

**BA Art and Film and Theatre**  
**For students entering Part 1 in 2008/9**

**UCAS code: WW41**

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Dance, Drama and Performing Arts; Communications, Media, Film and Cultural Studies; Art and Design
Faculty:	Arts and Humanities Faculty
Programme length:	4 years
Date of specification:	18/Apr/2011
Programme Director:	Mr Alun Rowlands
Programme Advisor:	Dr John Gibbs Dr Jonathan Dronsfield
Board of Studies:	Art
Accreditation:	

**Summary of programme aims**

The programme aims to give a thorough and broad based training in Art and to enable students to gain an understanding of major areas of cinema and of theatre since the late nineteenth century. In Art, the course is arranged to provide a basis for practice as an artist. Students are encouraged to develop a habit of study embracing all the technical resources of the Department, which will lead them to take an increasing level of responsibility for their individual programme. In Film and Theatre students will experience some of the varied achievements of film-makers, writers and theatre practitioners and become familiar with a range of perspectives which can inform analysis of film and theatre texts. The programme also aims to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to progress to a wide range of careers or to postgraduate study, while also promoting a lifelong love of learning.

**Transferable skills**

During the course of their studies at Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic and personal transferable skills in line with the University's Strategy for Learning and Teaching. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop such skills, in particular relating to communication, interpersonal skills, learning skills, self-management, use of IT and problem-solving and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

In addition, within the Art programme students will develop visual awareness and dexterity. They will extend their abilities in visual, oral and written communication including the use of presentational aids. Students will learn to identify and independently pursue their aims. Students will develop research skills including the ability to locate and assemble visual and written material, they will engage in evaluative analysis of visual and critical sources. They will acquire basic knowledge of a range of materials, tools, machinery and technological skills. Students will extend their experience of working to a brief, meeting deadlines, planning, team working, problem solving and career management.

In Film and Theatre on completion of this programme, students are expected to have developed a range of specific transferable skills including: critical analysis and coherent argument; the ability to formulate and evaluate their own arguments and those of others; researching and evaluating evidence; use of library resources; undertaking self-directed, independent work; developing projects through co-operation and dialogue; taking leadership and management roles; effective time management; cultural awareness. Opportunities will be provided to enhance skills in numeracy and career management.

**Programme content**

The profile which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part), together with one or more lists of modules from which the student must make a selection (the option modules). Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser, to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits and the level of each module is shown in brackets after its title.

Each Part of the degree comprises 120 credits. In Part 1 students must normally take a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 60 credits worth of modules in the Department of Film, Theatre & Television and a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 60 credits worth of modules in the Department of Fine Art. The remaining credits can be made up from modules available elsewhere in the University.

In Part 2 students must normally take 60 credits in Film, Theatre & Television and 60 credits in Fine Art.

In Parts 2I and 3H students take 40 credits in Film, Theatre Television and 80 credits in Fine Art.

In Parts 2 or 2I, students may substitute a Faculty module of 20 credits for a module of either Department in consultation with their programme adviser.

In Art, Part 1 introduces the range of contemporary art practice and a guided introduction to the development of a personal practice across media.

Part 2 provides students with the opportunity to identify and investigate particular (individual) interests and concerns through practical engagement in their own studio spaces and to relate their studio work to relevant contemporary issues through study visits, seminars and lecture programmes.

Part 2I provides the opportunity to build on the intellectual and technical skills of the second year through increasingly independent development of work in the studio and through an exploration of the discourse surrounding contemporary art and art theory.

Part 3H encourages the focused development of an individual body of work in the studio and the location of studio practice in relation to contemporary art and art theory.

Theatre, Part 1 of the joint degree programme introduces students to debates about historical and critical approaches to the study of, film and drama, and to methodologies of critical analysis, through close study of selected texts, genre and forms. Parts 2 and 2I offer a more concentrated focus on individual historical periods, topics, and/or generic traditions, a greater element of choice, and an increasing opportunity for specialization and independent study.

