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Wrexham University

Module specification

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Module Code	ARD718
Module Title	Locating Practice: Photography
Level	7
Credit value	60
Faculty	FACE
HECoS Code	100063
Cost Code	GADC

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
MA Photography	Core

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	63 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	**63 hrs**
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	537 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	**600 hrs**

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Initial approval date	15/05/2024
With effect from date	September 2024
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

The "Locating" component in the MA Photography program seeks to achieve three primary goals in the context of photography.

Initially, it guides students in examining the essential technical, conceptual, and theoretical aspects of photography through in-depth exploration of materials / techniques / modes, contextual research, and analytical critique. This process is intended to enhance their proficiency and comprehension of the photographic medium.

Secondly, the module aims to position and express each student's photographic practice within the extensive domains of history, culture, politics, and ontology. This entails developing a keen awareness of the broader contexts that influence their artistic pursuits.

Finally, the module endeavours to facilitate the development of a critical language and understanding. This empowers students to articulate the intricate relationship between photography, self, and society, providing the intellectual foundation necessary for driving conceptual practical production throughout the course and into their future artistic endeavours.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Contextualize and critically analyse photographic theories and concepts from perspectives of identity, culture, politics, philosophy that influence practice
2	Critically articulate in verbal and written forms the personal, cultural and political dimensions of photographic practice
3	Reflect critically upon work exhibited publicly and use critique to strengthen ability to present ideas and actively participate in cultural conversations
4	Produce a comprehensive portfolio of photographic work driven by critical contextual research and experimentation
5	Critically demonstrate through written forms and art practice an understanding of the intersections between the photographic image and social discourse

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

Submission will consist of:

- A Body of work

- Journal of documented process
- Context Presentation
- Written Critical Inquiry (2500 words)

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1-5	Coursework	100%

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The "*Locating"* module focused on photography, the objective is to incorporate a range of activities to facilitate your learning in the realm of photographic art. Through lectures, we will delve into discussions on photographic theory, histories and current practices within contemporary photographic arts. In seminars, we will analyse specific texts that explore the history and theories of photography. Regular and diverse studio workshops will support this area of study, where you can refine specified technical skills. Collaborative learning is emphasised to support a knowledge sharing community, we will engage in peer discussions and group critiques to exchange ideas. Dedicated time for independent studio practice allows you to work on your own photographic projects, with ongoing reviews of your progress. To broaden your perspective, we will collectively visit galleries and cultural organisations. Our aim is to provide a comprehensive experience that enriches your understanding and practice of photography.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Properties of various traditional and contemporary painting media

Traditional and experimental photographic capture and printing techniques and processes

Critical perspectives on the epistemology and ontology of photographic practices

Contemporary issues for the wider photographic image: culture, identity, politics, ecology

The politics and philosophy of photography

Photography ethical practices and visual activism

Presentation and critiquing skills for discussion of works

Indicative Bibliography:

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads

McIver Lopes, D. (2016), *Four Arts of Photography: An Essay in Philosophy (New Directions in Aesthetics).* New Jersey: Wiley.

Smith, P. C, Lefley. (2015), *Rethinking Photography: Histories, Theories and Education.* London: Routledge.

Other indicative reading

Wolf. S. (2019), *PhotoWork: Forty Photographers on Process and Practice (The photography workshop).* New York: Aperture.

Adams, R. (2004), *Why People Photograph.* New York: Aperture.