

## **BA in Film & Theatre and History of Art**

Awarding Institution:

Teaching Institution:

Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

For students entering Part 1 in 2002

Programme director:

Programme Advisers:

Board of Studies:

Accreditation:

**UCAS code: WV44**

The University of Reading

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Dance, Drama and Performance;  
Communication, Media, Film and  
Cultural Studies; History of Art,  
Architecture and Design

Programme length: 3 years

Date of specification: April 2003

Brian Woolland

Professor Alex Potts and Dr Alastair  
Phillips

Film, Theatre & Television,

History of Art

Not appropriate

### **Summary of programme aims and learning outcomes**

The central aim of the programme is to enable students to gain an understanding of major areas of cinema and of theatre since the late nineteenth century and acquire a broad historical perspective on Western Art and architecture since the Middle Ages. Students will experience some of the varied achievements of film-makers, writers and theatre practitioners and become familiar with a range of perspectives which can inform analysis of film and drama texts, gain an understanding of the methods of analysis particular to art historical enquiry, and appreciate the changing nature of the discipline's priorities, approaches and focuses of study.

The History of Art syllabus aims to give students a broad historical perspective on Western art and architecture since the Middle Ages as well as a specialist knowledge of certain chosen periods. It also enables students to pursue their own interests through independent study and a substantial dissertation. A wide range of approaches will give students the ability to interpret both primary evidence and secondary literature relating to the discipline; to understand the methods of analysis particular to art historical enquiry, and to appreciate the changing nature of the discipline's priorities, approaches and focuses of study; to gain a critical understanding of the relationship between contemporary conceptions of art and architecture and those of the past.

### **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 develop their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

On completion of this programme, students are expected to have developed a range of transferable skills including: fluency in writing and oral communication; the ability to formulate and evaluate their own arguments and those of others; to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills to new environments; the ability to find and use relevant information resources, to manage their time effectively, and use basic word-processing, information retrieval and IT skills; the ability to work co-operatively with others. The programme will include opportunities to develop skills at making oral presentations and to use visual images to support an argument.

### **Programme content**

Each Part of the degree comprises 120 credits. In Part 1 students must take a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 60 credits worth of modules in the Department of Film, Theatre & Television and 60 credits worth of modules in the History of Art Department. In Part 1 any

remaining credits can be made up from modules available elsewhere in the University. In Parts 2 and 3 they must normally take a minimum of 60 credits in both the Film, Theatre & Television and the History of Art Departments in each Part. In each part, however, up to 20 credits can be taken substituted for non-compulsory modules with modules available elsewhere in the University.

**Part 1 (three terms)** Certificate level *Credits* *Level*

**Department of Film, Theatre & Television**

*Compulsory module*

FT1CHA	<i>Critical and Historical Approaches to Film and Theatre</i>	40	C
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*Optional module*

FT1TFC	<i>Introduction to Television Studies</i>	20	C
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**History of Art Department**

*Compulsory modules*

HA1AA	<i>Approaches to Art History 1</i>	20	C
HA1AB	<i>Approaches to Art History 2</i>	20	C

*Optional module which may only be taken if the compulsory modules are also studied*

HA1AH	<i>Art and Art Historians 1</i>	20	C
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**Part 2 (three terms)** Intermediate level *Credits* *Level*

**Department of Film, Theatre & Television**

*Students will normally take the following modules:*

*Either*

FT2USIA	<i>Studies in US Cinema I</i>	20	I
FT2BTA	<i>Studies in British Theatre</i>	20	I
[various]	<i>Critical Option</i>	20	I

*Or*

FT2US1A +	<i>Studies in US Cinema I</i>	20+10	I
FT2US1B			
FT2BTA +	<i>Studies in British Theatre</i>	20+10	I
FT2US1B			

*Studies in US Cinema I (FT2US1A) and Studies in British Theatre (FT2BTA) are compulsory modules.*

