

**BA Art and History of Art  
For students entering Part 1 in 2006**

BA Art & History of Art 1  
**UCAS code: VW31/EV13**

Awarding Institution: The University of Reading  
Teaching Institution: The University of Reading  
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):  
Faculty of Arts and Humanities Programme length: 4 years  
Date of specification: Dec 2006  
Programme Director: Terry Edmond  
Programme Adviser: Dr S Malvern  
Board of Studies: Joint Course Liaison Officer from Art & History of Art  
Accreditation: University of Reading

**Summary of programme aims**

The programme aims to give a thorough and broad based training in Art and the History of Art, and gives students opportunity to explore areas of overlap between Art and History of Art.

In Art, the course is arranged to provide a basis for practice as an artist. Students are encouraged to develop a habit of study embracing all the technical resources of the Department which will lead them to take an increasing level of responsibility for their individual programme.

The History of Art syllabus aims to provide a framework for examining changing categories of art, architecture and visual artefacts in different places and times. It will develop advanced skills in analysing visual culture and embed the examination of its production and reception within diverse cultural and social contexts. It will foster a critical understanding of the relationship between contemporary conceptions of art, architecture, visual artefacts and culture, and those held elsewhere in other periods, promoting a conception of history of art as a dynamic discipline encompassing divergent, sometimes conflicting, approaches and views.

**Transferable skills**

The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to enhance their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

Within the Art programme students will develop visual awareness and dexterity. They will extend their abilities in visual, oral and written communication including the use of presentational aids. Students will learn to set their own goals, identify and independently pursue their aims. Students will develop research skills including the ability to locate and assemble visual and written material, they will engage in evaluative analysis of visual and critical sources. They will acquire basic knowledge of a range of materials, tools, machinery and technological skills. Students will extend their experience of working to a brief, meeting deadlines, planning, team working, problem solving and career management.

In the History of Art and Architecture programme, students will develop advanced skills in visual analysis, learning how to recognize visual sources and communicate their qualities in oral and written forms. They will be able to articulate and substantiate independent points of view, based on evaluating evidence and using reasoned arguments. They will learn how to organize their own work schedule, to become self-motivating and to take independent initiatives to develop their studies. They will understand ways of improving learning and performance, by identifying personal strengths and weaknesses, be skilled at time management, and have developed strategies

for working within a team and alongside their peers. The programme will include opportunities to develop skills at making oral presentations, to use visual sources in support of an argument and to deploy IT, with a particular emphasis on visual images.

### **Programme content**

The profile which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part), together with one or more lists of modules from which the student must make a selection (the option modules). Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser, to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of modules credit for and the level of each module is shown in brackets after its title.

Each Part comprises 120 credits. In Part 1 the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules elsewhere in the University.

In Art, Part 1 introduces the range of contemporary art practice and a guided introduction to the development of a personal practice across media. Part 2 provides students with the opportunity to identify and investigate particular (individual) interests and concerns through practical engagement in their own studio spaces and to relate their studio work to relevant contemporary issues through the Study Visit abroad, seminars and lecture programmes. Of the 120 credits in Part 2, five are taken up by Career Management Skills. Part 2I provides the opportunity to build on the intellectual and technical skills of the second year through increasingly independent development of work in the studio and through an exploration of the discourse surrounding contemporary art and culture. Part 3H encourages the focused development of an individual body of work in the studio and the location of studio practice in relation to contemporary art and culture.

Part 1 History of Art and Architecture provides different introductions to aspects of the study of history of art and architecture. A compulsory core module introduces students to art historical skills, categories and methods. Other optional modules allow students to orientate themselves in different ways in relationship to the subject - through the study and critique of a canon of western art, or in terms of art as part of the history of visual artefacts and their makers. In Part 2, through a compulsory core module, students engage with material on the historiography of history of art and its objects of study, directly extending the work of Part 1. Optional modules in selected periods, approaches and distinctive media each provide a focus on broad aspects of visual culture. Of the 120 credits in Part 2, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills. In Part 2I, students select one optional module, involving more intensive and specialised study, and introducing areas of innovation and scholarship both within the discipline and in its interdisciplinary aspects. A compulsory module held at a study centre abroad allows works of art and architecture to be studied at first hand and as part of a specific cultural and social formation.

Independent research is pursued through a dissertation on a topic chosen in consultation with a dissertation supervisor, and carried out in Part 3H.

