

## **BA History of Art and Architecture, Part-time (Day-time)**

Awarding Institution:

The University of Reading

Teaching Institution:

The University of Reading

Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):

History of Art, Architecture and Design

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Programme length: 5-7years

For students entering Part 1 in 2002

Date of specification: October 2003

Programme Director: Dr. Sue Malvern

Programme Adviser: Dr. Paul Davies

Board of Studies: History of Art

Accreditation: Not appropriate

### **Summary of programme aims**

The programme 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.

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**

Part-time degree programmes, like full-time programmes, are made up of study elements called *modules*. The size of a module is measured in terms of *credits*, a credit entails a notional 10 hours of study. For a full-time programme each year contains modules totalling 120 credits. Most modules are 20 credits in size but some are 10 credits and others are multiples of 20 credits (for example dissertations are often 40 credits in size).

Modules are offered at one of three levels. In ascending order these are:

Certificate (C) level

Intermediate (I) level

Honours (H) level

All part-time degree programmes entail study of modules totalling a minimum of 360 credits.

Students must take the compulsory and optional modules required for their degree programme, the following minimum number of credits being required at the levels indicated:

Certificate level (C) 100 credits minimum

Intermediate level (I) 100 credits minimum

Honours level (H) 100 credits minimum

Part-time programmes are divided into two sections:

Part 1 involves studying modules totalling at least 80 credits and no more than 120 Certificate level credits (120 credits are equivalent to one year of full-time study), then Listing the Part 1 Examination in order to preview to the remainder of the degree.

Post-Part 1, where students take the remaining modules needed to complete their degree programme.

Students must take at C level those modules required for progression to one or more degree subjects, but may take individual modules from any programme to make up the necessary minimum total of 100 credits at C level.

Of the 100 or more credits taken at I level, 5 are taken up with Career Management Skills.

Students must complete at least 80 credits at I level before they can proceed to study any H level modules.

The content of this particular degree programme is:

	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<b>Part 1</b>		
<i>At least 40 credits to be made up from the following:</i>		
HA1AA <i>Art and its genres: an introduction</i>	20	C
HA1AB <i>Art and ideas: an introduction</i>	20	C
HA1AC <i>Makers and making: artist, architects and their practices</i>	20	C

Students must make up the remaining credits from modules chosen from the Faculty Part 1 handbook.

<b>Level I</b>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<i>Compulsory modules</i>	<b>60 credits</b>	
HA2ST <i>Study Trip abroad</i>	20	I
HA2IS <i>Independent Study Module</i>	20	I
HA2DD <i>Distance and difference: perspectives on art, architecture and visual culture</i>	20	I

*Optional modules:*

At least 40 and up to 60 credits to be made up from the following:

HA2AP	<i>Art and Power in fifteenth-century Italy</i>	20	I
HA2AA	<i>Altars, Aristocrats and Guillotines. Aspects of Baroque, Rococo and Neo-Classical art and architecture.</i>	20	I
HA2HH	<i>Heroes and Hero Worship</i>	20	I
HA2MA	<i>Modern Art and Architecture , and its discontents</i>	20	I
HA2DU	<i>Netherlandish Art and Architecture 1566-1672</i>	20	I
CL2AP	<i>Greek and Roman Painting</i>	20	I
CL2AS	<i>Greek and Roman Sculpture</i>	20	I
EN2FN	<i>Film Narrative</i>	20	I
TY2GC	<i>History of graphic communication</i>	20	I
TY2TT	<i>Theory of typographic and graphic language</i>	20	I

Of the 100 or more credits taken at I level, 5 are taken up with Career Management Skills.

Students may replace the equivalent of 20 credits with a 20 credit module in another department, by arrangement.

**Level H**

*Credits Level*

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

*Credits Level*

*Compulsory modules*

HA3DI	<i>Dissertation</i>	40	<b>40 credits</b> H
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*Optional modules:*

At least 80 credits and up to 100 credits to be made up from the following.