*The Critical Option(s) will be selected from a list offered at the discretion of the Programme Director (not all options will necessarily be available every year) and chosen from the following:*

FT2TCA	<i>Third Cinema</i>	20	I
FT2ECA	<i>European Cinema Since 1945</i>	20	I
FT2MA	<i>Musical in Film and Theatre</i>	20	I
FT2MDA	<i>Modern European Drama</i>	20	I
FT2DA	<i>Documentary Film and Television</i>	20	I
FT2BCA	<i>British Cinema</i>	20	I
FT2WFA	<i>Women's Film and Theatre</i>	20	I
FT2TVA	<i>Television Drama</i>	20	I
FT2NTA	<i>North American Theatre</i>	20	I

FT2RTA	<i>English Renaissance Theatre in the Modern Period</i>	20	I
FT2CPA	<i>Chekhov in Production</i>	20	I
FT2PTA	<i>Physical Theatre</i>	20	I
FT2JCA	<i>Japanese Cinema</i>	20	I

*Students may substitute for one 20 credit Critical Option module a 20 credit module available elsewhere in the University.*

### **History of Art Department**

Not all optional modules will necessarily be available in any year. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

<i>Compulsory module</i>		<b>20 credits</b>	
HA2ST	<i>Study Trip abroad</i>	20	I

#### *Optional modules:*

40 credits to be made up from the following:

At least 20 credits must be taken from options marked with an asterisk(\*).

HA2FL	<i>Art and Architecture in Fifteenth-century Florence*</i>	20	I
HA2RO	<i>Art and Architecture in Rome, 1500-1650*</i>	20	I
HA2DU	<i>Seventeenth-century Dutch Art and Architecture*</i>	20	I
HA2EU	<i>European Art 1770-1840</i>	20	I
HA2NA	<i>Art and Architecture in the nineteenth century *</i>	20	I
HA2EM	<i>Early Modernism and the Visual Arts</i>	20	I
HA2MC	<i>Modern and Contemporary Art</i>	20	I
HA2MU	<i>Museums*</i>	20	I
HA2TA	<i>20<sup>th</sup> century Architecture: Modern Movements to 1950*</i>	20	I

*Of the 120 credits in Part 2, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills.*

<b>Part 3 (three terms)</b>	Honours level	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<i>Compulsory</i>			
FT3JDHA	<i>Joint Dissertation</i>	40	H

### **Department of Film, Theatre & Television**

*In addition to the dissertation, students will take*

*Either*

FT3AFA	<i>Alternative Forms in Film and Drama</i>	20	H
[various]	<i>Critical Option [from group with A suffix]</i>	20	H

*Or*

[various]	<i>Critical Option [from group with A suffix]</i>	20	H
[various]	<i>Critical Option [from group with A suffix]</i>	20	H

*The Critical Option will be selected from a list offered at the discretion of the Programme Director and chosen from the following:*

FT3TCA	<i>Third Cinema</i>	20	H
FT3ECA	<i>European Cinema Since 1945</i>	20	H
FT3MA	<i>Musical in Film and Theatre</i>	20	H
FT3MDA	<i>Modern European Drama</i>	20	H
FT3DA	<i>Documentary Film and Television</i>	20	H

FT3BCA	<i>British Cinema</i>	20	H
FT3WFA	<i>Women's Film and Theatre</i>	20	H
FT3TVA	<i>Television Drama</i>	20	H
FT3NTA	<i>North American Theatre</i>	20	H
FT3RTA	<i>English Renaissance Theatre in the Modern Period</i>	20	H
FT3CPA	<i>Chekhov in Production</i>	20	H
FT3PTA	<i>Physical Theatre</i>	20	H
FT3JCA	<i>Japanese Cinema</i>	20	H
FT3USA	<i>Studies in US Cinema 2</i>	20	H

*Students may substitute for one 20 credit Critical Option module a 20 credit module available elsewhere in the University.*

### **History of Art Department**

Not all optional modules will necessarily be available in any year. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

#### *Optional modules:*

40 credits to be made up from the following.