### **Part 1 (three terms)**

*Credits Level*

#### **In the Art Department**

##### *Compulsory modules*

FA1MP	<i>Multimedia and Painting</i>	40	C
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##### *Optional modules: 20 credits from:*

FA1CS	<i>Contextual Lecture</i>	20	C
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			BA Art & History of Art 3
FA1SP	<i>Skills &amp; Processes</i>	20	C
	<i>Any other 20-credit module available in the Faculty</i>	20	C
<b><u>In the History of Art Department</u></b>		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<i>Compulsory module (20 credits)</i>			
HA1AB	<i>History of Art and Architecture Workshop</i>	20	C
<i>Optional modules</i>			
<i>At least 20 credits to be made up from the following:</i>			
HA1AA	<i>Art's Histories: a survey</i>	20	C
HA1AC	<i>Makers and making: artist, architects and their practices</i>	20	C
<b>Part 2 (Year 2)</b>		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<b><u>In the Art Department</u></b>			
<i>Compulsory modules</i>			
FA2S2	<i>Studio including Career Management Skills</i>	40	I
FA2CS	<i>Contextual Lecture</i>	20	I
<b><u>In the History of Art Department</u></b>			
<i>Compulsory modules</i>			<b>20 credits</b>
HA2DD	<i>Distance and difference: perspectives on art, architecture and visual culture</i>	20	I
<i>Optional modules:</i>			<b>40 credits</b>
A complete list of options is available from the BA Programme Coordinator, and a list of current options can be found in the BA Programme Handbook			
<b>Part 2I (Year 3)</b>		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<b><u>In the Art Department</u></b>			
<i>Compulsory modules</i>			
FA2IS2	<i>Studio</i>	40	I
FA2ICS	<i>Contextual Lecture</i>	20	I
FA3HRS	<i>Contextual Seminar</i>	20	H
<b><u>In the History of Art Department</u></b>			
<i>Compulsory module</i>			
HA3ST	<i>Study Trip abroad</i>	20	H
<i>Optional module:</i>			<b>20 credits</b>
A complete list of options is available from the BA Programme Coordinator, and a list of current options can be found in the BA Programme Handbook			

**Part 3H (Year 4)****In the Art Department**

<i>Compulsory modules:</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FA3HS2 <i>Studio</i>	80	H

**In the History of Art Department**

<i>Compulsory Module</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
HA4DI <i>Dissertation</i>	40	H

**Progression requirements**

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students must:

- (a) obtain a mark of at least 40% in each of the modules in Art;
- (b) achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;
- (c) achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

**Part 2/2I**

Whether a student can progress to Art and History of Art at Part 2 or 2I from an earlier stage depends primarily on their performance in the Art and History of Art module examinations in the previous Part.

In Art candidates must:

Obtain a mark of at least 40% in each of the modules.

In History of Art it is sufficient to:

- (a) Obtain an overall average of at least 40% in the modules examined.
- (b) Achieve not less than 30% in any modules except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

**Summary of teaching and assessment**

In Art, at Part 1 teaching is by workshops, tutorials, seminars, lectures and visits to museums and galleries. At Parts 2, 2I and 3H teaching is by tutorials, seminars and lectures. Technical assistance and instruction occurs appropriately at the students request. A study trip abroad takes place in Part 2 and directed visits to museums and galleries take place throughout the programme.

In Part 1 Compulsory module FA1MP, formative assessment takes place at presentations of work when students receive written/verbal feedback. The Part 1 assessment takes place at the end of the module and is by examination in the form of a display of coursework. Part 1 optional modules are assessed by coursework. In Parts 2 and 2I studio modules there are two types of assessment, an Interim and a Part assessment. Interim Assessments are formative and take place mid-module where a diagnostic mark is achieved. The Part Assessment occurs at the end of the module, the results contributing to the Final Degree classification. At Part 3H assessment is by examination in the form of an exhibition. In all studio modules assessment is by coursework

selected and presented by the student. Contextual Seminar, Contextual Lectures are assessed by coursework. Full details are given in module descriptions.

In the History of Art, at Part 1 teaching is by lectures and seminars. Assessment is by a mixture of coursework and timed examination. At Parts 2 and 2I, teaching is principally by seminar. Assessment is by a mixture of coursework and timed examination. The dissertation is supervised in a series of tutorials with an individual supervisor and is assessed only as coursework.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but you should note that weightings in Art for Part 2, Part 2I and Part 3H for classification purposes are:- Part 2 10% (Studio), Part 2I 20% (10% Studio, 10% Contextual Seminar), Part 3H 70% studio. The Part 2I assessment takes place during the summer term. Due consideration will be given to the timing of and expectations at this assessment point in respect to the students commitment to final examinations in the other subject.

