## BA Art and Film and Theatre For students entering Part 1 in 2013/4

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;

UCAS code: WW41

Art and Design

Faculty: Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty

Programme length: 4 years
Date of specification: 16/Feb/2017

Programme Director: Dr Ciara Healy-Musson

Programme Advisor: Prof John Gibbs
Prof Alun Rowlands

Board of Studies: Art

Accreditation:

### Summary of programme aims

The programme aims to develop students' individual creative enquiry informed by an understanding of art history, theory and contemporary practice. The programme is structured to enable students to develop critical practice in a supportive environment that enables the intellectual and technical production of art. It aims to provide the space to explore creative enquiry, written modes of research, reflection and professional practice skills that form the basis for students' future careers. The combined programme aims to provide students with understanding and significance of the discourses of art, as well as understanding how to locate their own work within the wider cultural field.

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. This part of the course incorporates the study of television, which students can make a larger or smaller part of their studies according to the options pursued. 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 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.

In BA Art there is an emphasis on independent practice encompassing the acquisition and development of specific skills, methods and approaches attuned to professional practice. The importance placed on independent study demands that students become confident and self-motivated in establishing working methods that expand through the technical resources of the department and wider university. Students will develop research skills including the ability to locate and assemble visual and written material, they will engage in evaluative and reflective analysis of visual and critical sources. The combined programme allows students to develop advanced skills in visual analysis, learning how to recognize sources and communicate their qualities in oral and written forms. They will be able to articulate and substantiate independent points of view, based on evaluating evidence and using reasoned arguments. They will learn how to organize their own work schedule, to become self-motivating and to take independent initiatives to develop their studies. They will understand ways of improving learning by identifying personal strengths and weaknesses, be skilled at time management, and have developed strategies for working with a team and alongside their peers. The programme will include opportunities to develop skills at making oral presentations, to use visual sources in support of an argument and to deploy IT, with a particular emphasis on visual images.

A key focus of the studio modules is the development of digital skills in the production and documentation of image, object, text, and environments. Students' digital literacy and knowledge of applications adds to their practical and academic skills, necessary to work in a professional environment or to undertake further study. In addition, students have the opportunity to work collaboratively, staging internal and external exhibitions, events and projects where they acquire curatorial, promotional, and entrepreneurial event management skills.

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 following profile states which modules must be taken including the compulsory modules together with optional 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 Art introduces students to a range of current art practices and discourses through a series pf practice-based projects across a range of approaches, methods and media. Part 2 Art provides students with the opportunity to identify and investigate particular concerns through developing independent studio practice informed by relevant historical and contemporary precedents explored in seminars, lectures and study visits. Part 2I Art provides the opportunity to build on the intellectual and technical skills of the Part 2 through increasingly independent studio practice and its relation to art history and theory. Part 2I offers opportunities for study abroad and work-based learning. Part 3 Art studio module facilitates sustained and focused studio practice with an emphasis on independent research and enquiry.

In Film & Theatre, Part 1 of the joint degree programme introduces students to debates about historical and critical approaches to the study of film and theatre, and to methodologies of critical analysis, through close study of selected texts, genre and forms. There is also the option to develop an interest in the study of television through an optional module. 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

FT1CHA	Introduction to Film and Theatre	40	4
FA1ART	Art Studio	40	4
FA1RW	Reading Objects Writing Images	20	4

#### In Film and Theatre

Optional module

FT1TFC	Introduction to Television Studies	20 4	ļ
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#### Part 2 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
FA2S2	Part 2 Studio including Career Management Skills	40	5

## In Fine Art (20 credits)

Students must also acquire 20 credits from the list of options available from the BA Programme Coordinator. A list of current options can also be found in the BA Programme Handbook

### In Film and Theatre

Students should choose two of the following three options:

FT2ALA+B	Alternative Forms	20+10	5
FT2HOA+B	Hollywood and Beyond	20+10	5
FT2PEA+B	Performance and Nation	20+10	5

## Optional Module

FT2BP	Bulmershe Production	10	5
FT2WBL	Work Based Learning in Film, Theatre or Television	10	5

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 or WBL 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.

