

BA Art
For students entering Part 1 in 2009/0

UCAS code: W150

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Art and Design
Faculty:	Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length:	4 years
Date of specification:	04/May/2012
Programme Director:	Mr Alun Rowlands
Programme Advisor:	Susanne Clausen
Board of Studies:	Art
Accreditation:	The University of Reading

Summary of programme aims

The programme aims to provide a framework, both practical and intellectual, for the development of a personal practice in Art.

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, numeracy, 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.

Within the Arts programme students will develop visual awareness and dexterity. They will extend their abilities in visual, oral and written communication including 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.

Programme content

The profile which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part), (together with optional Fine Art modules for Part 1). Part 1 students must choose which additional modules they wish to take from within the department and the faculty to make 120 credits in Part 1. The number of credits for each module is shown after its title.

Part 1 introduces the range of contemporary art practice and art theory, also 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 the study visits, seminars and lecture programmes. Of the 120 credits in Part 2, five are taken up by Career Management Skills. 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.

Part 1 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FA1MP	Part 1 Compulsory Module Multimedia and Painting	40	4

Optional modules:

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
FA1AT	Contemporary Art Theory	20	4
FA1SP	Skills and Processes	20	4

Part 2 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

Mod code	Module Title	Credits	Level
FA2AT	Contemporary Art and Theory	20	5
FA2S1	Part 2 Studio including Career Management Skills	80	5

Of the 80 credits in Part 2 Studio (FA2S1) five are taken up by Career management skills.

Optional Modules

FA2CM	Critical Collaborative Methods	20	5
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Year abroad/Year away/Additional year (three terms)

Compulsory modules

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FA2IS1	Part 2I Studio	80	5
FA2IAT	Contemporary Art and Theory	20	5
FA2ITEX	Image Action Text	20	5

Part 3 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FA3HS1	Part 3H Studio	100	6
FA3DIS	Art dissertation	20	6

Progression requirements

Students must obtain a mark of at least 40% in FA1MP and achieve a threshold performance at Part 1.

To Part 2I students must:

obtain a mark of at least 40% in FA2S1 and achieve a threshold performance in Part 2.

To Part 3 students must:

obtain a mark of at least 40% in FA2IS1 and achieve a threshold performance at Part 2I.

Part 2I

Students must obtain a mark of at least 40% in each of the modules in Art.

Summary of Teaching and Assessment

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 student's request. Directed visits to museums and galleries take place throughout the programme.

The Art Dissertation is supervised through tutorials with students' tutors.

In Part 1 Compulsory module FA1MP, assessment takes place at presentations of each of the projects when students receive diagnostic verbal feedback. The Part 1 final assessment is an 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. Critical Collaborative Methods, Contemporary Art Theory and Art Dissertation are assessed by coursework. Full details are given in module descriptions.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but you should note that weighting for Part 2, Part 2I and Part 3H for classification purposes is:

Part 2 10% (Studio), Part 2I 20% (10% Studio, 10% Critical Collaborative Methods), Part 3H 70% (60% Studio Exhibition, 10% Art Dissertation).

Admission requirements

Applications from mature and international students are welcome. We recommend you contact our Admissions Tutor or Departmental Officer to discuss your individual circumstances and/or arrange a visit to the department. All home students are interviewed with their portfolio of practical work.

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:

Grade C or better in English in GCSE; and achieved

UCAS Tariff: Points score of between 80-300pts

International Baccalaureat: See current prospectus

Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBB to CCCC

Two AS grades are accepted in place of one A-Level.

Admissions Tutor: Tina O'Connell and Alun Rowlands

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 (SEEC), In-sessional 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

In 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 that take place in Part 2 and Part 2I.

Support for students in their studies is provided through the University's iLearn Academic Record (PAR) Scheme.

Each student has access to a Programme Handbook.

Career prospects

In addition to working as artists, graduates in Art 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 postgraduate study.

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 and 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

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

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.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

I and 2: In Part 1 all students engage in both painting and sculpture / media. There are optional introductory modules in skills and processes and lectures 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, lectures and talks by visiting artists. 3 is exemplified in talks by visiting artists and through lectures. It is developed in student's 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 including the Art Dissertation in Part 3H.

Assessment

At Part 1 knowledge is examined through a display of studio projects with an accompanying statement /notebook and in 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.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to*:

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.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1 is exemplified through lectures, seminars, tutorials and studio seminars throughout the programme and the Part 2 study visits. 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, contextual study, 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 and art dissertation.

C. Practical skills - able to:

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.

D. Transferable skills - able to:

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.

Assessment

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 and the art dissertation.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

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

Assessment

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 seminar, lectures, art dissertation and career management.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

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, 2I, and 3H. 2 and 3 are embedded throughout the course through tutorials, seminars, lectures and in the documentary presentation and art dissertation in Part 3H as students take increasing responsibility for their own learning. 4 is 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 curatorial projects and 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.

Assessment

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 is 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.

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.