### **Admission requirements**

Applications from mature and international students are welcome. We recommend you contact our Admissions Tutor or departmental secretary to discuss your individual circumstances and/or arrange a visit to the department. All home students are interviewed with their portfolio of practical work.

Standard offer:

UCAS tariff Minimum 260 points for 3 A levels, 280 points for 3 A levels plus 1 AS level  
Subjects normally grade B or above will be required in an Art or Art History A level.

International Baccalaureate 30 points

Irish Highers BBBBC

Admissions Tutor: Professor Stephen Buckley

### **Support for students and their learning**

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@IL) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union.

Support for students in their studies is provided through the University's Personal Academic Record Scheme (PARS), in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review their progress.

There are Programme Advisers to offer advice on the choice of modules within the programme.

In Art at Part 1 a studio space is shared. In Parts 2, 2I and 3H individual studio space is provided for every student. In addition, several bookable spaces are available for installation and time based work. There are sculpture, wood and print workshops, two darkrooms with equipment for black and white processing and there are in-house computer resources. The department is equipped for digital, video and Super 8 film and editing. There are directed visits to museums and galleries and a study trip abroad that takes place in Part 2.

Within the History of Art, additional support is provided through a subject-specific reading room containing essential course texts, reference works, some current periodicals and photocopying facilities. There is also a slide library containing slides from all periods of art and architecture history which students will consult as part of their studies. It includes resources in video tapes and computers and in digital imaging and elearning such as BlackBoard. First hand study of works of art is provided through particular classes taught in museums, art galleries or on architectural visits and by a period of study at a centre abroad as well as through the department's own collections, mainly of drawings. Each student is assigned a Course Adviser, normally their personal tutor, to advise on their choice of modules within the programme, supported by a comprehensive Programme Handbook issued to each student individually which includes extensive advice on study skills. Support for students in their studies is provided through the University's Personal Academic Record (PAR) Scheme, in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review their progress.

### **Career prospects**

In addition to working as artists, graduates with an Art component to their degree, have found employment in theatre, television, community services, art therapy, art writing, journalism, publishing, post production, curating, gallery and museum administration, and even popular music. A number of students proceed to postgraduate study, or teacher training.

A number of specialised careers are open to History of Art graduates, such as jobs in Museums, auction houses, and increasingly the heritage and leisure industries. Their visual skills also make them attractive to the advertising industry. In addition the skills which History of Art graduates acquire, such as analytical abilities, problem solving, research skills, independence and adaptability, mean they are sought after for jobs in a wide range of fields, including publishing, teaching, social work, accountancy, personnel, banking and commerce, retailing, marketing, IT, civil service and local government. A number of students go on to post-graduate study in History of Art, both at MA and PhD level, both at Reading and elsewhere.

### **Opportunities for study abroad or for placements**

There are study visits abroad in Part 2. There are opportunities to study in North America under the student exchange scheme at Rutgers University and Ottawa University and an Erasmus exchange with L'Ecole des Beaux Arts, Dijon. Individual student interest in work experience and public exhibition of work is supported through staff advice and contacts.

### **Educational aims of the programme**

The programme aims to:

- provide the practical and intellectual framework for each student to develop a personal visual practice.
- encourage the development of creative and practical skills.
- promote a questioning attitude to their own work
- develop students' confidence in their ability to learn effectively both independently and in co-operation with others
- provide the opportunity to identify and examine relevant critical debates
- make connections between students' own work and critical discourses
- facilitate the acquisition of knowledge, experience and attitudes necessary for students' professional development as artists, lifelong learning and the diversity of employment opportunities

**Programme Outcomes**

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

***Knowledge and Understanding***

**In Art**

**A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

1. relevant practical processes
2. the technical language of the subject.
3. the necessary negotiation between intention and realisation of works of art
4. key issues and artists, movements and current urgencies relevant to their own practice

**In Art**

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

I and 2 -In Part 1 all students engage in both painting and sculpture / media. There are optional introductory modules in skills and processes and contextual lectures which introduce students to processes and vocabulary of the subject. Work is directed through tutorials and group tutorials. Specialist knowledge and deeper understanding is fostered in Part 2, 2I, and 3H where studio teaching and oral feedback is through tutorials, studio seminars, presentations and technical demonstration and exemplified in contextual seminars contextual lectures and talks by visiting artists. 3.- is exemplified in talks by visiting artists and through lectures. It is developed in students own practice through tutorials and studio seminars. 4.- is of particular focus in contextual seminars fostered through guided selection of subject for research and independent study.

