

Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Wolverhampton School of Art		
Course Code(s):	FP002P01UV FP002P34UV	Full-time Part-time Day and Evening	12 Months 2 Years
Course Title:	MA Fine Art		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Arts Fine Art Postgraduate Diploma Fine Art Postgraduate Certificate Fine Art University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	11/Sep/2017		
Last Review:	2013/4		
Course Specification valid from:	2010/1		
Course Specification valid to:	2019/0		

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 honours degree in a relevant subject field and a good standard of written and spoken English (IELTS 6.0 or equivalent).

Students are also encouraged to apply with a significant professional experience in a relevant subject.

Students with a 2:2 class honours degree in a relevant subject: you would be registered a prescribed Postgraduate Diploma; successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma will provide progress to the full Masters course.

All offers to applicants are subject to an interview and portfolio review.

For students applying from Wales, Scotland, Ireland, European and international locations, we gladly accept equivalent qualifications.

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/>

Distinctive Features of the Course:

MA Fine Art is a diverse and vibrant course in the Wolverhampton School of Art. It embraces a wide range of specialist media and creative practices including (but not limited to): - Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking, Performance, Film, Video, Conceptual and Social Practices, Digital Media and Installation.

The course is taught by practicing artists with strong research profiles and highly specific subject knowledge across the broad range of contemporary Fine Art Practice.

A programme of practice led research modules will enable you to develop an in depth knowledge of the history, concepts and ideas aligned to your art practice.

A programme of studio practice tutorials and group critique sessions with assigned tutors will enable focussed development and support your art practice.

Contextual lectures around practice methodologies and post-2000 theories, movements and concepts will enable you to develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of contemporary debates around fine art practice and inform your own studio practice accordingly.

Exhibition and study visits provide an exciting opportunity for you to engage with a wide range of contemporary fine art practice from around the world.

Specialist facilities and workshops enable you to develop a range of technical skills and produce work to a high professional standard.

Off-site projects regularly encourage students to present their artwork and knowledge in a variety of professional situations. The MA Fine Art team retain strong links with regional and internationally recognized galleries and you will find yourself part of a much wider community of artists emanating from the University.

Visiting artists, arts professionals and curators provide context, advice and industry experience.

A series of research methods workshops during your time on the MA Fine Art will help to facilitate those students with ambitions of proceeding with further academic research.

The Postgraduate Fine Art courses at The University of Wolverhampton are intensive practice-led studio programmes, supported by technical workshops, theoretical lecture programmes and seminar critique. A wide range of study visits and opportunities to promote and exhibit your work throughout the course will also be provided.

Educational Aims of the Course:

MA Fine Art

The course aims to: -

- Provide you with exciting and diverse opportunities to advance and develop your fine art practice, contextual awareness and theoretical knowledge/understanding within a supportive and creative environment.
- Support you to acquire advanced specialist knowledge and practical experience of working with different contemporary fine art media and its conceptual and theoretical relevance, and importance, including (but not limited to) painting, sculpture, printmaking, performance, film, video, photography, conceptual and social practices, digital media and installation.
- Enable you to develop an advanced level of fine art practice informed directly by a relevant theoretical and contextual framework and independently critically evaluate developments within your individual working practice.
- Produce informed independent fine art practitioners who can adapt their knowledge, understanding and skillset to a variety of professional contexts and enable you to gain advanced knowledge of presentational strategies within contemporary fine art.
- Build advanced strategies for research through an in-depth exploration of different contemporary methodologies.

(Year 1 Semester 1 FT – Year 1 Semester 1 & 2 PT)

Reappraisal / Risk / Experimentation

The ethos behind the MA Fine Art Programme is to continually support and assist your personal development as a contemporary fine art practitioner. The first trimester of the programme allows you to reappraise and investigate your practice through methodologies such as risk and chance in order to challenge existing practice strategies in order to instigate new methods, research ideas and concepts within your work.

