

**Course Code:**

PCMD302

**Session:**

2017/18

**1. Course Title:**

Critical Reflective Journal

**2. Version**

1.1

**Date of production**

Session 2011/12

**Date of Approval**

11 September 2011

**3. Level:**

SCQF 11

**4. Credits:**

15

**5. Lead School/Board of Studies:**

School of Design

**6. Course Contact:**

Programme Leader - Brian Cairns

**7. Course Aims:**

The course aims to:

- Enable students to work with a significant level of autonomy in the production of a critical reflective journal;
- Further develop the ability to identify and formulate critical insights into established practice;
- Further encourage informed critical reflection upon the relations between the student's own practice and current issues within the field of design;
- Encourage students to devise and explore alternative modes for the effective presentation of research material and articulations as proof of research.

**8. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:**

At the end of the course, each student should have the ability to:

- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the relations between studio practice and theory;
- Demonstrate an attitude equipped to identify, conceptualise and define new problems and issues within historical/critical discourses, especially in terms of their relation to studio practice;
- Execute a significant project of original research and development in the production of a dissertation;
- Demonstrate serious and extended critical engagement with current issues in design practice;
- Exercise autonomy, independence and initiative in the conception and production of a critical reflective journal;
- Make informed decisions concerning appropriate means for presentation of research material.

**9. Indicative Content:**

The content to a large extent will come from the extended discussion with staff from the initial project proposal and will relate closely to studio based activities.

**10. Description of Summative Assessment:**

For this course, students must submit a critical reflective journal. Though this may take a variety of forms, it could be a 2500 word written essay (this should include examples of visual work, where appropriate, and a bibliography).

**10.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:**

Students will be required to demonstrate evidence of:

- Reflection on their educational journey via evidence of reflective processes and/or self-assessment.
- Evidence of an informed collation and organisation of visual and textual materials related to their project
- A coherent verbal presentation of the design intentions, including insights and omissions.
- A body of work contained within the CRJ which has developed from the original project proposal
- Independent learning, self-direction, decision making, initiative and personal responsibility.

**11. Formative Assessment:**

N/A

**11.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:**

N/A

**12. Collaborative:**

Yes

No

**12.1 Teaching Institutions**

N/A

**13. Requirements of Entry:**

Successful completion of Stages 1 and 2

**14. Co-requisites:**

Consolidation of Studio Practice (Communication Design); Final Portfolio (G/I/P)

**15. Associated Programmes:**

MDes Communication Design; MDes Graphics/Illustration/Photography

**16. When Taught:**

Stage 3

**17. Timetable:**

N/A

**18. Available to Visiting Students:**Yes No **19. Distance Learning:**Yes No **20. Placement:**Yes No **21. Learning and Teaching Methods:**

Method	Formal Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours (Including formal contact hours)
Lecture		
Studio		
Seminar/Presentation	5	5
Tutorial	10	10
Workshop		
Laboratory work		
Project work		
Professional Practice		
E-Learning / Distance Learning		
Placement		
Examination		
Essay		
Private Study	Not Applicable	135
Other (please specify below)		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>150</b>

<b>22. Description of “Other” Teaching and Learning Methods:</b>
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N/A
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<b>23. Additional Relevant Information:</b>
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The critical reflective journal is a vehicle for collating and developing research visually and textually. It will evidence the historic and contemporary contexts that have informed the design thinking behind the submission of the major project of final work. External factors must be considered, including socio- cultural and political influences on design thinking today. From these the student will form a critical position in relation to their proposal. The journal will act as evidence of reflective design practice.
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<b>24. Indicative Bibliography:</b>
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N/A
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