

Course Code:[Click here to enter text.](#)**1. Course Title:**

Core Course IV: Theorising Studio Practice

2. Academic Session:

2011/12

3. Level:

SCQF 11

4. Credits:

15

5. Lead School/Board of Studies:

School of Fine Art

6. Course Contact:

John Calcutt

7. Course Aims:

The course aims to:

- Enable students to work with a significant level of autonomy in the production of a research-based dissertation
- Further develop the ability to identify and formulate new 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 fine art
- Encourage students to devise and explore alternative modes for the effective presentation of research material

8. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:

At the end of the Course at this Stage 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 discourse, 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 fine art practice.
- Exercise autonomy, independence and initiative in the conception and production of a dissertation.
- Make informed decisions concerning appropriate means for presentation of research material.

9. Indicative Content:

Integral to the development of studio work during this stage is the dissertation. Every student will produce a written dissertation of c.6,000 words on a topic of their own choice. The dissertation thus enables each student to further explore and examine those research interests that inform their studio practice, and thereby harmonise the practical and theoretical aspects of their study. At a certain point during this course all students will make a seminar presentation of their current research to a group of staff and fellow students. The production and development of the dissertation is supported by tutorials with members of the MFA teaching team.

10. Description of Summative Assessment:

The attainment of learning outcomes relevant to Core Course IV will be demonstrated by a dissertation of approximately 6,000 words (or equivalent). Dissertations will be assessed by staff with experience in this field. Dissertations are double marked using a standard pro forma. A grade in accordance with the Code of Assessment will be awarded.

The assessment results for all courses will be brought together at an internal moderation meeting and examining MFA staff will decide on a total grade.

At the internal exam board, the integrated grade and the decision on a final proposed grade will be confirmed.

At the final exam board, which includes the external examiners, the final recommendation for the MFA award will be confirmed.

10.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

11. Formative Assessment:

Students will periodically submit drafts (including a final draft) of their dissertations for the purposes of gaining feedback and guidance from staff.

Students participate in a Research Presentation seminar in the second term regarding the writing of their dissertations. Students may be given written warning at this time if their dissertation to date is unsatisfactorily developed.

During the second term students write a reflective Self-Evaluation Report on their progress to date in relation to Core Courses III and IV, referring to the Learning Outcomes at this stage and their progress so far. MFA staff will respond via a tutorial and a written response (the Progress Review) to each student's Self-Evaluation Report, outlining those areas in which the student may need to

improve. If any student wishes to discuss his or her Progress Review, such student may request an individual meeting with MFA staff.

11.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

12. Collaborative:

Yes

No

12.1 Teaching Institutions:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

13. Requirements of Entry:

PG Diploma/Stage 2 of MFA.

14. Co-requisites:

MFA Core Course III: Extending Studio Practice; Elective course

15. Associated Programmes:

Master of Fine Art

16. When Taught:

Stage 3

17. Timetable:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

18. Available to Visiting Students:

Yes

No

19. Distance Learning:

Yes

No

20. Placement:

Yes

No

21. Learning and Teaching Methods:			
Method	Indicative Hours	Formal Contact	Notional Learning Hours (Including formal contact hours)
Lecture	1		4
Studio			
Seminar/Presentation	6		26
Tutorial	3		10
Workshop			
Laboratory work			
Project work			
Professional Practice			
E-Learning / Distance Learning			
Placement			
Examination			
Essay			
Private Study	Not Applicable		110
Other (please specify below)			
TOTAL	10		150

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

23. Additional Relevant Information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

24. Indicative Bibliography:

Individual bibliographies are generated by each student, with staff guidance, to suit the needs of their specialist research topics.

Date of production / revision

September 2012