At least 20 credits must be taken from options marked with an asterisk(\*).

HA3IM	<i>Issues and Methods</i>	20	I
HA3BR	<i>Brunelleschi*</i>	20	H
HA3RA	<i>Raphael</i>	20	H
HA3VE	<i>Myths of Venice *</i>	20	H
HA3EB	<i>English Baroque Architecture*</i>	20	H
HA3GO	<i>Goya</i>	20	H
HA3RF	<i>Representing the figure: Late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century painting</i>	20	H
HA3AW	<i>Art, War and Gender in the twentieth century</i>	20	H
HA2OI	<i>Object and Installation in Modern Sculpture</i>	20	H
HA3MB	<i>Modern Bodies: Modern Art</i>	20	H
HA3TP	<i>Theories and practices in twentieth century architecture*</i>	20	H
HA3IG	<i>International Gothic: Artists and Patrons in England, 1380-1440*</i>	20	H

### **Progression requirements**

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2, students must: a) have obtained a mark of 40% or above in each of their two compulsory History of Art modules and in each of the two compulsory modules in Film & Theatre; b) must have achieved an average of 40% or above in the Part 1 examination as a whole; and c) have no module mark under 30%.

To proceed from Part 2 to the Year Abroad students must: a) obtain a mark of 40% or above in the compulsory History of Art module (HA2ST) and in the compulsory modules in Film & Theatre (FT2US1 and FT2BT); b) must obtain an overall average of 40% in the 120 credits at Part 2; and c) have no module mark under 30%.

To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3, it is necessary to satisfy the Faculty's progression rules and the general University provision: not 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 cause

## **Summary of teaching and assessment**

Teaching is through lectures, seminars and tutorials. Interaction in seminars is central to both parts of the programme, and weekly seminars, informed by lectures, are common to most modules in both Departments (in History of Art Part 3 modules are taught by seminar only). Compulsory theatre visits and/or regular film screenings are integral to most modules in Film & Theatre.

Assessment of critical modules in Part 2 and 3 of Film & Theatre is mainly by coursework, which includes formal essays of various kinds (including extended essays) as well as other written assignments such as take away exam questions. In Film & Theatre Part 1 assessment is by a mixture of coursework and unseen examination. In History of Art, assessment of all three parts of the degree is by a mixture of coursework and timed examination.

The Part 3 joint dissertation comprises a piece of independent research, directed through one-to-one tutorials, and assessed entirely through coursework.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but you should note that weighting between Part 2 and part 3 for classification purposes is 33% and 67%.

## **Admission Requirements**

Entrants to the Joint Degree programme are normally required to have obtained:

### **A levels**

280 points from 3 A2s, to include 100 pts (grade B) in one of English Literature, Drama, Theatre Studies, Film Studies.

320 pts from 3 A2s + up to 2 AS, to include 100 pts (Grade B) in one of English Literature, Drama, Theatre Studies, Film Studies.

There is no requirement that History of Art should have been studied at A Level.

### **AS**

2 good AS grades are accepted as 1 supporting A level

**Irish Leaving Certificate** at least ABBBB (A in English Literature)

**International Baccalaureate** 31 points with 6 or 7 for Higher level English Literature

**GCSE/O** Language preferred: grade C or above.

All applications are considered on their individual merits. Mature candidates will be expected to have a B at A level English Literature, Theatre Studies, Drama Studies or Film Studies, or equivalent qualification. In other respects, generous concessions may be made to reflect the value of other qualifications and experience.