### **Part 1 (three terms)**

#### *Compulsory modules*

FA1MP	Part 1 Compulsory Module Multimedia & Painting	40	C
FT1CHA	Introduction to Film and Theatre	40	C

Optional modules: 20 credits from:

FA1CS	Contextual Lecture	20	C
FA1SP	Skills and Processes	20	C

Any other 20-credit module available in the Faculty 20 C

#### *Optional module*

FT1TFC	Introduction to Television Studies	20	C
--------	------------------------------------	----	---

### **Part 2 (three terms)**

#### *Compulsory modules*

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FA2S2	Part 2 Studio including Career Management Skills	40	I
FA2AT	Contemporary Art and Theory	20	I

Students should choose two of the following three modules:

FT2AFA+B	Alternative Forms in Film and Theatre	20+10	I
FT2USIA+B	Studies in US Cinema I	20+10	I
FT2BTA+B	Studies in British Theatre	20+10	I

#### *Optional Module*

FT2BP	Bulmershe Production	10	I
-------	----------------------	----	---

Students may choose to replace one 20-credit Intermediate module in Film and Theatre with a module or modules totalling 20 credits from outside the programme.

## Notes

Students taking the Bulmershe Production optional module will substitute this for 10 credits in any Part 2 module.

10 credit modules MUST be taken together with the relevant 20 credit module, making the module worth 30 credits.

The following component is compulsory. Its credits are distributed through Part 2 of the degree:

Careers Management Skills 5 I

## Year abroad/Year away/Additional year (three terms)

### *Compulsory modules*

FA2IAT	Contemporary Art and Theory	20	I
FA2IS1	Part 2I Studio	80	I
FA2ITEX	Image Action Text	20	I

### *Optional modules*

Students will take one Critical Option, comprising two linked modules with the suffixes A and B, which must be taken together. A complete list of Critical Options is available from the Director of Teaching and Learning in Film, Theatre & Television. Admission to Critical Options will be at the discretion of the Director of Teaching and Learning.

## Part 3 (three terms)

### *Compulsory modules*

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FT3JDFA	Dissertation (Art and Film & Theatre)	40	H
FA3HS2	Studio (joint honours)	80	H

## Progression requirements

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students must:

- obtain a mark of at least 40% in FA1MP, and in each of the two compulsory modules in Film & Theatre
- achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;
- achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

### Part 2/2I

Whether a student can progress to Art and Film and Theatre at Part 2 or 2I from an earlier stage depends primarily on their performance in the Art and Film and Theatre module examinations in the previous Part.

In Art candidates must:

obtain a mark of at least 40% in FA2S2/FA2IS2

In Film and Theatre candidates must:

- must obtain a mark of at least 40% in all Part 2 and Part 3 Film and Theatre modules taken
- Achieve not less than 30% in any modules except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

## Summary of Teaching and Assessment

In Art, at Part 1 teaching is by workshops, tutorials, seminars, lectures and visits to museums and galleries. At Parts 2, 2I and 3H teaching is by tutorials, seminars and lectures. Technical assistance and instruction occurs appropriately at the students request. Directed visits to museums and galleries take place throughout the programme.

In Part 1 Compulsory module FA1MP, formative assessment takes place at presentations of work when students receive diagnostic verbal feedback.

The Part 1 final assessment is on the aggregate of all the projects.

Part 1 optional modules are assessed by coursework.

In Parts 2 and 2I studio modules there are two types of assessment, an Interim and a Part assessment. Interim Assessments are formative and take place mid-module where a diagnostic mark is achieved. The Part Assessment occurs at the end of the module, the results contributing to the Final Degree classification. At Part 3H assessment is by examination in the form of an exhibition.

In all studio modules assessment is by coursework selected and presented by the student.

Seminars and Lectures are assessed by coursework. Full details are given in module descriptions.

Interaction in seminars is central to the programme in Film & Theatre, and weekly seminars are common to all BA critical units, including those in Part 1. Lectures are carefully designed to provide informing perspectives for the module and for individual seminars. Compulsory theatre visits are integral to some modules. Assessment of critical modules in Part 2 and 2I of Film and Drama is mainly by coursework, which includes formal essays of various kinds (including extended essays) as well as other written assignments such as take away exam questions.

The dissertation comprises a piece of work based on supervised independent study.

The conventions for assessment and classification are included in the Programme Handbooks, Assessment criteria for each of the Levels are given in the appropriate Departmental Handbook.

However, you should note that weightings in Art for Part 2, Part 2I and Part 3H for classification purposes are:- Part 2 10% (Studio), Part 2I 20% (10% Studio, 10% Seminar), Part 3H 70% studio; for Film & Theatre Part 2 (28%), Part 2I (36%), Part 3H - dissertation (36%)

### **Admission requirements**

In Art all home students are interviewed, together with a portfolio of practical work.

