

POSTGRADUATE DEGREE STUDY GUIDE MLITT CURATORIAL PRACTICE (CONTEMPORARY ART)

This one-year masters programme aims to engage with varied modes of contemporary curatorial practice, be they collections, archives, contemporary art or relational and performative practices. The programme has an outward-looking focus, through which the city and beyond become the platform of activity. Students will engage with live projects, ranging from collaborative to independently-led, gaining the most engaged and professionally focused experience possible.

The programme is offered jointly with the University of Glasgow, and offers links with external institutions in Glasgow, including the Centre for Contemporary Art, Glasgow International, GoMA, Tramway, The Common Guild, Transmission and the Hunterian Museum.

This programme offers students an exciting opportunity to study curatorial practice in the heart of Glasgow, a city that in recent years has become one of the top European cities for contemporary art, host of the Turner Prize 2015, birthplace and home of an array of world-leading contemporary artists and gallerists.

Projects and ways of working

Core to the programme is the accommodation of the MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) students alongside Fine Art Practice students at The Glasgow School of Art. From the outset, students will also have access to some project space, and they will be encouraged to test and develop projects alongside practising Fine Art students.

A foundational concept within the programme is the curator's close contact with artists, and the importance of understanding of how artists work, develop, elaborate, communicate and install their work. From this base, students examine curatorial concepts, theories and practices through a mixture of practitioner/ professional-led sessions and group analysis.

The programme makes topical use of curatorial projects and programming taking place within Glasgow and Scotland more broadly. The programme also places great emphasis on independent working and on practitioner / peer critique, and from the outset, students are supported to develop their independent practice. They are encouraged to conceive of, research, develop and deliver projects that can provide support and visibility to artists and produce meaningful encounters and experiences for audiences. They are encouraged to explore a wide range of resources, including collections and archival material. They are also encouraged to locate and test their developing practice along a spectrum ranging from the institutional to the independent to the virtual.

Programme Aims

The programme offers a 1-year Masters qualification aimed at those graduates wishing to develop a curatorial career within the field of contemporary visual arts. The programme is structured to enable and support students to pursue independent and self-directed working, and to lay the practical, intellectual and professional foundations for their future approach to curatorial roles or contexts. At the same time the programme provides them with access to highly-regarded and experienced professional curators and practitioners, and it will enable them to acquire key skill sets and attributes as well as forge the peer networks that are vital to the profession at all levels.

Courses

Stage 1:

- Curatorial Practice 1 (40 credits)
- Research Methods and Methodologies in Practice (20 credits)

Stage 2:

- Curatorial Practice 2 (40 credits)
- Postgraduate taught elective (20 credits)

Stage 3 (selection of one of the following):

- Masters Project in Curatorial Practice 1 (60 credits)
- Masters Project in Curatorial Practice 2 (60 credits)
- Dissertation (60 Credits)