Admissions tutor: Dr Simon Lee (History of Art), Alison Butler (Film, Theatre & Television)

## **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.

Students receive Handbooks from both Departments, which gives details of the Programme, guidance on study skills such as note-taking and essay writing, and information about staff, facilities, and sources of specialised help within the University, such as the Study Skills Advisor and the Counselling Service. The Programme is designed to give students extensive teaching support in Part 1 leading to more independent work in Part 3. Academic feedback and guidance is given through detailed comments (oral and/or written), and academic and personal support is provided through the personal tutor system and PAR. Dissertation workshops prepare students for the Part 3 dissertation, which is individually supervised. A video-viewing suite is available within the Faculty (on the Whiteknights campus). The Department of Film, Theatre & Television has an extensive collection of films and television programmes (currently about 6,000), to which students may have access, and a range of viewing facilities. In 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 84,000 slides from all periods of art and architecture history, which students will consult as part of their studies. It includes resources in videotapes and computers. 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.

The Library, which has buildings on both the Whiteknights and Bulmershe campuses, has an extensive collection of printed materials as well as electronic databases, such as the OED, the MLA Bibliography, and the DNB on CD ROM, and such on-line resources as JSTOR, First Search... Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources.

### **Career prospects**

Since Film & Theatre and History of Art is not a vocational programme, career possibilities are very wide ranging. Graduates find that the specific as well as the transferable skills developed by the programme enable them to enter many fields of work including education, banking, commerce and industry, arts administration, advertising, accountancy, personnel, the civil service, local government and the performance/media industries. In addition, 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. Students may also go on to post-graduate study in both subject areas at MA and PhD levels, both at Reading and elsewhere.

### **Opportunities for study**

Students in the Department of History of Art have the opportunity to spend a period of study abroad during Part 2 as part of the Socrates scheme. The Department has an arrangement with the University of Pisa and the University of Lyons under this scheme.

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

The programme in Film & Theatre and History of Art aims to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to progress to a wide range of careers or to postgraduate study, while also promoting a lifelong love of learning.

The central aim of the Film & Theatre combined subject programme is to enable students to gain a confident grasp of critical methods appropriate to the study of Film & Theatre and an understanding of major areas of cinema and of theatre since the late nineteenth century. Students will experience some of the varied achievements of film-makers, writers and theatre practitioners and become familiar with a range of perspectives which can inform analysis of film and drama texts. The emphasis is on the close study of plays and films and on critical debates and competing theories that have influenced discussion of theatre and cinema.

The History of Art combined subject programme aims to provide a solid framework for exploring the changing nature and functions of the visual arts in Western culture. It aims to promote a critical understanding of the visual art, artistic and architectural practices, and aesthetic traditions of Western society. It will relate the production and reception of works of art to specific aspects of the culture and society in which they were produced. It will foster a critical understanding of the relationship between contemporary conceptions of art and architecture and those of the past. Both parts of the programme aim to stimulate the student's academic and personal development and to extend and deepen their range of intellectual skills and abilities.

### **Programme Outcomes**

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

#### ***Knowledge and Understanding***

<p><b>A. Knowledge and understanding of:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A selection of film and theatre texts from a range of national and cultural contexts from the late nineteenth century until the present day. A broad range of Western art forms and artistic and architectural practices from the Middle Ages to the present day.</li> <li>2. A variety of approaches to film and theatre making, and to the production of diverse forms of art.</li> <li>3. Methods of aesthetic, critical, dramatic, filmic and analysis.</li> <li>4. Ways in which social, cultural and historical issues relate to the visual arts and architecture, and to drama and film texts.</li> <li>5. A range of approaches in History of Art and Film and Theatre studies.</li> <li>6. Selected special fields of History of Art and Film and Theatre.</li> <li>7. A broad range of Western art and architecture from the Middle Ages to the present day.</li> <li>8. Key issues and current priorities in art and architectural history including conflicting interpretations and specific methods of analysis germane to history of art and architecture;</li> <li>9. Advanced abilities to interpret visual artefacts, their function and meaning;</li> </ol>	<p><i>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</i></p> <p>Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, workshops, and individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading and viewing, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. Part 1 offers a broad introduction to 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and 8. In Part 2 the understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 are developed with particular emphasis on 1, 2 and 4 and 7 through seminars, lectures and individual feedback. Part 3 introduces more specialised study, particularly in relation to 3, 5 and 6, and 8 and 9 through a choice of seminar-based modules together with supervised, independent study leading to a dissertation.</p> <p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p>Most knowledge and understanding are tested through a combination of coursework, seen and unseen formal examinations, a dissertation and oral presentation.</p>
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### *Skills and other attributes*