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

Compulsory modules

Mod Code FA2IS2	Module Title Part 2I Studio	Credits 40	Level 5
Art Optional mo Modules to t	dules he value of 40 credits chosen from the following options:		
FA2IAT	Contemporary Art and Theory	20	5
FA2ITEX	Image Action Text	20	5
HA3BD	Bodies of Difference: Mapping Contemporary Art	20	6

## In Film and Theatre

Students take one Critical Option, comprising two linked 20 credit 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 and in the FTT Part 3 Module Supplement. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Director of Teaching and Learning.

## Optional Module

FT3BP	Bulmershe Production	10	6
FT3WBL	Work Based Learning in Film, Theatre or Television	10	6

Note: Students taking the Bulmershe Production optional module or WBL optional module will substitute this for 10 credits in any Part 3 module.

## Part 3 (three terms)

Compulsory modules

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
FA3HS2	Studio (joint honours)	80	6
FT3JDFA	Dissertation (Art and Film and Theatre)	40	6

# **Progression requirements**

Students must:

obtain a mark of at least 40% in all compulsory modules and achieve a threshold performance at Part 1

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to achieve:

- (i) a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2;
- (ii) marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and
- (iii) marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits.

#### Assessment and classification

The University's honours classification scheme is:

Mark interpretation 70% - 100% First class

60% - 69% Upper Second class 50% - 59% Lower Second class

40% - 49% Third class

35% - 39% Below Honours Standard

0% - 34% Fail

For the University-wide framework for classification, which includes details of the classification method, please see:

http://www.reading.ac.uk/Exams/classificationpost2007.pdf

and see Programme Handbook

The weightings of the Parts/Years in calculation of the degree classification is:

Part 2 and 2I one-third

Part 3 two-thirds

In Art at Part 1 teaching is by project, workshop, tutorials and lectures. At Parts 2 and 2I teaching is by individual tutorials, workshops, seminars and lectures; and at Part 3 by individual supervision. Technical assistance and learning is embedded within the studio modules and occurs throughout the year through specific workshops and by request. Directed study visits to museums and galleries take place throughout the programme. In Part 1 compulsory module FA1ART and FA1RW formative assessment with feedback takes place at the end of each project and summative assessment at the end of Part 1. Part 1, 2 and 2I optional modules are assessed by coursework and/or examination. In Parts 2 and 2I studio modules there are two points of assessment, an Interim and a Part assessment. Interim assessments are formative and take place mid-module where a diagnostic mark is achieved alongside written feedback and self-assessment. The Part assessment occurs at the end of the module, the results contributing to the final degree classification. At Part 3 assessment is by examination in the form of a presentation of practice-based work and reflective documentation. In all studio modules assessment is by coursework selected and presented by the student. Full details are given in module descriptions.

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

Art: Part 2 and 2I: 33%; Part 3: 67%

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 Theatre is mainly by coursework, which includes formal essays of various kinds (including extended essays), presentations, 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 Film & Theatre are Part 2 (28%), Part 2I (36%), Part 3H-dissertation (36%).

# **Admission requirements**

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:

UCAS Tariff: BBB from 3 A level subjects; and a portfolio

Three Higher Level International Baccalaureate scores of: 30 points overall and a portfolio.

All home students are interviewed with their portfolio. Applications from mature students and international students are welcome. For international students digital portfolio submission is accepted.

Admissions Tutor: Tina O'Connell (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 Careers, Placement and Experience Centre (CPEC), 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, academic issues (eg problems with module selection) and exam related queries. 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 Art there is an extensive provision of studio space alongside resources for exhibition and presentations. Part 1 has a dedicated studio environment that is collectively negotiated to the demands of each project or workshop. In Parts 2 and 2I each student is allocated a studio space, with twenty-four hour access the privilege of Part 3 students through access card entry. There is access to studio workshops for construction, printing and casting; darkrooms for photography and digital workshops including facilities for film and video editing, imaging, sound and web building tools. In addition there is a dedicated Audio Visual Room, a whitespace and sound recording booth. The department runs inductions and workshops covering core skills, embedded with health and safety as good practice. There are several 'bookable spaces' available for installation, time based work, testing modes of display and curation. The department gallery is a prominent resource that is student-run and offers opportunities to curate or collaborate on projects and events. From Part 2 onwards students elect studio tutors within the compulsory modules and support for students in their studies is provided through the Personal Tutorial System. New students are provided with a copy of their Programme Handbook (available online via BlackBoard) that covers resources available, programme specific matters and examinations. Academic feedback and guidance is given through oral and written feedback, and supported through individual tutorials, workshops and group seminars. In addition there are directed study visits to museums and galleries. The Library houses key journals and publications alongside electronic databases. Specialist subject librarians are available to advise and guide students to library resources.

