-time will do so in person at our east London campus. You might want to consider full-time in-person study if you:

- Thrive being around other students
- Want to complete your master's in one year
- Want to attend on campus co- and extra-curricular activities

Academic calendar

Weeks	Starting	Ending
Autumn term	Monday 20th Sept 2027	Friday 10th Dec 2027
Immersion week	Monday 1st Nov 2027	Friday 5th Nov 2027
Spring term	Monday 10th Jan 2028	Thursday 24th March 2028
Immersion week	Monday 14th 2028	Friday 18th Feb 2028
Summer term	Monday 24th April 2028	Friday 7th July 2028
Immersion week	Tuesday 30th May 2028	Friday 2nd June 2028

Deadline for Capstone project (full-time students only): 7th July 2028
Teaching finishes 12th June, following that there are optional sessions to support Capstone project, but there is no longer a need to be on campus.

How You'll Learn

Class formats include:

- Workshops
- Seminars and small group coaching
- One-to-one and small group tutorials
- On-campus/online extended workshops
- Personalised academic and career coaching

“You look at the course material and think ‘Wow I would love to be a part of this cohort’.”

FORMER MASC STUDENT

How you'll be assessed

Each module uses assessments placed regularly throughout the programme. These assessments are varied in format and reflect the kinds of outputs and products you would be expected to produce as a professional. Assessments could include:

- Extended writing
- Producing visual media (choice of a collection of images, a website, a photo archive etc.)
- Data analysis and (basic) visualisation
- Preparing effective slide decks and other presentations
- Applying Natural Language Processing to a corpus
- The Capstone: an extended research project with findings communicated in a medium of your choice

Our assessment methods go beyond essays. As such, students will form a portfolio of artefacts across the programme which can be used as a professional calling card going forward.



The LIS Team



Dr James Carney
Master's Programme Director

James is a computational linguist who uses artificial intelligence to understand the relationship between cognition and culture. He is especially interested in the intersection between interpretive, computational, and experimental methods of inquiry. His research has been funded by the Wellcome Trust, the European Commission, and Innovate UK.

Previous to coming to LIS, James worked in Brunel University London, Lancaster University, and the University of Oxford (where he held a Junior Research Fellowship).

He is also founding director of Texture AI, a data science company that has had the BBC, Google, ITV, Reach PLC, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the UK Cabinet Office and other leading organisations as clients.



Dr Adam Kenny

A quantitative anthropologist who uses data science and open research to study human behavior and evolution. PhD, Oxford
#Data Science, #Anthropology, #Human Evolution, #Natural Sciences



Dr Amelia Peterson

Social scientist with a background in policy and consulting. PhD, Harvard.
#Political Science #Economics, #Psychology, #Sociology, #Education



Dr Anson Cheung

Theoretical physicist with a background building models in condensed matter physics. PhD, Cambridge.
#Emergence, #Renormalisation, #BPhO, #Physics, #Education



Dr Ash Brockwell

Writer and consultant, with specialisms in wellbeing and sustainability. PhD, Wageningen.
#Biochemistry, #Sustainability, #Education, #Molecular Biology



Dr Cristian Constantinescu

Interdisciplinary academic exploring philosophy, cognitive science and music psychology. PhD, Cambridge.
#Music Psychology, #Neuroscience, #Philosophy



Dr Mattia Gallotti

Philosopher of mind and society interested in academic innovation and management. PhD, Exeter.
#Philosophy, #Writing, #Critical Thinking, #Social Science



Dr Kaysara Khatun

Interdisciplinary bridging science and policy, focusing on global ecosystem management and preservation.
#Environmental Science #Geography #Policy



Dr Niccolò Pescetelli

A behavioural and data scientist, researching collective intelligence to design better collaboration platforms and governance tools. PhD, Oxford
#AI #Data Science, #Experimental Psychology, #Collective Intelligence



Maria Angélica Madero
Deputy MASc Director

Artist and researcher working across public policy, radical education and contemporary visual culture. PhD candidate, The European Graduate School
#Art, #Videography, #Critical Theory, #Design



Waqas Ahmed

Writer and expert on multidisciplinary thinking. Author of The Polymath.
#Visual Art, #Neuroscience, #International Affairs, #World History

Extra & Co-curriculars

Careers

Our careers offering for master's students revolves around four key pillars:

- The LIS Network
- One-to-one career coaching
- Interdisciplinary career design framework
- Co-curriculars

The LIS Network

The LIS Network is a group of 200+ organisations who recognise the power of an interdisciplinary

approach. They might want us to help them on a specific problem they're facing, upskill their team in complex problem-solving, or hire from our student body.

The Network spans organisations across the public, private and third spaces and range from purpose-led startups through to multinational corporations. All are committed to tackling complex problems.

