

Course Specification

Published Date:	21-Sep-2020
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Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Wolverhampton School of Art		
Course Code(s):	AD012P01UV AD012P31UV	Full-time Part-time	12 Months 2 Years
Course Title:	MA by Research in Art & Design		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Arts by Research Art and Design		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	26/Jul/2017		
Last Review:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid from:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid to:	2021/2		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Dean Kelland
Head of Department:	Ms Margaret Ayliffe

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

Students will have a good degree in a relevant subject field. All applicants must submit an initial "Proposal for Study" upon which the learning contract can be agreed as a condition of admission.

Students whose first language is not English must have a qualification that is in line with the University *English Language Entry Requirements* policy. Listed here: -

<http://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/international-academy/courses-at-the-international-academy/language-entry-requirements/>

For students applying from Wales, Scotland, Ireland and the rest of Europe, we gladly accept equivalent qualifications.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The Fine Art Community provides support through theoretical and contextual lecture series, studio based seminar critique and individual tutorials. The ethos of the school is to provide students with the time and space to develop ideas and practice towards the final off-site MA exhibition; this includes the structure of personal research and the development of the critical and/or theoretical emphasis behind your work in order to understand the methodological framework of your working practice.

You will have time to reappraise and analyse previous work, develop new ideas in relation to your practice and it's theoretical underpinning then consolidate those ideas practically. Finally you will bring those ideas and your work to resolution and focus towards the MA exhibition. The course provides students with the knowledge, ambition and structure in order to proceed towards their future career ambitions.

As this course is taught by supervision, we are able to work flexibly with students to arrange tutorials around their work and family commitments. Also, in the absence of taught classes, it would be quite possible to conduct tutorials and exchange draft work and tutor feedback electronically, so there is considerable scope to study conveniently from home.

The Faculty of Arts at the University of Wolverhampton is home to published scholars and contemporary practitioners across the full range of its subject disciplines encompassing critical, creative, theoretical, pedagogic and philosophical approaches. We have a strong postgraduate community with opportunities to attend events and encounter students across the full range of disciplines within the Faculty of Arts including Studio and Digital Art, Theatre, Music and Performance. You will also be invited to attend all guest lectures, performances and field trips that constitute a vibrant student experience at the University.

Educational Aims of the Course:

As a student on this course you will have the opportunity to develop your artistic practice, supported by leading artists and researchers, whilst gaining the ability to work independently in order to think through complex problems, theoretical and contextual issues within your practice and methods for presenting practice to a regional, national and international audiences.

The course will provide you with the knowledge and key abilities and strategies to further your artistic career independently.

At the end of this course you, the student, will be able to demonstrate:

1. A systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline or field of study;
2. A comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship;
3. Originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in their discipline;
4. An ability to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in their discipline;
5. An ability to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

Intakes:

September
January

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time	£6400.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time	£13350.00
2020/1	H	Part Time	£3200.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

January (Full-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AD009	Portfolio by Research in Art and Design	180	CRYRA	Core

January (Part-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AD009	Portfolio by Research in Art and Design	180	CRYRA	Core

September (Full-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AD009	Portfolio by Research in Art and Design	180	CRYRA	Core

September (Part-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AD009	Portfolio by Research in Art and Design	180	CRYRA	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Section 1.2.8 and 1.3.1 Exemption to permit one,180 credit year-long Dissertation/Project module

Approved by Chairs Action 17/03/16 Ratified by AFRSC 05/04/2016

Effective Date: September 2016

Reference Points:

Quality Code - [Part A: Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards](#). Including :

[Qualifications Frameworks](#)

[Characteristics Statements](#)

[Credit Frameworks](#)

[QAA Subject Benchmarks - Master' Degree \(Art\) March 2010](#)

Quality Code - [Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality](#)

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

Equality Act (2010)

Learning Outcomes:

Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACLO1)

"Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables you to: • Critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline • Evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses."

Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACLO2)

"Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level with a critical understanding of the contextual, creative and research methodologies relevant to contemporary art practice."

Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3)

"Manage an appropriate level of independent studio and/or contextual practice and demonstrate the ability to reflect upon contemporary art practice; your own and others, and make appropriate and creative decisions in response."

Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4)

"Generate new ideas, take creative risks and produce works for presentation, demonstrating an understanding of presentational strategies and through a variety of professional and academic situations. Show originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in your discipline."

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
7AD009	Portfolio by Research in Art and Design	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

FHEQ states,

"Typically, holders of the [Masters] qualification will be able to:

- deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively,
- make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences
- demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level
- continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

And holders will have:

- the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:
- the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

To this end, students will negotiate and agree a series of staged tasks, relevant to their area of enquiry, leading

to a final assessed body of work that can be submitted in the form of a portfolio that contains practical outcomes and written case study or dissertation. These tasks may include, depending on the nature of the project:

- The authorship of a Learning Contract together with a schedule of activities;
- The development of research methodologies appropriate to their subject discipline;
- The gathering and critical analysis of research materials;
- The gathering of primary data and their analysis
- The submission of work in draft stages, followed by a process of editing and reworking;
- Engaging with a series of progress tutorials with the principal supervisor
- The submission of a completed portfolio edited to professional standards.
- A viva voce after submission of the portfolio

You will generally be assessed through project-based activities. Assessment is commensurate with the level and understanding expected at MA Level. This will be fully discussed during your supervisory tutorials and peer group sessions.

There are two types of assessment used on the course:

Formative assessment, which includes peer group critiques and tutorials that serve to guide, to encourage and to challenge. Advice is focussed around agreed areas of good practice and identified areas for improvement, which will serve to support you in an agreed developmental strategy.

Summative assessment normally involves a student portfolio submissions being formally assessed against learning outcomes. In contextual submissions you will be assessed through Dissertations and presentations. You will receive written and, in most cases, verbal feedback after every summative assessment.

Course Specific Assessment:

1. Practical Submissions (Practice Portfolio and Written Case Study)

Practical submissions include a portfolio of practical outcomes with a written case study that illustrates the development, processes and research involved in the production of the practical outcomes.

You will be expected to demonstrate advanced levels of:

- Production of artwork(s) through the selection of appropriate materials, techniques and methodologies.
- Research and contextualisation in terms of your ability to independently locate appropriate research and external points of reference to extend your experience and study.
- Reflection in terms of your ability to evaluate a project, consider your role in its success or failure and action plan for the future.
- Presentational Strategies in terms of developing an increasing awareness of the contexts and audiences for your creative practice and an ability to present your work and documentation appropriately.
- Practice submissions will include written assessments in the form of a Case Study an aspect of which will be presented to your peer group. This part of the submission will follow School assessment guidelines for word count.

2. Contextual Submissions (Dissertation)

Contextual submissions include a dissertation that addresses research into a selected area of creative practice.

You will be expected to demonstrate advanced levels of:

- Formulate and manage an advanced independent approach to your research and be able to personally rationalise different concepts and ideas in order to develop research into key contemporary theoretical issues in relation to art practice.
- Develop and articulate a sophisticated understanding and knowledge of key contemporary theoretical issues in relation to art practice.
- Research and contextualisation in terms of your ability to independently locate appropriate research and external points of reference to extend your experience and study.

- Contextual submissions will include written analysis in the form of a Dissertation an aspect of which will be presented to your peer group. This submission will follow School assessment guidelines for word count.

In MA Art & Design by Research you will be expected to develop an increasing depth of knowledge of the theoretical frameworks and contexts that underpin your own research and/or practice and an advanced understanding of key concepts and practices that characterise the diverse nature of contemporary art practice.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

Academic study skills are supported in the application of study skills to significant work-related and career-related activities in professional projects. You will benefit from support and guidance offered by the subject Course Leader and also from specific module leaders where appropriate. The University provides guidance through the website (www.wlv.ac.uk/skills).

Reflective personal development practices are encouraged throughout the duration of the course, which will help you to monitor your progression.

Tutorials, workshops, seminars and meetings - provide the primary opportunities for students to interact with staff on topics relating to modules. All modules provide at least one of these forms of face-to-face support.

Feedback - tutors provide personalised written feedback following all summative assessments. The mechanism for feedback from purely formative tasks varies between assessments, but will always be provided in some form. On occasions tutors may provide generalised verbal feedback to the whole group on points relating to an assessment.

Employability in the Curriculum:

The course will provide you with the knowledge and key abilities and strategies to further your artistic career independently