HA3BR	<i>Brunelleschi and Renaissance architecture</i>	20	H
HA3PA	<i>Palladio: architecture and science</i>	20	H
HA3NS	<i>Italian Renaissance Portraiture</i>	20	H
HA3TI	<i>Tintoretto and 16<sup>th</sup>-century Italian Art</i>	20	H
HA3DE	<i>Delacroix, Romanticism and French nineteenth-century painting</i>	20	H
HA3GO	<i>Goya: Reason and Superstition in the Spanish Enlightenment</i>	20	H
HA3RF	<i>Figuring the Female Body</i>	20	H
HA3LA	<i>Landscape Art in Britain and France: Place and Meaning</i>	20	
HA3AW	<i>Art, War and Gender in the twentieth century</i>	20	H
HA3BD	<i>Bodies of Difference: Mapping contemporary art</i>	20	H

Students may replace the equivalent of 20 credits with a 20 credit module in another department, by arrangement.

**Progression requirements**

The structure of part-time degrees is that students first of all take the degree subject(s) they want to study at Certificate level. The subject(s) form Part 1 of the programme. Part 1 must contain at least 80 credits, so that, if the modules for a student's chosen subject(s) add up to less than 80 credits, an additional module or two will need to be taken to achieve that total.

There is a Part 1 Examination in May or June, which students have to pass in order to go on to their degree choice at Intermediate and Honours levels.

To proceed from Part 1 students must have passed modules totalling at least 80 credits at Certificate level and must also have passed those modules required for progression to their chosen degree, with a minimum mark of 40%. To pass the Part 1 Examination a student must have a minimum average of 40% in at least 80 credits and not less than 30% in any individual module. Students who do not qualify to proceed from part 1 at the first attempt may re-sit the required modules in a re-examination held in September.

Students must complete at least 80 credits at I level before they can proceed to any module at level H.

Re-examinations for C, I and H level modules are held annually in September.

Students who do not qualify for a degree will be entitled to the following qualification provided they have obtained the minimum number of credits indicated:

Certificate of Higher Education	100 credits at levels C and 20 credits at any level.
Diploma of Higher Education	240 credits, with at least 100 credits at I level or above.

The specific progression requirements for this programme are as follows:

HA2ST *Study Trip abroad* 20 credits and HA2IS *Independent Study Module* 20 credits must be passed at level I for progression to level H module HA3DI *Dissertation* 40 credits.

### **Summary of teaching and assessment**

At Part 1, teaching is by lectures and seminars. Assessment is by a mixture of coursework and timed examination. At level I teaching is by lecture, seminar and tutorial and at level H by seminar. Assessment is by a mixture of coursework and timed examination. Course work is normally weighted 20%; the details are given in module descriptions. The dissertation is supervised in a series of tutorials with an individual supervisor and is assessed only as coursework.

### **Admission requirements**

There are no specific requirements for entry to this course. Applicants are expected to be able to demonstrate an interest in and aptitude for the subject. Recent formal academic study at GCSE/AS /A or certificate level would be an advantage. Mature students with non-standard qualifications are welcome to apply. Normally all applicants will be interviewed.

Admissions Tutor: Dr Simon Lee

### **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.

Within the providing department, 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. Additional support is provided by the Faculty Co-ordinator for Part-time Degrees.

### **Career prospects**

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, at MA and also at PhD level, both at Reading and elsewhere.

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

Students in the Department of History of Art have the opportunity to spend a period of study abroad during level I as part of the Socrates scheme.

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

The programme aims to provide a framework for examining changing categories of art, architecture and visual artefacts in different places and times. It will stimulate student's academic and personal development, extending and broadening their range of intellectual skills and abilities. It will develop advanced skills in analysing visual culture and embed the examination of the production and reception of art and architecture within different cultural and social contexts, including issues such as class, race and gender. It will promote a critical understanding of visual aesthetics, artistic and architectural practices and aesthetic traditions. It will foster a critical understanding of the relationship between contemporary conceptions of art, architecture and visual artefacts, 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. It will aim to promote students' independence and initiative in the organisation and completion of their work and in the formation of judgements.

## 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*

#### **A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

1. 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.
2. specialist knowledge of certain chosen periods and issues in art history.
3. 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.
4. advanced abilities to interpret visual artefacts, their function and meaning.
5. technical language of the subject.

#### **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 level I, 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 level I, 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*

### **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.

### **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.

### **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 and visual culture.

### **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 at level I 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 at level I and dissertation at level H.

#### *Assessment*

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

**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.

**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 at level I and play a key role at level H, and 5 is a key skill in the compulsory module *Study Trip Abroad*. Career planning is emphasised at level I. Library and internet skills are required in the independent study module at level I and the dissertation in level H. 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 at level H and 6 at levels I and H. 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 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 module and programme handbooks.