Organisations in the Network include:

Conduit
CONNECT

MAYOR OF LONDON



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation

Tortoise

KPMG

mtr Elizabeth line



COMPASS
GROUP

John Lewis

innocent

e-ii ENTREPRENEUR
FIRST

FRONTLINE
CHANGING LIVES

Fidelity
INVESTMENTS

TOWER HAMLETS





“A job like mine does not ask you only to be a public speaker, data analyst, project manager, writer, or team player, but all of those things together. It also requires an understanding of cultures, history, politics, medical science and statistics. If this MASc program was available to me two decades ago, I’m sure I would have been better able to serve the organisations I’ve worked for, and better able to advance my own place within them. I can’t wait to engage in real discussion with the students, so that together we can push forward our thinking on these important topics.”

HASSAN DALMUJI

SENIOR ADVISOR, WORLD
HEALTH ORGANISATION



“The interesting thing about setting up a business is that it’s a series of problem-solving. What you need is an ability to focus in on a problem, pull back out and connect the dots across the space. And that’s what the master’s is doing. For me it’s exactly the kind of thing I wish I had done before I set up my first business.”

RICHARD REED

CO-FOUNDER,
INNOCENT DRINKS

One-to-one careers support

We want our students to develop their professional identity, sense of purpose and build a network that will allow them to advance their careers. Our graduate careers offering is designed as springboard to help you do just that.

LIS students have access to a Careers Manager for support in this area. This could include developing their career narrative, showcasing their existing and new skills in a more powerful way or gaining insight into an area of work that interests them.

Your careers manager can also make one-to-one, personal introductions on your behalf to members of the LIS Network.

*“I’m already applying
what I’m learning.”*

GUY BUTLER

MASC ALUMNI

INTERDISCIPLINARY CAREER DESIGN FRAMEWORK

At LIS we also provide our Master’s students with a shared framework for career planning. Building on Waqas Ahmed’s book *The Polymath*, we introduce a polymathic career design framework that is specifically relevant for those seeking -or already building- interdisciplinary careers. Through group sessions, students define goals and exercise agency to achieve them.

Co-curriculars

All LIS students have access to a wide range of extra- and co-curricular activities, designed to complement and enhance formal teaching and learning as well as providing a rich social environment. We organise hands-on workshops, engagement opportunities with industry pioneers, as well as excursions to inspiring and thought-provoking experiences around London.

In addition, we also host an ‘ID in Conversation’ series, where thought-leaders come to the LIS campus for fireside chats about their life, ideas, and aspirations. Master’s students also engage in weekly research seminars with members of faculty. Here, faculty and fellow master’s students present their latest research and engage in spirited debate around its methods, ideas and aims.

Student Support & Wellbeing

LIS students each have access to an Academic Tutor and Student Support Advisor to offer guidance and support throughout the programme.

1. Academic development:

We want to ensure students are academically successful and able to manage their workloads. Your Academic Tutor will meet with you throughout your studies. If you require more frequent meetings with your Academic Tutor, then this can be agreed.

2. Personal development

Students will have access, on request, to a Student Support Advisor who can provide additional and complementary support to your Academic Tutor. The Student Support Advisor will refer a student to a counsellor if this is required.



“A lot of people would get a lot out of this. Especially people who enjoy thinking about things from different disciplines and perspectives, and who want to be able to bring them together better”

HENRY BOWLER
FORMER MASC STUDENT

The Campus

Students joining us in person will be welcomed onto our campus just off Brick Lane, east London. The LIS campus building has a long history of philanthropy and social action. Once the location for the original Salvation Army Mission Hall, it's since been transformed into an award-winning flexible working space, which houses other purpose-driven organisations.

“LIS is like a breath of fresh air.”

MASC STUDENT

LIS has its own wing of the People's Mission Hall with dedicated teaching, study and social spaces around the campus. We also have several specialist spaces, such as a media studio, as well as areas where students will learn in small groups, or even as an entire cohort.

On the doorstep is Shoreditch, where you'll find street art, vintage fashion, markets, bars, clubs, and a huge variety of places to eat. Then there's the City of London business district,



housing billion-pound organisations, purpose-driven start-ups, and everything in between. London was recently voted the Best Student City in the world for its culture, quality of life, and employment prospects. Our location at the historic eastern gateway to the city means you'll have London at your fingertips.

“If you are going to do something outside of work, you might as well enjoy it.”

MASC STUDENT





Admissions

Applications are open now.
The deadline to apply is 29th August 2025 for Home students and 30th June for international students.