Candidates for the Joint Degree programme are normally required to have obtained:

A levels

Either

280 points from 3 A2s, to include 100 pts (grade B) in one of English Literature, Drama, Theatre Studies, Film Studies; grade B or above will normally be required in an Art A level

or

320 pts from 3 A2s + up to 2 AS, to include 100 pts (Grade B) in one of English Literature, Drama, Theatre Studies, Film Studies; grade B or above will normally be required in an Art A level

AS

2 good AS grades are accepted as 1 supporting A level

Irish Leaving Certificate at least ABBBB (A in English Literature)

International Baccalaureate 31 points with 6 or 7 for Higher level English Literature

Equivalent international qualifications will be accepted.

Mature applicants: Applications from mature candidates are

**Admissions Tutor:** Tina O'Connell and Alun Rowlands (Art)

### **Support for students and their learning**

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support is provided by a wide array of services across the University, including: the University Library, the Student Employment, Experience and Careers Centre (SECC), In-session English Support Programme, the Study Advice and Mathematics Support Centre teams, IT Services and the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@il) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, School Senior Tutors, the Students' Union, the Medical Practice and advisers in the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and offers advice on accommodation, careers, disability, finance, and wellbeing. Students can get key information and guidance from the team of Helpdesk Advisers, or make an appointment with a specialist adviser; Student Services also offer drop-in sessions and runs workshops and seminars on a range of topics. For more information see [www.reading.ac.uk/student](http://www.reading.ac.uk/student)

Students receive Handbooks from both Departments, which give details of the Programme, guidance on study skills such as note-taking and essay writing, and information about staff, facilities, and sources of specialized help within the University, such as the Study Skills Advisor and the Counselling Service.

The Programme is designed to give students extensive teaching support in Part 1 leading to more independent work in Part 2I.

Academic feedback is given through detailed written comments on coursework and, where necessary, essay tutorials, and academic and personal support is provided through the personal tutor system and iLearn.

In Art at Part 1

a studio space is shared. In Parts 2, 2I and 3H individual studio space is provided for every student.

In addition, several bookable spaces are available for installation and time based work. There are construction workshops and facilities for video and digital editing. There are directed visits to museums and galleries.

The Department of Film, Theatre & Television has an extensive collection of films and television programmes, to which students may have access, and a range of viewing facilities. The Library, which has buildings on both the Whiteknights and Bulmershe campuses, has an extensive collection of printed materials as well as electronic databases, such as the OED, the MLA Bibliography, and the DNB on CD ROM, and such on-line resources as JSTOR and First Search. Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources.

### **Career prospects**

Since neither Art nor Film & Theatre is a vocational programme, career possibilities are very wide ranging.

Graduates find that the specific as well as the transferable skills developed by the programme enable them to enter many fields of work including education commerce and industry, arts administration, advertising, marketing, translation, the performance industries and the media generally. The degree may also be a prelude to study in law or accountancy. In addition to working as artists, graduates with an Art component to their degree, have found employment in theatre, television, community services, art therapy, art writing, journalism, publishing, post production, curating, gallery and museum administration, and even popular music. A number of students proceed to teacher training.

Students may also go on to post-graduate study in both subject areas at MA and PhD levels, both at Reading and elsewhere.

### **Opportunities for study abroad or for placements**

There are opportunities to study abroad including North America under the student exchange scheme at Rutgers University, Ottawa University and Monash Australia also an Erasmus exchange with L'Ecole des Beaux Arts, Dijon. Individual student interest in work experience and public exhibition of work is supported through staff advice and contacts.

### **Programme Outcomes**

#### **Knowledge and Understanding**

##### **A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

Art

1. relevant practical processes
2. the technical language of the subject.
3. the necessary negotiation between intention and realisation of works of art
4. key issues and artists, movements and current urgencies relevant to their own practice.

Film and Theatre

1. A selection of film and theatre texts from a range of national and cultural contexts from the late nineteenth century until the present day. A variety of approaches to film and theatre making,
2. Methods of critical, dramatic, and filmic analysis
3. Ways in which social, cultural and historical issues relate to drama, film and literary texts
4. A range of approaches in Film and Theatre..
5. Selected special fields of Film and Theatre.

##### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Art

1 and 2 -In Part 1 all students engage in both painting and sculpture / media. There are optional introductory modules in skills and processes and lecture which introduce students to processes and vocabulary of the subject. Work is directed through tutorials and group tutorials. Specialist knowledge and deeper understanding is fostered in Part 2, 2I, and 3H where studio teaching and oral feedback is through tutorials, studio seminars, presentations and technical demonstration and exemplified in seminars, lecture and talks by visiting artists. 3 is exemplified in talks by visiting artists and through lectures. It is developed in students own practice through tutorials and studio seminars. 4 is of particular focus in seminars and lecture fostered through guided selection of subject for research and independent study.

Film and Theatre

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, workshops, and individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading and viewing,

and the writing of essays and a dissertation.  
 Part 1 offers a broad introduction to 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.  
 In Part 2 the understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 are developed with particular emphasis on 1, 2 and 4 through seminars, lectures and individual feedback.  
 Part 2I introduces more specialised study, particularly in relation to 3, 5 and 6, through a choice of seminar-based modules.  
 Part 3H develops a greater emphasis on specialised study with a supervised, independent study leading to a dissertation

*Assessment*

Assessment

Art

At Part 1 knowledge is examined through displays of studio-work with accompanying statement/notebook in the students absence and in the lectures through coursework. In parts 2 and 2I knowledge is tested through individual displays of studio work together with a written statement and dialogue with tutors. Seminars and lectures are assessed through coursework.

Film and Theatre

In parts 1 and 2, knowledge and understanding of 1 & 5 are tested through a combination of essays, seen and unseen written examinations.

Part 3I, assessment is through a mixture of methods, such as extended essays, essays plus seen and unseen exams.

Part 3H assessment is of the dissertation.

**Skills and other attributes**

**B. Intellectual skills - *able to*:**

In Art

1. analyse the visual world
2. engage in creative and speculative propositions
3. initiate, evaluate and progress intentions
4. convey ideas through visual and written means and resources
5. plan, organise and present an independent enquiry.

In Film and Theatre

1. Capacity for independent analysis and research
2. Identification of problems and issues
3. The ability to read, watch analyse and interpret closely and critically
4. An ability to reflect on one's own positions.

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Art

1. - Is exemplified through lectures, seminars, tutorials and studio seminars throughout the programme and the Part 2 compulsory study visit abroad. 2. - Lectures and seminars explore examples of creative and speculative thought, this is also an intrinsic part of all tutorials and studio seminars. 3.- Tutorials in Parts 1 and 2 focus on the initiation and progression of work, in Parts 2I and 3H the emphasis is upon the evaluation and progression of intentions. Lectures by visiting artists exemplify differing approaches. 4.- Tutorials and studio seminars explore the clarity of ideas in students' work throughout the programme. Documentary presentations of work in Part 3H extend abilities in oral presentation and the use of presentational aids. Written skills are developed through studio statements, seminars and lectures, including use of the internet and the library. 5.- Is emphasised throughout the programme in tutorials and particularly in Part 3H through the final exhibition.  
 Film and Theatre

Intellectual skills are acquired through independent

reading and viewing (1), preparation and discussion in seminars and workshops, essay writing (1, 2, 3) and essay feedback, in both written forms and individual tutorials (2, 3 and 4).

#### *Assessment*

Assessment

Art

1, 2, 3 and 4 are constantly assessed in all parts of the programme through coursework, 5.- is particularly emphasised in Part 3H through the Final exhibition.

Film and Theatre

1 & 3 are assessed both formatively in coursework essays, and summatively in essays, seen and unseen exams.

1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback and tutorials.

Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.

### **C. Practical skills - able to:**

In Art

1. Learn and work within practical processes with due regard to health and safety implications
2. Judge appropriate media and materials for the task and develop skills through practice and research
3. Have basic knowledge relating to a range of tools, materials, processes and common IT skills.
4. Identify and locate relevant resources e.g. galleries, texts, internet sites.