The Department of Film, Theatre & Television has an extensive collection of films and television programmes, to which students may have access. The Library 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 learning

Career learning is delivered as a component embedded within the Part 2 Studio Module. It is delivered in part with Careers and by staff in the department. The dialogue established shapes the day which is animated through presentations by alumni and guests working in a number of fields such as museum education, art therapy and public curatorial roles. The three assignments that follow allow students to profile their skills, interests and career path, develop and articulate these through a CV; and develop a 'real world' proposal for residency, fellowship or relevant opportunity identified. The initial career learning activities are extended into Parts 2I and 3 through Professional Practice in which visiting speakers from across the cultural field address practical considerations for funding, developing exhibition projects, public art commissions and the networks of support to sustain art practice after university. The Visiting Artists Lecturer series is a key resource in helping students map career options. Part 3 students are able to develop portfolios and applications through the Postgraduate Clinic, which assists students with applications.

#### Career prospects

Graduates of BA Art and Film and Theatre are equipped to sustain their practices as artists, curators and writers. In addition recent graduates have found employment in museum and gallery education, art therapy, journalism

and publishing, post-production, theatre and television. The programme is excellent preparation for further study at postgraduate level. Graduates have found that the specific and transferable skills developed by the programme enable them to enter professions across the cultural field.

### Opportunities for study abroad

As part of the degree programme students have the opportunity to study abroad at an institution with which the University has a valid agreement.

There are opportunities to study abroad including international exchange programmes at Rutgers University, USA; Ottawa University, Canada; Monash University, Australia and National University of the Arts Taiwan. In Europe there are exchanges with F+F School of Art, Zurich and there is an Erasmus exchange with L'Ecole des Beaux Arts, Dijon, France.

### **Placement opportunities**

Throughout the programme there are opportunities for work-based learning, placements and internships. The department promotes prospective external exhibitions and public projects that enable experiences of working with outside arts organisations. In addition, there are opportunities to undertake negotiated placements for credit within the Part 2I Studio Module assessed through reflective writing that forms part of the students' practice-based documentation.

### **Programme Outcomes**

## **Knowledge and Understanding**

### A. Knowledge and understanding of:

#### Art

- 1. independent and self-directed work through the management of a creative practice
- 2. contemporary art theory and art history's relationship to the development of critical art practice
- 3. collaborative and individual production of exhibitions, their modes of display and curation
- 4. reflexive skills to research, analyse and evaluate material, both written and visual
- 5. professional practice and transferable skills. 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
- 2. a variety of approaches to film and theatre making
- 3. methods of critical, dramatic, filmic and televisual analysis
- 4. ways in which social, cultural and historical issues relate to drama, film, theatre and television
- 5. a range of approaches in Film, Theatre and Television
- 6. selected special fields of Film, Theatre and Television.

## Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Ar

All students are inducted and introduced to approaches and methods of independent practice. Teaching is directed through project-based workshops, tutorials and studio seminars addressing the principles of practice developing understanding across media (1). Students are encouraged to work in a range of studio disciplines focusing their intentions as the programme develops. The compulsory studio modules develop the emphasis towards a self-initiated programme of work that is tested, staged and documented throughout the year. Students work closely with their elected studio tutor, in individual and group tutorials. These taught sessions develop critical evaluation of practice and foster reflective skills towards exhibition and documentation (4). Modes of collaboration, both in practice and/or presentations, are introduced in Part 1 and fostered through the optional modules with group seminar presentations, delivered through lectures and seminars that introduce curating and exhibition practice (3). The diet of optional modules develops distinctive strands of practice-based, historical and theoretical modes of enquiry through lectures, seminars and workshops that explore the critical contexts of art and its histories (4 + 5). The lectures and seminars introduce key terminology, theory and historical precedents (2). Through the taught component students are exposed to the language, vocabulary and debates that forge contemporary art. Museum and gallery study visits are an integral part of the programme, placing study within a wider cultural field. Visiting lectures provide a context within which student knowledge

and understanding of professional practice is extended (5).

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

Art

Knowledge and understanding are assessed by studio presentations, essays, coursework and dissertation. In studio modules there is formative and self-assessment with written feedback at an interim point in the year. Summative assessment at the end of the Part is through presentation and documentation.