Applications to our master's are considered on a rolling basis. We will continue to accept applications until we fill places on the degree. In order to secure a place on the course, we'd encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible

Find the application form on our website:

lis.ac.uk/graduate



Admissions requirements

The minimum entry requirement for our MASc programme is a 2:1 or above in an undergraduate degree from the UK (or the international equivalent) in any subject. If you are unsure whether your degree is equivalent to a 2:1 undergraduate degree from the UK, please get in touch with us via admissions@lis.ac.uk.

Applicants who do not fulfil the normal entry requirements but have extensive professional experience in a related area are considered on an individual basis. These applicants should ensure that they have attached their most recent CV as part of the application process.



Critical Reflection

As part of your application, you'll also need to submit a written Critical Reflection (500-750 words) where you select a problem, issue or phenomenon you're interested in, and describe how an interdisciplinary approach could be used to address or explore it.

This Critical Reflection task seeks to assess interdisciplinary problem-solving aptitudes, specifically:

- Ability to identify and explain multiple lenses on an issue, problem or phenomenon
- Ability to explore how multiple perspectives can be integrated
- Ability to select appropriate sources
- Ability to communicate clearly in writing

The Critical Reflection is uploaded as part of the admissions process. If you have any questions regarding admissions, please don't hesitate to get in touch via admissions@lis.ac.uk.

International Students

We're able to accept students with pre-settled and settled status through the EU settlement scheme.

We also hold a sponsorship licence which allows us to accept international students as part of the 2026 cohort.

An international student is someone who would need to apply for a visa to study in the UK.

In line with UKVI guidance, before LIS makes any offer of a place, we may invite the student for a short screening call in relation to their ability and intention to study at LIS before offering a place.

English Language Requirements:

The LIS MASc is taught in English. To derive full benefit from and succeed in passing our programme, you must

be able to understand and express yourself in English (reading and listening, speaking and writing). Non-Home students seeking LIS sponsorship to study in the UK will need to pass a Secure English Language Test (SELT). These tests must have been passed within two years of application to the programme.

Please see the International Students page of our website for further information. If you want to get in touch and feel that the guidelines below do not cover your case, then we'll do our best to give advice. You can email admissions@lis.ac.uk.



Fees and Funding

We don't want cost to be a barrier when it comes to choosing to do your master's at LIS; we're here to help provide guidance and support on all things financial.

The table below outlines the fees for master's students studying at LIS from September 2027.

UK students

The annual tuition fee for UK students enrolling at LIS full-time in 2027 is **£14,000**.

The tuition fee for UK students enrolling at LIS part-time in 2027 is **£7,000** per year for a total of **£14,000** over two years.

This fee applies to UK students, as well as EU students holding settled and pre-settled status under the European Settlement Scheme.

International students

The annual tuition fee for international students enrolling at LIS full-time in 2027 is **£25,000**.

The tuition fee for international students enrolling at LIS part-time in 2027 is **£7,000** per year for a total of **£14,000** over two years.

We hold a sponsorship licence and are able to accept applications from international students.

This fee covers all elements of your registration, enrolment, tuition, supervision, and assessment for the full academic year. It doesn't cover living costs, books, materials (including a laptop computer), or travel.

Please note that in order to access the programme, you'll need your own portable computer device uploaded with Microsoft Office (Student Version). LIS has a "laptop bank" to provide for students who have a short-term device requirement. We're here to help, so just let us know if you need support.

Student loans

For UK students, student loans can include a tuition fee loan.

Tuition fee loans

You can apply for a Postgraduate Master's Loan to help with course fees and living costs. You can get up to £11,570 and you won't have to pay anything back until after your course, when you're earning above a certain level (the 'threshold amount').

Please note postgraduate loans do differ if you normally live in England, Scotland, Wales, or Ireland.

More information about student loans can be found at: gov.uk/masters-loan

Eligibility

To apply for a scholarship, you must:

Be currently studying college level qualifications or working outside the UK

Be classed as an 'overseas' student for tuition fee purposes

Hold an offer to begin the MASc programme at LIS in September 2025

International students can also study our master's as a Chevening Scholar. To find out more and apply for the scholarship. visit chevening.org/apply

Financial support

We want to make sure that you're given an opportunity to succeed at LIS and we know that everyone's situation is different. As such, LIS will be offering master's bursaries in the form of part fee discounts. We'll be considering these on a case-by-case basis subject to evidence of need. You can enquire about one by emailing: admissions@lis.ac.uk



Our Values & Commitments

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

At LIS, we're committed to fostering an inclusive, respectful, and equitable environment for all members of our staff and student community. This commitment is reflected in our vision and strategy, our access and participation activities, our inclusion provision for disabled staff and students, our innovative admissions process, our student-focused approach to academic support and wellbeing, and the ways in which we recruit and promote our staff.

