

Course Code:

UCXS406

Session:

2017/18

1. Course Title:

FoCI 4 Dissertation

Version	2. Date of Production/ Revision:	Date of Approval:
1.0	2016/17	30 August 2017 PACAAG

3. Level:
SCQF Level 10

4. Credits:
40

5. Lead School/Board of Studies:
School of Fine Art; School of Design

6. Course Contact:
Dr Ross Birrell (Fine Art); Dr Helen McCormack (Design)

7. Course Aims:
<p>This course comprises the Honours Year submission to Fine Art Critical Studies and Design History and Theory. The Dissertation represents a substantive piece of critical inquiry and research commensurate with this level of study.</p> <p>Aims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To encourage an active engagement with source materials according to individual research interests and contemporary contexts• To advance students' confidence in taking critical control of their chosen topics• To equip students with an advanced vocabulary to engage in discussion on issues of increasing relevance to their own studio practice• To further develop the core skills required to formally present debate and discussion in critical, historical and cultural studies

8. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:
By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Understand and apply certain research methods according to individual research interests
- Recognise that different critical opinion can be reached on visual and material culture depending on the method selected for criticism
- Employ a wide range of key terms and definitions within discourse on cultural studies and the analysis of material culture
- Apply the core principles of critical writing and verbal presentation in critical, historical and cultural studies
- Understand the importance of self-directed and original critical work in critical, historical and cultural studies

9. Indicative Content:

- Self-directed study and research
- Multi-disciplinary approaches to critical inquiry
- International perspectives on material culture, politics and ethics
- Languages and vocabularies of critical studies
- Research sources and principles of research
- Independent argument and critical analysis

10. Description of Summative Assessment:

Note: The assessment method below represents 40 credits towards the final degree classification.

No.	Assessment Method	Description of Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week (assignments) or length (exam)
1	Dissertation	Circa 10,000 word Dissertation	100%	Fine Art: Semester 1, Week 15 Design: Semester 2, Week 9

10.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:

Students submit 1 digital copy to GSA's virtual learning environment, Canvas, and 2 bound copies directly to either the Design School Office or the Fine Art Critical Studies Office, depending on which School they are in.

While the Dissertation course is shared across Fine Art and Design BA(hons) programmes, the timetables – and therefore Assessment Weeks - for each school differ:

- The School of Fine Art Assessment Week is Semester 1, Week 15. This reflects a Fine Art pedagogic preference for students to focus entirely on studio practice in Semester 2, with the benefit of knowledge and understanding acquired through the completion of an advanced piece of critical writing.
- The School of Design submission is in Semester 2 Week 9. This reflects Design pedagogic

practice to balance both studio and written elements of the degree until final project work up.

In both cases the learning hours allocation is identical, with Fine Art students having learning hours concentrated into Semester 1 and Design having a less concentrated distribution running into Semester 2

11. Formative Assessment:

Formative assessment is provided at staged intervals throughout the course.

11.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:

Students will receive written and oral formative feedback during one-to-one tutorials with their supervisor and oral feedback and peer support during the Visual Material Workshop.

12. Collaborative:

Yes

No

12.1 Teaching Institutions:

N/A

13. Requirements of Entry:

Requisite Year 3 studio and critical studies courses in Fine Art or Design

14. Co-requisites:

Relevant Honours studio course in either the School of Design or the School of Fine Art

15. Associated Programmes:

School of Design; School of Fine Art

16. When Taught:

Semester 1 (Fine Art); Semesters 1 and 2 (Design)

17. Timetable:

Definitive timetable for each School issued via Canvas

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	2	4
Studio		
Seminar/Presentation	2	10
Tutorial	3	15
Workshop		
Laboratory work		
Project work		
Professional Practice		
E-Learning / Distance Learning		
Placement		
Examination		
Essay		
Private Study	Not Applicable	371
Other (please specify below)		
TOTAL	7	400

22. Description of "Other" Teaching and Learning Methods:

This course is chiefly self-directed with support coming by way of six one-to-one tutorials and one visual material workshop with the student's allocated supervisor. Students can meet supervisors through their Drop-In Hours, and will receive written and oral feedback on three staged drafts of their Dissertation.

23. Additional Relevant Information:

N/A

24. Indicative Bibliography:

Bibliography to be compiled by student, augmented by recommendations by supervisor