Course Code 7FP013 – EXPERIMENTAL PROCESSES IN FINE ART

Course Code 7VA003 - CREATIVE METHODOLOGIES

(Year 1 Semester 2 FT – Year 1 Semester 2&3 / Year 2 Semester 1 PT)

Direction / Dialogue / Development

The second trimester of the course focusses, through your studio practice, upon your personal contextual and presentational development and offers the time and space to make significant decisions around the contextual framework, direction and conceptual approaches that underpin your developing practice in relationship to the revised thinking generated through completion of the first two modules.

Course Code 7FP014 – DEVELOPMENTAL PROCESSES IN FINE ART

Course Code 7FP016 – CONTEMPORARY CONTEXTS IN FINE ART

(Year 1 Semester 3 FT – Year 2 Semester 2&3 PT)

Consolidation / Display / Realisation

The third trimester within the MA Fine Art programme ascertains the specific postgraduate nature of your working practice and will provide the time and space to resolve practically and/or theoretically the ideas, concepts and techniques that you will have developed at this stage within your fine art studio practice. You will work independently to rationalise your personal methodological strategies in relation to your work. You will also liaise with industry professionals to gain professional/vocational experience during this trimester as well as resolve concerns and developments within your practice in preparation for the final masters exhibition.

Course Code 7FP015 – REALISATION IN FINE ART PRACTICE

Intakes:

September

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
2021/2	H	Full Time	£6550.00
2021/2	Overseas	Full Time	£13950.00
2021/2	H	31	£3275.00
2022/3	H	Full Time	£7995.00
2022/3	Overseas	Full Time	£14450.00
2022/3	H	31	£3998.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7FP016	Contemporary Contexts in Fine Art	20	SEM2	Core
7FP014	Developmental Processes in Fine Art	40	SEM2	Core
7FP013	Experimental Processes in Fine Art	40	SEM1	Core
7VA003	Creative Methodologies in Context	20	SEM1	Core
7FP015	Realisation in Fine Art Practice	60	SEM3	Core

September (Part-time Day and Evening)

Part time Masters students normally study a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 120 credits.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7FP016	Contemporary Contexts in Fine Art	20	SEM2	Core
7VA003	Creative Methodologies in Context	20	SEM1	Core
7FP013	Experimental Processes in Fine Art	40	YEAR	Core
7FP014	Developmental Processes in Fine Art	40	CRYRA	Core

Continuing students will follow the programme indicated below:

September (Part-time Day and Evening)

Part time Masters students normally study a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 120 credits.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7FP008	Master's Project in Fine Art	60	CRYRA	Core
7FP006	Theory and Contemporary Practice	20	IN YR	Core
7FP010	Studio Contexts	40	CRYRA	Core
7FP009	Creative Approaches to Fine Art Practice	40	IN YR	Core
7FP007	Studio Practice and its Methodologies	20	IN YR	Core

September (Part-time Day and Evening)

Part time Masters students normally study a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 120 credits.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7FP015	Realisation in Fine Art Practice	60	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:

Not applicable

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act (2010)

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

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Learning Outcomes	Modules
<p>PGCert Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGCCLO1) "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 the student: 1. to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. 2.to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses."</p>	
<p>PGCert Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGCCLO2) "Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level."</p>	
<p>PGCert Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGCCLO3) "Demonstrate 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 the discipline."</p>	
<p>PGCert Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGCCLO4) "Ability to</p>	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
<p>deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences."</p>	
<p>PGCert Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGCCLO5) "Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level."</p>	
<p>PGCert Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGCCLO6) Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: 1. the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility 2. decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations 3. the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.</p>	
<p>PGDip Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGDCLO1) "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 the student: 1. to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline 2. to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses."</p>	
<p>PGDip Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGDCLO2) "Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level."</p>	
<p>PGDip Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGDCLO3) "Demonstrate 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 the discipline."</p>	
<p>PGDip Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGDCLO4) "Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences."</p>	
<p>PGDip Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGDCLO5) "Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level."</p>	
<p>PGDip Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGDCLO6) Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: 1. the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility 2. decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations 3. the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.</p>	
<p>Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACLO1) Manage an appropriate level of independent studio practice and demonstrate the ability to reflect upon</p>	
<p>Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACLO2) "Generate new ideas, take creative risks and produce art works for presentation and exhibition, demonstrating an understanding"</p>	
<p>Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3) "Demonstrate a critical understanding of the contextual,</p>	

Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4) Evidence and utilise a reflective approach to their learning and creative practice in order

Masters Course Learning Outcome 5 (MACLO5) "Work professionally with due regard for health and safety, legal and ethical "

Masters Course Learning Outcome 6 (MACLO6) Plan and Execute a body of work that demonstrates your ability to work at

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

The course is designed with the University of Wolverhampton Inclusive Framework in mind. The course ensures that all students have an equal opportunity to learn and succeed. The design of assessments is subject to internal scrutiny ensuring fairness in assessment for all students.

