

**Course Code:**

PEARPS2

**1. Course Title:**

Psychoanalysis in Art and Culture

**2. Academic Session:**

2011/12

**3. Level:**

SCQF 11

**4. Credits:**

15

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

Graduate School

**6. Course Contact:**

Laura González

**7. Course Aims:**

This course aims at introducing students to psychoanalytic thinking in all its social and cultural dimensions, including their roles as creators, viewers and critics of art and culture. This particular relational approach to objects, events and things, stems directly from the clinical setting, with which artists, designers, architects and theorists may make parallels in terms of working processes.

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

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- apply psychoanalytic thinking to their working practices within the creative disciplines;
- understand, critically discuss and contextualise key concepts of psychoanalytic theory as related to art, design and architecture discourses, in the context of their creative output and/or wider practice;
- communicate effectively through their creative output, located within specific psychoanalytic frameworks.

### 9. Indicative Content:

Given the potentially diverse cohort of students, with different levels of knowledge and interests, the curriculum for this course will be flexible in terms of topics covered. These may include:

- General principles of a psychoanalytic act
- Competing views around knowledge and cure in art and psychoanalysis
- Pax Psychoanalytica: the internal wars of psychoanalysis and their relation to the University
- The (gendered) gaze
- What is a picture? When psychoanalysis analyzes artworks
- Relational aesthetics and transference
- The purloined letter
- Interpretation and dreams
- Fetishism
- A disturbance of memory on the Acropolis
- Psychoanalytic practice and case histories: Dora, Wolfman, Ratman and Little Hans
- Love and family romance

Please note that these are only indicative and that others may be added depending on the student body. The above are not seminar topics, but concepts and points for discussion. Some of them are linked to psychoanalytic texts; a number of these may be covered in a single session, whereas some others may be the centre of a discussion lasting a number of weeks. Reading material will be provided and student workload in preparation for the seminars will be appropriately managed.

### 10. Description of Summative Assessment:

Students will be assessed through:

- 4 critical interventions (1 of which will be extended), which may take the form of practice, writing, or a combination of both. These should be related to and explore psychoanalytic concepts discussed in the seminars, and will be mostly produced during the course, apart from the extended one. Students will be asked to submit and/or present the critical interventions at regular intervals throughout the duration of the course. They should gather all of them in a portfolio for submission at the end of the Stage.
- In addition to this, the final portfolio should also contain a 1000-1500 word self-analysis piece, in which they reflect on, and link all of the 4 critical interventions with their wider practice, their sense of self and/or current cultural/contextual issues. This last self-analysis piece should be an in-depth critical reflection on the main concerns of the portfolio and could focus on a particular piece (as a key example of issues explored), the course (and what has been learned), the relationship of the work to other practitioners or issues, and/or the student's wider practice (and how it fits with other areas of interest). The piece should explicitly relate the main chosen focus to psychoanalysis and should contain references to artistic and psychoanalytic sources.

The balance for the final mark will be calculated as follows:

60% four critical interventions (1 of which will be extended)

40% self-analysis

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

Students on this course will be assessed on their ability to:

- demonstrate they can apply psychoanalytic thinking to their creative practice;
- understand, critically engage with and contextualise key psychoanalytic, cultural and artistic discourses, theories and/or practices;
- communicate effectively through their creative output, in relation to psychoanalytic

concepts.

**11. Formative Assessment:**

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

**12. Collaborative:**

Yes

No

**12.1 Teaching Institutions:**

**13. Requirements of Entry:**

None

**14. Co-requisites:**

None

**15. Associated Programmes:**

This is a cross-GSA elective, open to all PGT students.

**16. When Taught:**

Stage 2

**17. Timetable:**

Wednesdays 10am-12pm

**18. Available to Visiting Students:**

Yes

No

**19. Distance Learning:**

Yes

No

**20. Placement:**

Yes

No

<b>21. Learning and Teaching Methods:</b>		
<b>Method</b>	<b>Formal Contact Hours</b>	<b>Notional Learning Hours (Including formal contact hours)</b>
Lecture		
Studio		
Seminar/Presentation	16	16
Tutorial	1	1
Workshop		
Laboratory work		
Project work		98
Professional Practice		
E-Learning / Distance Learning		
Placement		
Examination		
Essay		
Private Study	Not Applicable	35
Other (please specify below)		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>150</b>

<b>22. Description of "Other" Teaching and Learning Methods:</b>

<b>23. Additional Relevant Information:</b>
<p>Psychoanalytic ideas have relevance outside of the consulting room. Indeed, they serve as a set of provocative theories for those studying and working in art schools (and other areas of higher education), for engaging with art and galleries, and for interrogating everyday spaces where we interact with objects. The discipline of psychoanalysis has a particular way of thinking about problems, the self and society. Since its inception in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, psychoanalysis has had an impact on how we make, view and think about art, space, cultural artefacts and their relation to the self and society. This, together with received ideas bearing on cultural, artistic and psychoanalytic practices, is what will be explored in this course.</p>

<b>24. Indicative Bibliography:</b>