<p><b>B. Intellectual skills :</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Capacity for independent analysis and research</li><li>2. Identification of problems and issues</li><li>3. The ability to read, watch analyse and interpret closely and critically</li><li>4. An ability to reflect on one's own positions</li><li>5. An ability to analyse and interpret visual artefacts;</li><li>6. An ability To synthesise and integrate evidence from multiple and diverse sources, including visual resources;</li><li>7. A capacity to recognise and critically evaluate past and current theoretical approaches and competing interpretations;</li></ol>	<p><i>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</i></p> <p>Intellectual skills are acquired through independent reading and viewing (1), preparation and discussion in seminars and workshops, essay writing (1, 2, 3) and essay feedback, in both written forms and individual tutorials. In History of Art, lectures and seminars 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 in History of Art involving study abroad.</p> <p><b>Assessment</b></p> <p>1 – 3 are assessed both formatively in coursework essays, and summatively in essays, seen and unseen exams. 1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback and tutorials. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark. These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework, essays, oral presentations, dissertation and unseen examinations. Examinations in History of Art also include compulsory questions analysing visual artefacts.</p>
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<p><b>C. Practical skills:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The ability to criticise and formulate interpretations of drama and film texts (including theatre performances), architecture and art works of varying kinds.</li> <li>2. An ability to engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches</li> <li>3. An awareness of the rhetorical resources of the English language</li> <li>4. Bibliographical and research skills</li> <li>5. A knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work</li> <li>6. An ability to relate the study of Film and Theatre and History of Art to cultural and social issues</li> <li>7. A capacity for critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument;</li> <li>8. An ability to select and apply appropriate methodologies in assessing the meaning and significance of evidence or data</li> <li>9. A capacity to plan and carry out a primary research project, working independently.</li> </ol>	<p><i>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</i></p> <p>1 – 3 and 6 are developed in seminars, workshops, essays and essay tutorials. 4 and 5 are developed through essays, essay feedback and dissertation guidance and supervision.</p> <p>Identifying visual artefacts and sources is taught in History of Art 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</p> <p><b>Assessment</b></p> <p>All the subject specific practical skills are assessed through formative and summative essays. 1 – 3 and 6 are also tested in seen and unseen examinations. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.</p>
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<p><b>D. Transferable skills:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fluency in written and oral communication</li> <li>2. The ability to formulate and present arguments</li> <li>3. Assessing the merits of competing approaches</li> <li>4. The ability to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills into other environments</li> <li>5. The ability to find and use relevant information resources</li> <li>6. Time–management skills and the ability to manage personal workloads.</li> <li>7. A creative approach to problem-solving</li> <li>8. Group and interpersonal skills</li> <li>9. An ability to self-evaluate and self-reflect</li> <li>10. Use of information technology, especially word-processing</li> </ol>	<p><i>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</i></p> <p>Transferable skills are developed through seminar and workshop discussions (1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9), through seminar presentations, essay writing, tutorial feedback, seen and unseen examinations (1 – 9). 4 and 7 particularly are developed through requiring students to draw on acquired knowledge and skills when analysing new material in essays, seen and unseen examinations. 5 and 10 are developed through use of the library and other sources of information, for seminar preparation, essay writing and research for the dissertation. We require that all summatively assessed essays are word-processed (10).</p> <p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p>1 – 7 and 9 are formatively assessed through coursework essays and seminar presentations, and summatively assessed through essays, seen and unseen examinations, and the dissertation. 9 is encouraged through essay feedback and essay tutorials. 8 is encouraged through seminars and in tutorials. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.</p>
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*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 expect 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 study module guides and programme handbooks.