*Assessment*

At Part 1 knowledge is examined through a display of studio-work with an accompanying statement /notebook in the students absence and in contextual lectures through coursework. In parts 2 and 2I knowledge is tested through individual displays of studio work together with a written statement and dialogue with tutors. Contextual seminars and contextual lectures are assessed through coursework.

**Knowledge and Understanding****In History of Art****A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

- (a) a broad range of art, architecture and visual culture from the Middle Ages to the present day both in the West and in comparison to selected cultures in other times and places.
- (b) specialist knowledge of certain chosen periods and issues in art history.
- (c) key issues and current priorities in art and architectural history including conflicting interpretations and specific methods of analysis germane to the historiography of the subject.
- (d) advanced abilities to interpret visual artefacts, their function and meaning.
- (e) technical language of the subject.

**In History of Art****Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Basic knowledge is provided through formal lectures in Part 1, supported by set tasks for practising the elementary analysis of visual artefacts. Feedback is initially through tutorials, seminars and through formative assessed work where assessment is for guidance only and does not contribute to the final mark. Specialist knowledge and deeper understanding is fostered in the guided selection of period options at Part 2, where the teaching is seminar and discussion based. Feedback is provided through written responses to seminar participation and in formative assessed work. In later parts of the programme, and beginning at Part 2, students will take increasing responsibility for their own learning, fostered through the guided selection of increasingly specialised options and independent study, including a dissertation. Feedback is provided through tutorials and written reports on seminar presentations.

*Assessment*

Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and unseen formal examinations. A dissertation and oral presentation also contribute.



*Skills and other attributes***In Art****B. Intellectual skills – able to:**

1. analyse the visual world
2. engage in creative and speculative propositions
3. initiate, evaluate and progress intentions
4. convey ideas through visual and written means and resources
5. plan, organise and present an independent enquiry

**In Art****Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

1. - Is exemplified through lectures, seminars, tutorials and studio seminars throughout the programme and the Part 2 compulsory study visit abroad. 2. - Lectures and seminars explore examples of creative and speculative thought, this is also an intrinsic part of all tutorials and studio seminars. 3.- Tutorials in Parts 1 and 2 focus on the initiation and progression of work, in Parts 2I and 3H the emphasis is upon the evaluation and progression of intentions. Lectures by visiting artists exemplify differing approaches. 4.- Tutorials and studio seminars explore the clarity of ideas in students' work throughout the programme. Documentary presentations of work in Part 3H extend abilities in oral presentation and the use of presentational aids. Written skills are developed through studio statements, contextual seminars and contextual lectures, including use of the internet and the library. 5.- Is emphasised throughout the programme in tutorials and particularly in Part 3H through the final exhibition.

*Assessment*

1, 2, 3 and 4 are constantly assessed in all parts of the programme through coursework, 5.- is particularly emphasised in Part 3H through the Final exhibition.

*Skills and other attributes***In History of Art****B. Intellectual skills – able to:**

1. analyse and interpret visual artefacts.
2. use visual resources as evidence.
3. plan, organise and write a coherent argument.
4. transfer appropriate skills and methods from one topic within the subject to another.
5. plan, organise and conduct an independent enquiry.

**In History of Art****Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

How to analyse and interpret visual artefacts is constantly exemplified in formal lectures and in seminars from the start of Part 1. Lectures and seminars will also demonstrate how to use visual evidence in the construction of arguments and students will develop advanced skills in this through seminar presentations and coursework tasks. Such skills are additionally fostered through opportunities to study visual artefacts at first hand including in the compulsory module involving study abroad. The ability to transfer knowledge from one area of the programme to another is evidence of high level performance. The ability to organise and structure arguments is emphasised throughout but particularly in compulsory modules and through modules in independent study and the dissertation.

*Assessment*

1-3 are constantly assessed in all parts of the programme including coursework and unseen examinations which also include compulsory questions analysing visual artefacts. 4 and 5 are particularly assessed in compulsory modules in independent study and the dissertation.

**In Art**

**C. Practical skills – able to:**

1. Learn and work within practical processes with due regard to health and safety implications
2. Judge appropriate media and materials for the task and develop skills through practice and research
3. Have basic knowledge relating to a range of tools, materials, processes and common IT skills.
4. Identify and locate relevant resources e.g. galleries, texts, internet sites.