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:

#### Art

- 1. display critical judgement in the selection of work for exhibition, and its relationship to the broader field of cultural production
- 2. engage in creative and speculative propositions, with the ability to find creative solutions
- 3. apply appropriate critical knowledge and understanding of professional practice and its contexts
- 4. identify key theories of contemporary practice, and to test and critically evaluate through written, oral and material resources
- 5. plan, organise and present an independent enquiry both individually and within a collaborative environment.

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

# Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Art

Intellectual skills are developed through the teaching and learning programme outlined above, particularly through lectures, seminars, tutorials and feedback on the development of individual programmes of work (2). Intellectual attributes are extended in dialogue and discussion demanded by individual and group tutorials, and seminars which are features of all module teaching. These skills are particularly addressed in the range of optional modules, with individual essay tutorials supporting critical writing (4). The optional modules inform and culminate in one-to-one supervision of individual research interests for the Art Dissertation (2 & 4). Command of methods and processes appropriate to practice are assisted through specific workshops available to support studio skills. Group tutorials in Part 1 are project specific, while Part 2 tutorials establish the specificity of individual practice. Planned and organised staging through

4. an ability to reflect on one's own positions.

exhibition, collaborative ventures and events (internal and external) test iterations of practice (5). In Part 3 in tandem with focused dissertation research, students manifest their critical practice through exhibition and documentation (1).

### Assessment

Art

Intellectual skills are assessed in all parts of the programme through coursework and examination. Coursework in modules is both formatively and summatively assessed with written feedback at the appropriate stages. Critical judgement and selection form part of the studio assessment, in particular the final exhibition.

### C. Practical skills - able to:

#### Art

- 1. employ the methods and approaches within practice-based enquiry
- 2. develop conceptual and practice skills appropriate to specific practice
- 3. research and develop relevant documentation skills
- 4. identify creative applications for sustaining practice and developing professional practice
- 5. understand the issues surrounding display and presentation of practice through the ability to stage exhibitions and events.

# Film and Theatre

- 1. the ability to criticise and formulate interpretations of literature, drama, television 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
- 4. bibliographical and research skills
- 5. a knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work
- 6. an ability to relate the study of Film, Theatre and Television to cultural and social issues.

# Teaching/learning methods and strategies

#### Art

The teaching of practical skills is embedded into the structure, content and delivery of the programme. In Part 1 and 2 there is a focus on specific studio disciplines through inductions, workshops, technical demonstrations and tutorials (1). Further optional instruction is available with one-to-one support for skills diversification (2). Some of the optional modules with a practice-based research dimension promote diverse skills from exhibition making, collaboration and technical skills (4). FA2CM and FA2ITEX modules wrap theoretical concerns with practical skills with a particular focus on distributed forms that include websites, online publications, digital video, sound and image (5). Visiting Lecturers support teaching and learning though professional practice (4 + 5). The reflective documentation which forms part of all studio modules is taught through tutorials and workshops

### 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

Art

Subject specific and practical skills and the ability to assimilate knowledge appropriately are demonstrated in work submitted for assessment. Formative assessment is carried out throughout the year of presentations of studio work and contextual essays.

## 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:

# Teaching/learning methods and strategies

#### Art

- 1 sustain independent work and study with initiative and to deadlines
- 2 discuss work and ideas in a well-informed and reasoned presentation
- 3 initiate and work responsibly both individually and in collaboration with others
- 4. utilise a range of digital and technological processes for the production of work and ideas 5 write and plan proposals and applications in support of professional practice
- 6 identify and develop careers in the visual arts and other related cultural fields

#### 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.

#### Art

The emphasis placed on self-initiated programmes of work centred on the studio enables students to develop specific techniques, skills, processes and working methods as required by their individual programme of work (1). The ethos of collaboration within the department, is explicitly taught within seminar modules, and fostered through external exhibition opportunities (3 + 4). Career learning is introduced formally at the beginning of beginning of programme, and assessed as part of the studio module (5+6). Further professional practice is embedded in programme through tutorials, visiting lectures and work-based learning.

#### 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

### Art

Transferable skills are integrated features which contribute to the quality of all coursework. The formal assessment of studio work, essays, seminar presentations, dissertation and reflective documentation covers 1-6.

#### 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.