LIS commits to ensuring that all individuals are treated equitably, regardless of gender, race or ethnicity, socio-economic background, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marital status, pregnancy or maternity, or any other inappropriate distinction. All members of LIS share responsibility for creating an inclusive and equitable teaching and learning environment.

Our policies and procedures for ensuring equality, diversity, and inclusion can be found on our website.

DISABILITY

We want to ensure that all students have equal access to the range of teaching, learning, and social opportunities offered at LIS. Wherever reasonably possible, we'll make adjustments to the way we teach and assess students to accommodate those with disabilities, including mental health disabilities.

At LIS, and in light of the Equality Act, we use the term "disability" to include any physical, sensory, and intellectual impairment (i.e., mobility impairment, visual impairment/blindness, hearing impairment/deafness), certain medical conditions (i.e., HIV, cancer, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis), mental health difficulties, Asperger's Syndrome, or specific learning differences (SpLDs) such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia, or ADHD/ADD. Disclosing a disability to us is a personal matter and is down to

individual choice. If you do disclose a disability, it will help us to let you know your options for reasonable adjustments. It helps to disclose a disability as early as possible – but you can do so at any time. For more information on our provision for students with disabilities and specific learning differences, please take a look at our Disability Policy.

If you have any further questions, you can contact the Student Support department at (studentexperience@lis.ac.uk) where we'll treat your enquiry confidentially.

Find out more about our approach to equality, diversity, and inclusion: lis.ac.uk/policies

Our Values

Rigour

Our reputation is built on the quality of our work, so we uphold rigorous standards and leave no stone unturned.

Curiosity

We strive to understand, to simultaneously seek multiple perspectives, to look beyond the horizon.

Courage

We face into uncertainty, and are committed to taking risks; we speak up for our beliefs, whatever the circumstances.

Compassion

We show humanity. We don't presume to know what happens in others' lives, and show up with an open heart, ready to support each other.

Meraki

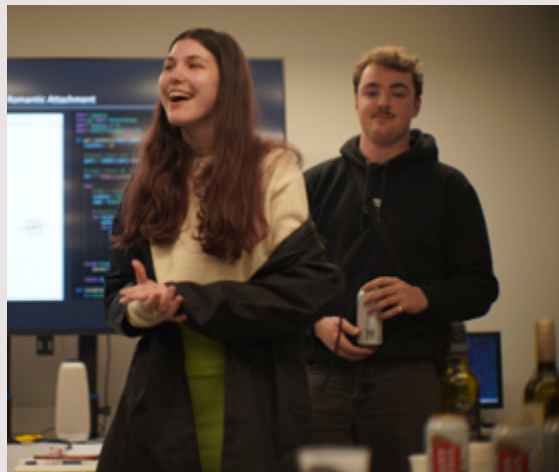
We put soul, creativity -and a part of ourselves- in all we do. This projects confidence, and helps to build a positive working environment, to attract and retain exceptional people.



“

LIS and the Master's program taught me valuable research methods, challenged my perception, granted me a series of mentors, and gave me a new pair of eyes. I now see things entirely differently.

JULIANA ECHAVARRIA
MSc Alumni



“

The world outside of LIS feels scary and dull by comparison - and I've only really been a student for a year! If I can learn in work 10% of what I've picked-up at LIS I think I will be doing well. Thank you everyone, and good luck all in taking ID to the masses! Onwards ... “

MARK GRIFFITHS
MSc Alumni

Get In Touch

If you have any questions or would like to book a call with one of the team or a visit to your school, then email hello@lis.ac.uk.

lis.ac.uk

t: 0203 409 1912

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LIS has been granted new degree-awarding powers for Level 7 (Taught Master's) awards by the Office for Students (OfS).

We continue to develop pathways subject to demand and our internal approval processes.

To see our Policies (including our Terms & Conditions) please visit the Policies page on our website:
lis.ac.uk/policies

Disclaimer

This brochure should be viewed in conjunction with other information sources such as the LIS website. Together they're intended as a broad and general guide for prospective postgraduate students.

LIS has sought to ensure that the information given in this brochure and on our website is correct, but we don't guarantee its accuracy and LIS doesn't accept any liability for omissions, errors, or changes.

There may be times where LIS needs to change the information in this brochure or on our website and we will update them when we do. Please revisit our website before making any decisions to ensure that you are viewing our most up-to-date information.

Importantly, nothing in this brochure should be construed as an offer by LIS. Any offer made by LIS will be subject to its own terms and they will be made clear to the applicant at the time. Neither this brochure nor our website creates a contract or other legally binding relationship between LIS and any third party.

If you have any questions that are not answered in this brochure or on our website, please get in touch through masters@lis.ac.uk.



**THE LONDON
INTERDISCIPLINARY
SCHOOL**

lis.ac.uk/masters

t: 0203 409 1912

e: masters@lis.ac.uk