

Module Title	Reference AA4310
Contextual And Critical Studies - Dissertation	SCQF SCQF
Keywords	Level 10
Fine Art, Design, Self-directed Research, Critical Enquiry, Theory, Culture.	SCQF Points 30
	ECTS Points 15
	Created May 2002
	Approved June 2014
	Amended June 2010
	Version No. 1

This Version is No Longer Current

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

Prerequisites for Module

The successful completion of Stage 3 modules.

AA3310 Contextual & Critical Studies - Exploring Context and AA3311 Contextual & Critical Studies - Research & Enquiry or equivalent

Specially designed tasks, ongoing peer-review and formative feedback from tutors will be provided.

Emphasis is placed on the enhancement of professional self-awareness and transferrable skills in critical analysis and communication, thus encouraging life-long learning and employability.

Indicative Student Workload

Corequisite Modules

None.

Precluded Modules

None.

Contact Hours

Lectures, seminars, group/individual tutorial support

Full Time

25

Directed Study

75

Private Study

200

Aims of Module

This module will build upon students' introduction to self-directed study and research in Contextual and Critical Studies, stage 3. The core skills of research, analysis, synthesis and communication will be expanded upon, further enabling students to communicate effectively and creatively the critical position of their practice and research of practice.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

1. Plan and conduct independent research including the integration of primary research giving rationale/s for research methods chosen.
2. Demonstrate informed and critical awareness of their professional context and be able to locate their own practice within it.

Mode of Delivery

This module consists primarily of self-directed research and writing, with time allocated for group seminars, individual tutorials and further reading. Visits from professionals in the field, and national and international study visits, may form part of the curriculum.

Assessment Plan

	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Coursework	1,2,3,4,5

Submission of written coursework
(Dissertation)

Indicative Bibliography

1. There is no standard Bibliography in this module.

Additional Notes

Students are required to identify (and be guided towards), a range of texts relevant to their Contextual and Critical research. These will typically include textbooks, journals and on line resources written by critics, historians, curators, philosophers, theorists or artists and designers.

3. Analyse appropriately selected historical and contemporary themes in fine art and design within the context of professional practice.
4. Apply critical and analytical thinking to the rigorous enquiry and conceptual exploration of ideas related to the context of practice and research of practice.
5. Synthesise, analyse and evaluate information gathered from their research and communicate effectively in writing, visual and oral materials .

Indicative Module Content

The module is devoted to self-directed research on a topic of the students' own invention that is related to their studio work and is arrived at by negotiation with their tutors. This module builds on knowledge and research skills developed in preceding Contextual and Critical Studies modules. Semester 1 will include a series of

seminars and tutorials aimed at guiding students through the development of an appropriate topic, research and writing.

Students will be required to integrate and evaluate their own primary research findings, this will be supported through additional seminar input in semester 2.