

Programme Specification

BA Art and History of Art

For students entering Part 1 in September 2023

UCAS Code: VW31

UFFAXHA

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	4 years
Accreditation	N/A

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with tools to develop individual creative enquiry informed by an understanding of art history, theory and contemporary practice. The historical and theoretical syllabus aims to provide a framework for examining visual culture and the changing categories of art, in different places and times with a focus on the contemporary, as informed by diverse historical trajectories.

The programme fosters investigative, critically reflective and independent learning through the study, debate and practice of contemporary art in historical, theoretical, social and cultural contexts. It fosters a critical understanding of the relationship between contemporary conceptions of art, visual artefacts and culture, and those held elsewhere in other periods, promoting a conception of history of art as a dynamic discipline encompassing divergent approaches and views. 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. 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 programme prepares you for the workplace in a diversity of modes; our graduates are equipped to sustain practices as artists, curators and writers. In addition recent graduates have found employment in museum and gallery education, 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.

Part 1:	Introduces you to a range of current and historical art practices, within the context of their surrounding discourses, through a framework of lectures and practice-based projects.
Part 2:	Provides you with the opportunity to identify and investigate particular concerns through developing independent studio practice, alongside writing and research skills, informed by relevant historical and contemporary precedents. At Part 2 you will have the opportunity to partake in writing seminars as well as the week-long International Study

	trip where you will be taught in museums and galleries within a designated city.
Placement/Study abroad year:	Part 2I: provides you with the opportunity to build on the intellectual and technical skills of 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:	Gives you the opportunity to engage in sustained and focused studio practice with an emphasis on independent research and enquiry culminating in a dissertation and exhibition.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA1ART	Art Studio	40	4
FA1MM	Modernisms & Mythologies	20	4

Students must take at least 40 credits of optional modules from a list available from the Department of Art.

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the Department of Art, with up to 20 credits selected from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Students with English as a second language who enter the programme with IELTS (or equivalent) below 7.0 will be required to take an additional non-credit-bearing language course provided via the Academic English Programme.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA2IS	International Study	20	5
FA2S2	Part 2 Studio including Career Management Skills	40	5

Students must take a minimum of 20 credits of modules in '*What is the Contemporary*' from a list provided by the Department.

Remaining credits must be taken from a list of optional modules available from the Department of Art.

Up to 20 credits may be substituted for modules available elsewhere in the University, subject to the approval of the Programme Director.

Part 2 (continued) modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA2IS2	Part 2I Studio	40	5

Remaining credits must be taken from a list of optional modules available from the Department of Art.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
FA3HS2	Studio (joint honours)	80	6
FA3VCD	Art and History of Art Dissertation	40	

All modules at Part 3 of the programme are compulsory.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Additional costs of the programme

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £40 to £100 for the programme. Many books are available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost of £0.05 per page.

The Department of Art houses its own art supplies shop that provides a range of materials at subsidised prices. Equipment and software for video and digital media practices are all available to hire at no cost through our student media resource. Due to the individual nature of studio practice, the cost of materials throughout your programme will vary depending on your choice of media. At Part 1 most materials are provided by the department except where students wish to use specialist or unusual materials of their choice. In subsequent years we would suggest an approximate budget of £200 per year to cover basics. For the final year exhibition you may wish to invest more in materials. This is not a necessary requirement

and advice should be sought from the module convenor. However a reasonable budgetary expectation would be an additional £200. In addition, it is recommended that you budget approximately £60 per year for exhibition and museum trips and £400 for the International Study trip at Part 2.

If you partake in Study Abroad you should expect to pay for services which you would normally expect to pay for at Reading e.g. housing, food, travel, social activities, etc. Additional costs will vary depending on the host institution and location. Please see the Erasmus and Study abroad website for further details.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2021.

Placement opportunities

Placements:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

Study Abroad:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught through seminars, lectures, group workshops, technical inductions and one-to-one tutorials. Academic guidance is further given through oral and written feedback. In addition there are directed study visits to museums and galleries.

Teaching in Art is accommodated through our extensive provision of studio space alongside resources for exhibition and presentation. The teaching of practical skills is embedded into the structure, content and delivery of the programme and supported by our range of workshop facilities. These include 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 as well as a dedicated Audio Visual Room, a whitespace and sound recording booth. Our department reading room provides immediate access to key journals and publications in addition to the extensive collection housed within the library. Specialist subject librarians are available to advise and guide you to library resources.

Whilst studying Art you will be inducted and introduced to approaches and methods of independent practice and encouraged to work in a range of studio disciplines, focusing intentions as the programme develops. Modes of collaboration, both in practice and/or presentations, are introduced in Part 1 and fostered throughout the programme. Through the lectures, seminars and studio teaching you are exposed to the language, vocabulary and debates that have emerged historically and evolved to forge contemporary art. Visiting lectures provide a context within which your knowledge and understanding of professional practice is extended.

Total study hours for each Part of your programme will be 1200 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is Part 1 - 432 hours, Part 2 - 528 hours, Part 2I - 444, Part 3 - 468 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through 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.

Progression

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

Part 1

- (i) obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

- (iii) obtain a mark of at least 40% in all compulsory modules in Art at Part 1 (FA1ART, FA1MM).

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 2 and Part 2I

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

- (i) obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits; and
- (iii) obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leaves the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Classification

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

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

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

Four year programmes:

Part 2 and Part 2I: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BA Art and History of Art for students entering Part 1 in session 2023/24

1 February 2023

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