

**BA Fine Art**  
**For students entering Part 1 in 2009/0**

**UCAS code: W101**

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Art and Design
Faculty:	Arts and Humanities Faculty
Programme length:	3 years
Date of specification:	14/Apr/2011
Programme Director:	Mr Alun Rowlands
Programme Advisor:	Susanne Clausen Dr John Russell
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 with particular reference to students who have completed a Foundation Course in Art & Design.

**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 Fine 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 art, 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 provides students with the opportunity to identify particular (individual) interests and concerns through practical engagement in their own studio spaces and to relate their studio work to relevant contemporary issues. Part 2 allows students to continue with, and also to investigate, the interests developed in Part 1 including seminars and the lecture programmes. Of the 120 credits in Part 2, five are taken up by Career Management Skills. In particular Part 2 provides the opportunity to build on the intellectual and technical skills of the year through increasingly independent development of work in the studio and through an exploration of the discourse surrounding contemporary art and art theory. Part 3 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>
FA1SA	Fine Art Studio	80	4
FA1ATA	Contemporary Art and Theory	20	4

One optional module from:

Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
FA1ATA	Contemporary Art Theory	20	4

Or a 20 credit, level 4 module from elsewhere in the University.

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

### *Compulsory modules*

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FA2SA	Fine Art Studio including CMS	80	5
FA2TEXA	Image Action Text	20	5

Of the 120 credits in Part 2, five are taken up by Career Management Skills

### Optional module

Mod Code	Mod Title	Credits	Level
F2ATA	Contemporary Art Theory	20	5

## **Part 3 (three terms)**

### *Compulsory modules*

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FA3HSA	Fine Art Studio	100	6
FA3DISA	Art dissertation	20	6

## **Progression requirements**

Obtain a mark of 40% in module FA1SA and achieve a threshold performance in Part 1.

Obtain a mark of 40% in module FA2SA and achieve a threshold performance in Part 2.

This is a significant element and should be passed with a mark of at least 35%.

## **Summary of Teaching and Assessment**

Teaching is by tutorials, seminars, lectures and visits to museums and galleries. Technical assistance and instruction occurs appropriately at the student's request. The Art Dissertation is supervised through tutorials with tutors.

In all studio modules assessment is by coursework selected and presented by the student. In Part 1 and in Part 2 studio modules, FA1SA and FA2SA 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, in Part 2 the results contributing to the Final Degree classification. At Part 3 assessment is by examination in the form of an exhibition. Critical Collaborative Methods, Image Action Text, 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 and Part 3 is:

Part 2 30% (FA2SA Fine Art Studio 2 20%, FA2TEXA Image Action Text 10%) and Part 3 70% (60% FA3HSA Fine Art Studio 3, 10% FA3DISA Art Dissertation).

## **Admission requirements**

Applications are sought from students who have completed a Foundation Course in Art and Design or its equivalent, in addition to GCE Advanced levels or appropriate alternative qualifications. 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 above in English at GCSE; and achieved

UCAS Tariff: A minimum UCAS points score 245 pts (1 A2 + Pass at Foundation course)

International Baccalaureat: 24-30pts plus UK Foundation course

Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBB to CCCC plus Foundation course.

**Admissions Tutor:** Tina O'Connell/ 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-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)

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. Support for students in their studies is provided through the University's iLearn Academic Record. Each student is issued with a Programme Handbook.

### **Career prospects**

In addition to working as artists, graduates in Fine 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 or teacher training.

### **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**

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**

1 and 2: In Part 1 all students engage in both painting and sculpture / media. There are optional introductory modules in lectures/ seminars. Work is directed through tutorials and group tutorials. Specialist knowledge and deeper understanding is fostered in Parts 2 and 3 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 3.

##### *Assessment*

In all three Parts knowledge is tested through individual displays of studio work, including

supporting material, 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 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 Part 1 focus on the initiation and progression of work, in Parts 2 and 3 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 3 extend abilities in oral presentation and the use of presentational aids. Written skills are developed through studio statements, art dissertation, seminars and lectures, including use of the internet and the library. 5 is emphasised throughout the programme in tutorials and particularly in Part 3 through the final exhibition and the art dissertation.

#### *Assessment*

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

#### **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 through the study visits. 3 is through technical demonstration throughout the programme. IT skills developed through technical demonstration, seminars and lectures and in the Part 3 documentary presentation and art dissertation. 4 is through tutorials, study visits, seminar and lectures.

#### *Assessment*

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, art dissertation and career management.

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

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

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.

1 and 5 are embedded throughout the programme, introduced in Part 1 then extended through tutorials, studio seminars and technical demonstration in Parts 2 and 3. 2 and 3 are embedded throughout the course through tutorials, seminars, lectures and in the documentary presentation and art dissertation in Part 3 as students take increasing responsibility for their own learning. 4 is embedded throughout the programme, of particular focus in Parts 1 and 2 presentations, in Part 3 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 the curatorial projects and in study visits and in Part 3 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 and of particular focus in Part 3.

#### *Assessment*

1-3 are assessed throughout in coursework. 4: visual presentations are assessed throughout the programme, oral presentations are assessed in Parts 1 and 2, documentary presentations in Part 3 are not explicitly assessed. 5 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.**