**In Art**

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

1.- Is introduced through technical demonstration and tutorials in Part 1 then developed through increasingly independent work in the rest of the programme. 2.- Through technical demonstration, tutorials, studio seminars, lectures by visiting artists and first hand study of works of art and the Part 2 study visit abroad. 3.- Through induction to workshops in Part 1 and technical demonstration throughout the programme. IT skills developed through technical demonstration, the contextual seminars and contextual lectures and in the Part 3H documentary presentation. 4.- Through tutorials, Part 2 study visit abroad, contextual seminar and contextual lectures.

*Assessment*

Basic knowledge relating to a range of tools, materials and processes is explicitly assessed in Part 1 ‘Skills and Processes’, 1-3 are assessed constantly throughout the programme through presentation of studio work. IT skills are not explicitly assessed but are necessary for the successful completion of the course particularly in contextual seminars, contextual lectures and career management.

**In History of Art**

**C. Practical skills – able to:**

1. identify, locate and record visual sources.
2. memorise and be able to recall key features of different visual resources.
3. identify, find and organise written sources.
4. identify appropriate resources including the internet for the study of works of art.

**In History of Art**

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Identifying visual artefacts and sources is taught from Part 1, including assessed tasks which test the student’s ability to find and select appropriate visual evidence for analysis and comparison. Such skills are additionally fostered in Part 2 where greater emphasis is placed on increasingly complex and sophisticated analyses, including the ability to recall and use visual and other data from often disparate and widely separated sources and locations. 3 and 4 are taught throughout the course but particularly emphasised in the independent study tasks in Part 2 and dissertation in Part 3.

*Assessment*

1-3 are assessed in all coursework, including oral presentations, and written examinations and 4 is assessed in independent study tasks

**In Art**

**D. Transferable skills – able to:**

1. Work with visual awareness and dexterity.
2. Engage in creative and speculative propositions.
3. Initiate, evaluate and progress work independently.
4. Give oral and visual presentations.
5. Use a range of tools and machinery.
6. Use IT (word processing and the internet).
7. Work as a part of a team.
8. Manage time effectively and meet deadlines
9. Plan their career.

**In Art**

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

1 and 5 are embedded throughout the programme, introduced through both compulsory and optional modules in Part 1 then extended through tutorials, studio seminars and technical demonstration in Parts 2, 2I, and 3H. 2. and 3.- Embedded throughout the course through tutorials, studio seminars, contextual seminars and contextual lectures and in the documentary presentation as students take increasing responsibility for their own learning. 4. - Embedded throughout the programme, of particular focus in Part 2 and Part 3 presentations, in Part 3H documentary presentations and Final exhibition, exemplified through contextual lectures and visiting lecturers. 6. - Use of word processing and the internet is embedded in contextual seminars and contextual lectures. 7. - Plays a key role in Part 2 on the compulsory study visit abroad and in Part 3H in planning and preparation for final exhibitions. 8.- Time management is essential for the effective completion of the programme. 9. - Career planning is introduced in Part 2, emphasised in Part 2I and of particular focus in Part 3H.

*Assessment*

1-3 are assessed throughout in coursework. 4.- Visual presentations are assessed throughout the programme, oral presentations are assessed in Parts 2 and 2I, documentary presentations in Part 3H are not explicitly assessed. 5.- Assessed in Part 1 optional module 'Skills and Processes', in Parts 2, 2I, and 3H this is not assessed directly but effective use of appropriate equipment will enhance performance. 6, 7 and 8 are not assessed directly but their effective use will enhance performance. 9.- Is assessed in Part 2.

**In History of Art**

**D. Transferable skills – able to:**

- 1 use IT (word processing, and the internet)
- 2 evaluate evidence and use reasoned arguments.
- 3 describe evidence from visual sources in oral and written forms
- 4 give oral presentations
- 5 work as part of a team
- 6 use library and internet resources
- 7 manage their time
- 8 plan their career.

**In History of Art**

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

The use of IT is embedded throughout the programme. 2 and 3 are essential to success in all parts of the programme. 4 and 5 are increasingly emphasised in Part 2 and play a key role in Part 3, and 5 is a key skill in the compulsory module *Study Trip Abroad*. Career planning is emphasised in Part 2. Library and internet skills are required in the independent study module in Part 2 and the dissertation in level 3. Time management is essential for the effective completion of the programme.

*Assessment*

2 and 3 are assessed throughout in coursework and examinations. 4 is assessed in Part 3 and 6 in Part 2 and 3. The other skills are not assessed directly but their effective use will enhance performance in later modules.

**Please note - This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the module description and in the programme handbook. The University reserves the right to modify this specification in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance processes or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.**