

Module Title Contextual & Critical Studies - Fine Art Contexts	Reference AA2700 SCQF Level SCQF Points 30 ECTS Points 15
Keywords Contemporary Art Practice, Painting, Research, Communication, Culture, Theory, Context.	Created March 2012 Approved August 2012 Amended Version No. 1

This Version is No Longer Current

The latest version of this module is available [here](#)

Prerequisites for Module

None.

Corequisite Modules

None.

Precluded Modules

None.

Aims of Module

This module will build upon students' introduction to Contextual and Critical Studies in stage 1. The core skills of research, analysis, synthesis and communication will be expanded upon, further enabling students to communicate effectively, textually and orally, the critical position of their evolving

Indicative Student Workload

Contact Hours Full Time

Assessment 5

Lecture,
seminar, group
tutorial. 40

Directed Study
Seminar tasks,
forum
contribution,
directed reading 90

Private Study
Individual
research and
written
assignments 165

Mode of Delivery

The module is lecture and seminar based, with allocated time for

practice within contemporary and historical themes related to fine art culture.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to research using methods appropriate to the critical themes, theories and concepts in contemporary practice.
2. Analyse and discuss historical and contemporary themes, theories and concepts in the context of contemporary practice.
3. Apply critical and analytical thinking to the enquiry and exploration of ideas in relation to critical themes, theories and concepts within historical and contemporary practice.
4. Synthesise information related to the contexts of historical and contemporary practice and communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Indicative Module Content

The module will build upon the interdisciplinary themes from visual culture introduced in stage 1 and enable students to develop greater contextual awareness specific to contemporary fine art practice in all its manifestations

private and directed study and further reading. Group discussion and critical debate will be facilitated through seminar and on-line forums. Visits from professional in the field, and national and international study visits may form part of the curriculum.

Assessment Plan

	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Component 1	1,2,3,4

Students are required to submit two assignments: one formative (feedback provided and fed forward to students) at the end of semester 1; the other summative (formally assessed) at the end of semester 2.

Indicative Bibliography

1. Archer, M (2015), Art Since 1960, London : Thames & Hudson
2. Fisher, Mark (2009), Capitalist Realism, Alresford : Zero Books
3. Fisher, Max (2022), The Chaos Machine : The Inside Story of How Social Media Re-Wired our Minds & Our World, London : Quercus
4. Hopkins, D (2017), After Modern Art, 1945-2017, Oxford : Oxford University Press

practice in all its manifestations and linkages to the wider field of culture. Semester 1 will focus on placing contemporary art practice in its multiple critical, cultural and socio-political contexts, examining the roles of and interconnections between the various agents and institutions involved in the making, dissemination and interpretation of fine art, including curators, art critics, art galleries and museums, now and in the recent past. Semester 2 will consider a range of critical theories, methods and themes applicable to contemporary art practice, such as post-structuralism, feminism and phenomenology; semiotics and psychoanalysis; and subjectivity, modernity and globalisation. Emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking and research, and encouraging students to explore various writing styles appropriate to a particular theme and/or their professional context.

5. Howells, R & Negreiros, J (2019), *Visual Culture*, Cambridge : Polity Press
6. Mirzoeff, N (2015), *How to See the World*, London : Pelican Books
7. Stallabrass, J (2020), *Contemporary Art : A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford : Oxford University Press
8. Steyerl, H (2017), *Duty Free Art : Art in an age of Planetary Civil War*, London : Verso