

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

SS1a: Art, Design and Architecture Research

2. Academic Session:

2011/12

3. Level:

SCQF 11

4. Credits:

15

5. Lead School/Board of Studies:

Research and Postgraduate Studies

6. Course Contact:

Charles Neame

7. Course Aims:

The aim of this course is to introduce participants to the key debates in Art, Design and Architecture over the last decade, including their similarities, differences and the impact they have on doctorates and institutional policies. What constitutes knowledge in these disciplines will be explored, together with the contentious concept of the artefact as a research output. The course will aim to develop the participants' critical skills through reflection, engagement in discussion and the development of a critical piece of writing.

8. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:

By the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of current debates around research in Art, Design and Architecture;
- Apply their knowledge of the current research context in Art, Design and Architecture to their research and supervisory practices;
- Exercise critical thinking in relation to epistemological debates around knowledge in Art, Design and Architecture;

9. Indicative Content:

- Definitions of research in Art Design and Architecture;
- Governed by the REF and the AHRC... What does this mean for Art, Design and Architecture Research?;
- Thinking through Art, Design and Architectural practices. What constitutes knowledge in these disciplines?;
- The term 'practice' in practice-led, practice-based, research in, for, through practice;
- Scholarly, pure, developmental and applied research in Art, Design and Architecture;
- The AHRC's practice-led research review;
- Doctoral expectations in Art, Design and Architecture: impact, dissemination, ethics, intellectual property rights, collaboration and documentation.

10. Description of Summative Assessment:

Attendance at seminars and group discussions will be mandatory and missing two or more sessions of the overall curriculum will result in a warning of withdrawal. In addition, participants will be asked to submit:

- Two critical interventions (to issues, debates, projects, documents...) of around 500 words each on the VLE message board and evidence of significant level of contribution (at least one response per thread created) to other participants' threads. These will be done throughout the course and participants will be required to save records to be included in the final portfolio for assessment;
- Critical piece/commentary on research in Art, Design and Architecture. This could be:
 - EITHER: 1500-word reflective commentary relating participant's own research in Art, Design and/or Architecture, to issues in these disciplines (including current national / international research contexts) and their impact on the doctoral context, as discussed in the seminars. This should include visual examples / documentation;
 - OR: 2000-word critical piece addressing specific problems in practice-led research in Art, Design and Architecture (and their possible solutions), with particular reference to knowledge production in doctorates and/or supervisory practices.

This piece should be of sufficient length to allow participants to engage in both reflection and critical analysis of the relevant material, and address relevant issues for research supervision. The piece should also include a bibliography of key sources (including artworks, exhibitions, events, filmography... as appropriate to the topic), which will fall outside of the word count.

The percentage breakdown for the assessment will be as follows:

VLE critical interventions and participation 40%

Critical piece / commentary 60%

10.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:

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

- Critically analyse current debates around research in Art, Design and Architecture;
- Reflect on epistemological issues around research in Art, Design and Architecture;

- Think critically about key contexts around practice-led research in these disciplines, at institutional,
- national and/or international levels and relate these to evidence produced as part of their research
- and/or supervisory practices.

11. Formative Assessment:

Formative assessment takes place during the seminar discussions and tutorials with the course tutor.

11.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:

As above

12. Collaborative:

Yes

No

12.1 Teaching Institutions:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

13. Requirements of Entry:

None

14. Co-requisites:

None

15. Associated Programmes:

Postgraduate Certificate in Supervision (Creative Practices); MEd (Creative Practices)

16. When Taught:

Stage 1 (of 1)

17. Timetable:

The programme runs between January and September each year and taught sessions for this course take place in January, March and May, with tutorials arranged individually with the course tutor.

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	8	8
Tutorial	2	2
Workshop		
Laboratory work		
Project work		
Professional Practice		50
E-Learning / Distance Learning		
Placement		
Examination		
Essay		
Private Study	Not Applicable	75
Other (please specify below)		15
TOTAL	10	150

22. Description of "Other" Teaching and Learning Methods:
VLE assessments and discussion

23. Additional Relevant Information:
During the last decade, there have been numerous, contentious and often contradictory debates about what research and knowledge are in Art, Design and Architecture. These, of course, have an impact on doctorates, and the support provided by supervisors and institutions. This course will explore these debates, through specific examples, and will relate them to the participants' research and supervisory practices.

24. Indicative Bibliography:
<p>The Arts and Humanities Research Council. <i>AHRC, Practice-Led Research in Art, Design and Architecture</i>, 2007. Available from <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/About/Policy/Pages/Evaluation.aspx> [Accessed 05.02.09]</p> <p>Biggs, M. (2000) <i>Working Papers in Art and Design</i>. Available from <http://www.herts.ac.uk/artdes1/research/papers/wpades/index.html> [Accessed 6 February 2006]</p> <p>Biggs, Michael and Karlsson, Henrik (eds.) <i>The Routledge Companion to Research in the Arts</i>, London: Routledge, 2010</p> <p>Brown, B; Gough, J; Roddis, J (2004) <i>Types of Research In the Creative Arts and Design</i>. A discussion paper. Faculty of Art and Architecture, University of Brighton</p> <p>Elkins, James (ed.) (2009) <i>Artists with PhDs - On the new Doctoral Degree in Studio Art</i>. New Academia Publishing</p> <p>Emmison, M & Smith, P (2000) <i>Researching the Visual</i>. London: Sage Publications</p> <p>Farthing, S (2002) <i>What an artist needs to know. Enhancing curricula: Exploring Effective Curricula Practices in Art, Design and Communication</i>. CLTAD conference: 10th - 12th April 2002 Royal Institute of Architects, London, UK</p> <p><http://www.arts.ac.uk/docs/cltad_2002farthing.pdf> [Accessed 17 August 2005]</p>

Frayling, C (1993) *Research in Art and Design*. London: Royal College of Art.
Hannula, M; Suoranta, J & Vaden, T (2005) *Artistic Research. Theories, methods and practices*.
Gothenburg: University of Gothenburg
Juracek, J A (1996) *Surfaces: Visual Research for Artists, Architects and Designers*.
London: Thames and Hudson.
McLeod, K & Holridge, L (2005) *Thinking through Art*. London: Routledge
Smith, Hazel and Dean, Roger T.(ed.) 2009 *Practice-led Research, Research-led Practice in the
Creative Arts*, Edinburgh University Press
Wenger, E. (1999) *Communities of Practice*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

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