

## Module specification

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Module Code	ARD494
Module Title	Introduction to Fine Art Practice
Level	4
Credit value	40
Faculty	FACE
HECoS Code	100059
Cost Code	GADC

## Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
BA (Hons) Fine Art	Core

## Pre-requisites

None

## Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	72 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	48 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
<b>Total active learning and teaching hours</b>	<b>120 hrs</b>
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	280 hrs
<b>Module duration (total hours)</b>	<b>400 hrs</b>

<b>For office use only</b>	
Initial approval date	15/05/2024
With effect from date	September 2024
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1



## Module aims

This module introduces students to diverse teaching methods and crucial aspects of art school education including, studio-based workshops, tutorials, lectures, seminars, critiques, and self-directed study. The aim is to actively shape their learning environment and foster a sustainable creative practice through exploration in various studio workshops. It guides students in identifying core interests, establishing personalised art-making approaches, and equips them with skills for contextualising and communicating artistic ideas. The module encourages active participation in studio-based events and critical discussions, emphasising self-directed learning, creative thinking, analytical skills, and growing confidence in their artist identity, with close guidance from staff.

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

1	Apply appropriate fine art materials, media, and methods.
2	Apply skills in visual research, observation, and conceptual development to create experimental imagery and outcomes across a variety of media.
3	Engage in critical reflection and discussion on the relationships between artistic thought, contexts, identity, and material outcomes
4	Reflect on key ideas from fine art practitioners, processes, and outcomes to peers and staff.

## 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.*

The module assessment will be submitted as coursework that consists of studio practice (LO1,2) and a visual research journal containing evidence of reflective research (LO3,4). There is an emphasis on practical output, confidence in handling of materials and research. The submission will showcase knowledge through various means including artefacts, discussions, presentations, and critiques.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1-4	Coursework	100%

## Derogations

None

## Learning and Teaching Strategies

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A multifaceted approach to teaching and learning will be employed, fostering an environment that encourages students to actively engage with the expansive scope of artistic exploration and practice. The staff will provide a theoretical framework through demonstrations, lectures, and seminars that offer students a comprehensive understanding of the diverse materials, methods, and ideas explored in the fine art studio workshops. Active participation in practical exercises will enable students to apply theoretical knowledge, fostering the development of unconventional approaches and broadening their creative practices. Supervised sessions will allow for individualised support, helping students refine their studio work, test investigative inquiries, and build the independent creative intentions. Directed study, supported by tutorials, will enable students to deepen their lines of inquiry, draw from historical and contemporary sources, and strengthen their conceptual foundations. Actively engaging as members of a studio community will enhance the appreciation for cultural richness, stimulate cross-pollination of ideas, and contribute to the development of a supportive creative environment.

## Indicative Syllabus Outline

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- Overview of fine art specialisms – drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, digital media
- Key histories, theories, and issues significant to contemporary fine art practice
- Exploring an artistic identity, purpose and sustainable studio practice
- Learning diverse pedagogies: tutorials, lectures, seminars, critiques
- Visual research skills: observation, documentation, analysis
- Creative ideation techniques – diagrams, collage, photography
- Exploring meanings, materials, and processes in realizing intentions
- Safe handling of 2D and 3D fine art studio materials and equipment
- Contextualizing and discussing artistic motivations and identities
- Situating studio investigations amid sociocultural issues
- Documenting processes; sketchbooks, blogs, video, notation
- Formats for presenting developmental and finalized works
- Peer review and formal critique participation skills
- Basic academic research and writing conventions
- Environmental ethics, equity in creative practice

## Indicative Bibliography:

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

### Essential Reads

Rothenstein, J. (2023), *Seeing Things: the small wonders of the world, according to writers, artists and others*, Redstone Press.

### Other indicative reading

Bickers, P. and Wilson, A. ed (2007), *Talking Art Interviews with artists since 1976*, London: Ridinghouse.

Fry, J. (2022), *A Licence to Rock and Pop*, London: Slimvolume.



- Bridle, J. (2022), *Ways of Being: Animals, Plants, Machines: The Search for a Planetary Intelligence*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux
- Gronlund, M. (2016), *Contemporary art and Digital Culture*. London: Routledge
- Le Feuvre, L. (2010), *Failure: (Documents of Contemporary Art)*, Whitechapel Gallery.
- Merrifield, A. (2018), *The Amateur: The Pleasures of Doing What You Love*. London: Verso.
- Perry, G. (2016), *Playing to the Gallery: Helping contemporary art in its struggle to be understood*, Penguin.
- Rubin, R. (2023), *The Creative Act: A Way of Being*. Penguin.
- Saltz, J. (2020), *How to be an Artist*, New York: Riverhead Books.