In Film and Theatre

1. The ability to criticise and formulate interpretations of literature, drama and film texts (including theatre performances).
2. An ability to engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches
3. An awareness of the rhetorical resources of the English language Bibliographical and research skills
4. A knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work
5. An ability to relate the study of Film and Theatre to cultural and social issues

### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Art

1.- Is introduced through technical demonstration and tutorials in Part 1 then developed through increasingly independent work in the rest of the programme. 2.- Through technical demonstration, tutorials, studio seminars, lectures by visiting artists and first hand study of works of art and the Part 2 study visit abroad. 3.- Through induction to workshops in Part 1 and technical demonstration throughout the programme. IT skills developed through technical demonstration, the seminars and lectures and in the Part 3H documentary presentation. 4.- Through tutorials, Part 2 study visit abroad, seminars and lectures.

Film and Theatre

1 & 3 and 6 are developed in seminars, workshops, essays and essay tutorials. 4 and 5 are developed through essays, essay feedback and dissertation guidance and supervision.

#### *Assessment*

Assessment

Art

Basic knowledge relating to a range of tools, materials and processes is explicitly assessed in Part 1 Skills and Processes, 1-3 are assessed constantly throughout the programme through presentation of studio work. IT skills are not explicitly assessed but are necessary for the successful completion of the course particularly in seminars, lectures and career management.

Film and Theatre

All the subject specific practical skills are assessed through formative and summative essays, and other exercises. 1 & 3 and 6 are also tested in seen and unseen examinations.

#### **D. Transferable skills - able to:**

##### **In Art**

1. Work with visual awareness and dexterity.
2. Engage in creative and speculative propositions.
3. Initiate, evaluate and progress work independently.
4. Give oral and visual presentations.
5. Use a range of tools and machinery.
6. Use IT (word processing and the internet).
7. Work as a part of a team.
8. Manage time effectively and meet deadlines
9. Plan their career.

##### **In Film and Theatre**

1. Fluency in written and oral communication
2. The ability to formulate and present arguments
3. Assessing the merits of competing approaches
4. The ability to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills into other environments
5. The ability to find and use relevant information resources
6. Time-management skills and the ability to manage personal workloads.
7. A creative approach to problem-solving
8. Group and interpersonal skills
9. An ability to self-evaluate and self-reflect
10. Use of information technology, especially word-processing

#### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

##### **Art**

1 and 5 are embedded throughout the programme, introduced through both compulsory and optional modules in Part 1 then extended through tutorials, studio seminars and technical demonstration in Parts 2, 3I, and 3H.

2. and 3.- Embedded throughout the course through tutorials, seminars and lectures and in the documentary presentation as students take increasing responsibility for their own learning. 4. - Embedded throughout the programme, of particular focus in Part 2 and Part 2I presentations, in Part 3H documentary presentations and Final exhibition, exemplified through lectures and visiting lecturers. 6. - Use of word processing and the internet is embedded in seminars and lectures. 7. - Plays a key role in Part 2 on study visits and in Part 3H in planning and preparation for final exhibitions. 8.- Time management is essential for the effective completion of the programme. 9. - Career planning is introduced in Part 2, emphasised in Part 2I and of particular focus in Part 3H.

##### **Film and Theatre**

Transferable skills are developed through seminar and workshop discussions (1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9), through seminar presentations, essay writing, tutorial feedback, seen and unseen examinations (1 & 9). 4 and 7 particularly are developed through requiring students to draw on acquired knowledge and skills when analysing new material in essays, seen and unseen examinations. 5 and 10 are developed through use of the library and other sources of information, for seminar preparation, essay writing and research for the dissertation.

We require that all summatively assessed essays are word-processed (10).

##### **Assessment**

##### **Assessment**

##### **Art**

1-3 are assessed throughout in coursework. 4.- Visual presentations are assessed throughout the programme, oral presentations are assessed in Parts 2 and 2I, documentary presentations in Part 3H are not explicitly assessed. 5.- Assessed in Part 1 optional module Skills and Processes, in Parts 2, 2I, and 3H this is not assessed directly but effective use of appropriate equipment will enhance performance. 6, 7 and 8 are not assessed directly but their effective use will enhance performance.9.- Is assessed in Part 2.

##### **Film and Theatre**

1 -7 and 9 are formatively assessed through coursework essays and seminar presentations, and summatively assessed through essays, seen and unseen examinations, and the dissertation.



9 is encouraged through essay feedback and essay tutorials.

8 is encouraged through seminars and in tutorials.

Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.

**Please note - This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the module description and in the programme handbook. The University reserves the right to modify this specification in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance process or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.**