

BA Fine Art
For students entering Part 1 in 2006

UCAS code: W101 (Route A)
E101 (Route B)

Awarding Institution:
Teaching Institution:
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):
Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Date of specification: Sept.2006
Programme Director: Professor Stephen Buckley
Programme Adviser: Terry Edmond
Board of Studies: Fine Art
Accreditation: The University of Reading

The University of Reading
The University of Reading
Art and Design
Programme length: 3 years

Summary of programme aims

The programme aims to provide a framework, both practical and intellectual, for the development of a personal practice in Art with particular reference to students who have completed a Foundation Course in Art & Design.

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 Fine 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 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 art, meeting deadlines, planning, team working, problem solving and career management.

Programme content

The profile which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part), (together with optional Fine Art modules for Part 1). Part 1 students must choose which additional modules they wish to take from within the department and the faculty to make 120 credits in Part 1. The number of credits for each module is shown after its title.

Part 1 provides students with the opportunity to identify particular (individual) interests and concerns through practical engagement in their own studio spaces and to relate their studio work to relevant contemporary issues. Part 2 allows students to continue with, and also to investigate, the interests developed in Part 1 including seminars and the lecture programmes. Of the 120 credits in Part 2, five are taken up by Career Management Skills. In particular Part 2 provides the opportunity to build on the intellectual and technical skills of the year through increasingly independent development of work in the studio and through an exploration of the discourse surrounding contemporary art and cultural production. Part 3 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 cultural production.

Part 1 (three terms)		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<i>Compulsory modules</i>			
Mod Code	<i>Module Title</i>		
FA1SA	<i>Fine Art Studio 1</i>	80	C
FA1RSA	<i>Contextual Seminar</i>	20	I

One optional module from:

Mod Code	<i>Module Title</i>		
FA1CSA	<i>Contextual Lecture</i>	20	I
	<i>Or a 20 credit module from elsewhere in the University</i>	20	C

Part 2 (Year 2)		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<i>Compulsory modules</i>			
Mod Code	<i>Module Title</i>		
FA2SA	<i>Fine Art Studio 2</i>	80	I
FA2CSA	<i>Contextual Lecture</i>	20	I
FA2HRSA	<i>Contextual Seminar</i>	20	H

Of the 120 credits in Part 2, five are taken up by Career Management Skills

Part 3 (Finals)		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
Mod Code	<i>Module Title</i>		
FA3HSA	<i>Fine Art Studio 3</i>	100	H
FA3HCSA	<i>Contextual Study</i>	20	H

Progression requirements

Part 1

Students must achieve an average mark of 40% in the 120 credits for this Examination and obtain a minimum of 40% in each Fine Art module. A study trip abroad takes place and directed visits to museums and galleries take place throughout the programme.

Part 2

Students must achieve an average mark of 40% in the 120 credits for this Examination.

Summary of teaching and assessment

Teaching is by workshops, tutorials, seminars, lectures and visits to museums and galleries. Technical assistance and instruction occurs appropriately at the student's request.

The Contextual Study is supervised through tutorials with students' personal tutors and the Contextual Seminar co-ordinator.

In all studio modules assessment is by coursework selected and presented by the student. In Part 1 and in Part 2 studio modules, FA1SA and FA2SA 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, in Part 2 the results contributing to the Final Degree classification. At Part 3 assessment is by examination in the form of an exhibition. Contextual Seminar, Contextual Lecture and Contextual Study are assessed by coursework. Full details are given in module descriptions.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but you should note that weighting for Part 2 and Part 3 is:-

Part 2 30% (FA2SA Fine Art Studio 2 20%, FA2HRSA Contextual Seminar 10%) and Part 3 70% (60% FA3HSA Fine Art Studio 3, 10% FA3HCSA Contextual Study).

Admission requirements

Applications are sought from students who have completed a Foundation Course in Art and Design or its equivalent, in addition to GCE Advanced levels or appropriate alternative qualifications. 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.

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:

Grade C or above in English at GCSE; and achieved

UCAS Tariff: A minimum UCAS points score 245 pts (1 A2 + Pass at Foundation course)

International Baccalaureat: 24-30pts plus UK Foundation course

Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBB to CCCC plus Foundation course

Admissions Tutor: Terry Edmond

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.

Individual studio space is provided for every student. In addition, several bookable spaces are available for installation and time-based work. There are construction workshops and facilities for video and digital editing. There are directed visits to museums and galleries and a study trip abroad.

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.

Each student is issued with a Programme Handbook.

Career prospects

In addition to working as artists, graduates in Fine Art 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.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements

There is a study visit abroad. There are opportunities to study abroad including 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

<p>A. Knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies I and 2 -In Part 1 all students engage in both painting and sculpture / media. There is an optional introductory module in contextual lectures. Work is directed through tutorials and group tutorials. Specialist knowledge and deeper understanding is fostered in Parts 2 and 3 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 student's own practice through tutorials and studio seminars. 4.- is of particular focus in contextual seminars and contextual lecture fostered through guided selection of subject for research and independent study including the Contextual Study in Part 3.</p> <p><i>Assessment</i> In all three Parts knowledge is tested through individual displays of studio work, including supporting material, together with a written statement and dialogue with tutors. Contextual seminars and contextual lectures are assessed through coursework.</p>
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Skills and other attributes

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

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1. - Is exemplified through lectures, seminars, tutorials and studio seminars throughout the programme and the 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 Part 1 focus on the initiation and progression of work, in Parts 2 and 3 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 3 extend abilities in oral presentation and the use of presentational aids. Written skills are developed through studio statements, contextual study, 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 3 through the final exhibition and contextual study.

Assessment

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

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.

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 study visit abroad. 3.- Through technical demonstration throughout the programme. IT skills developed through technical demonstration, the contextual seminars and contextual lectures and in the Part 3 documentary presentation and contextual study. 4.- Through tutorials, study visit abroad, contextual seminar and contextual lectures.

Assessment

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 seminar, contextual lectures and contextual study and career management.

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.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1 and 5 are embedded throughout the programme, introduced in Part 1 then extended through tutorials, studio seminars and technical demonstration in Parts 2 and 3. 2. and 3.- Embedded throughout the course through tutorials, studio seminars, contextual seminars and contextual lectures and in the documentary presentation and contextual study in Part 3 as students take increasing responsibility for their own learning. 4. - Embedded throughout the programme, of particular focus in Parts 1 and 2 presentations, in Part 3 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 the compulsory study visit abroad and in Part 3 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 and of particular focus in Part 3.

Assessment

1-3 are assessed throughout in coursework. 4.- Visual presentations are assessed throughout the programme, oral presentations are assessed in Parts 1 and 2, documentary presentations in Part 3 are not explicitly assessed. 5.- 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.

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.