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 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/public exhibitions 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

Course Code 7FP013: Experimental Processes in Fine Art Practice (Formative/Summative)

Course Code 7FP014: Developmental Processes in Fine Art Practice (Formative/Summative)

Course Code 7FP015: Realisation in Fine Art Practice (Formative/Summative)

Practical submissions include a portfolio of practical outcomes with a written reflective overview that articulates 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 Reflective Overview of Practice 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)

Course Code 7VA003: Creative Methodologies in Context (Formative/Summative)

Course Code 7FP016: Contemporary Contexts in Fine Art (Formative/Summative)

Contextual submissions include a dissertation and case study 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 and Case Study an aspect of which will be presented to your peer group. This submission will follow School assessment guidelines for word count.

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:

General University support:

University Learning Centres are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. Learning Centres also provide access to wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases. Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the Skills for Learning programme. Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills.

The University also has a host of other services to support you, please take a look at the Student Support website: www.wlv.ac.uk/current-students/student-support/. If you have any questions, need help or advice then ASK@WLV is there for you: www.wlv.ac.uk/current-students/askwlv/.

Employability in the Curriculum:

Employment opportunities include:

- Self-employment as a Fine Artist
- Employment in education, public sector or the creative industries inc. curatorial appointments, gallery and public art venues,
- Advancement in current employment: education, public sector or the creative industries

On graduation the student will be equipped with 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. The QAA – (FHEQ), framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland – January 2001

The Wolverhampton School of Art has its own Workplace, which promotes student enterprise and enhances their employability. The Workplace assists students in securing work placements, undertaking live briefs, engaging directly with employers and developing key employability skills. The Wolverhampton School of Art is committed to raising student awareness of the opportunities that exist post graduation, and the Workplace is now recognised as the interface between education and industry within the region.

This course will give you the necessary skills to pursue the huge range of exciting career opportunities associated with contemporary Fine Art Practice.

For many MA Fine Art graduates the ultimate ambition is to become a successful artist, showing work and taking part in exhibitions and events. The MA Fine Art course is designed to support students in achieving this goal and indeed, MA Fine Art graduates from the University of Wolverhampton are now exhibiting nationally and internationally on a regular basis.

The MA Fine Art course also aims to support and develop students' vocational awareness and provides opportunities for educational placements and professional practice. As a result a number of students each year successfully apply to postgraduate teaching courses and many The Wolverhampton School of Art graduates are now teaching in the regions' schools and colleges. MA Fine Art graduates are also working in museums and galleries as curators, educationalists, workshop facilitators, archivists and technicians.

The MA Fine Art programme also supports students with the ambition of going forward to further academic study and research degrees, with a number of students successfully undertaking their PhD's (research projects) within the University of Wolverhampton and other institutions nationally. The MA in Fine Art supports this development through additional Research Methods training workshops, which will help to develop your understanding of research, and support you to commence writing proposals for future research study.

An MA in Fine Art will help to develop your entrepreneurial and organisational skills and many graduates go on to open and run their own businesses.

In addition, the MA Fine Art course aims to introduce students to less conventional approaches to building careers in the cultural industries and many of our graduates are actively involved in artist led projects for example curatorial cooperatives, independent galleries and studio groups which are now widely acknowledged to contribute to urban regeneration and economic revival. To support this career trajectory MA Fine Art students develop a vast range of transferable skills which include entrepreneurial, project management and marketing experience, the ability to initiate, reflect and problem solve in a range of situations and the presentation skills appropriate to working in professional and academic life.

