

Course Information Form (CIF)

The CIF provides core information to students, staff teams and others on a particular course of study.

Section 1 - General Course Information	
Course Title	Art and Design
Qualification	MA
Intermediate Qualification(s)	Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma
Awarding Institution	University of Bedfordshire
Location of Delivery	AA Luton (Alexon House)
Mode(s) of Study and Duration	Full-time over 1 years or 15 months Part-time pathway typically over 2 years
Core Teaching Pattern	3 and 6
FHEQ Level	7
Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation or endorsement	Not Applicable
PSRB Renewal Date	Not Applicable
University of Bedfordshire Employability accreditation	
Route Code (SITS)	MAXAD, MAARTAAF
Subject Community	Art and Design
UCAS Course Code	N/A
Relevant External Benchmarking	QAA Subject Benchmark: Art and Design SEEC descriptors Level 7

Section 2 - Published Information

Material in this section will be used on the course web site to promote the course to potential students. The text should be written with this potential audience in mind.

Course Structure

The Units which make up the course are:

Unit Code	Level	Credits	Unit Name	Core or option
ART001-6	7	15	Historical Contexts: Art and Design	C
ART002-6	7	45	Studio and Professional Practice	C
ART003-6	7	15	Contemporary Issues: Art and Design	C
ART004-6	7	45	Studio Practice and Research	C
ART005-6	7	60	MA Art and Design Major Project	C

Why study this course

This PG degree gives you the flexibility to develop practical art and design skills across a range of art and design disciplines. The MA provides an exciting environment for you to develop your personal practice supported by established practitioner/tutors in your chosen field. The course offers:

- Very good facilities with access to technical and digital media such image processing software, moving image software, high definition video equipment and high quality photo screen-printing.
- A teaching and learning strategy that is aimed at giving a robust focus to your artistic or design practice.
- Studio space for you to work within a lively studio environment.
- One-to-one contact with staff with an emphasis on your personal creative development.

Course Summary – Educational Aims

The course focuses on the development of your abilities in the following areas:

Enquiry

Your learning will be largely self-directed and determined by your creative interests, issues, contexts and locations and forms of articulation and dissemination that are most apposite for your practice. At the heart of your practice will be the development and articulation of solutions to visual or design problems, or of responses to issues associated with your chosen art and design discipline. An essential feature of the contemporary issues strand of the course will be to help you to relate your practice to theoretical and critical ideas and to help you to construct relevant contexts for your work. This will provide you with a framework and means to reflect on your practice. You will be required to maintain a contextual/reflective journal, the purpose of which is to monitor and reflect on your own learning. It will ultimately inform the rationale for your final major project.

Wider contexts of understanding in visual practice

To engage you in analytical and reflective thinking with a consideration of the artistic, critical and cultural contexts associated with Art and Design so that you might understand the value of your work and make independent assessments of its progress and the learning in which you are involved.

Collaboration

The development of your own creative practice is at the heart of the course and you will develop practice-based research methods that will give robustness to your practice as well as help you to direct it. To help with the development of this you will have to decide on action plans and implement these effectively in order to complete work. You will have to clearly identify criteria for success and evaluate your own performance against those criteria.

Group discussion in seminars is key to the development of a critical understanding of your practice and relevant contexts for it. Working individually, you have to set your own tasks to achieve your research goals,

drawing on previous learning experience to achieve creative solutions to common problems.

Enterprise

You will be encouraged to become self-reliant and you will have to decide on action plans and implement these effectively in order to complete work. You will produce creative and realistic solutions to complex problems that will include time management, monitoring your progress in working to deadlines in developing a professional attitude to practice and enterprise. You will have to identify clearly criteria for success and evaluate your own performance against those criteria. The importance of action plans, strategies and success criteria will be measured for both individual work and group work, and a professional context.

Entry requirements

For UK students, standard entry requirements apply - <http://www.beds.ac.uk/howtoapply/ukugentryreqs>

For EU students, standard entry requirements apply - <http://www.beds.ac.uk/howtoapply/eu/guides>

For International students, standard entry requirements apply –

<http://www.beds.ac.uk/international/international-applications/international-entry-requirements>

Portfolio review

PSRB details

Not Applicable

Graduate Impact Statements

The course has been designed to develop graduates who are able to:

- Apply knowledge and understanding of Art and Design in a variety of settings within the art and design world, and relevant institutional realms both in the UK and internationally
- Work collaboratively in multi-disciplinary teams widely used in contemporary Art and Design practice – including group shows.
- Produce personal work and investigation independently on the basis of current knowledge and discourse in art practice – looking at craft, the handmade and digital craft making.

Higher Education Achievement Report - Additional Information

Your career management skills are those of managing individual learning and personal development – both of which are embedded in the course. Your ability to grow, with tutor support, and recognise where your personal qualities enhance your employability is a key life skill. Identifying the transferability of skills and experience is another key skill developed on the course.

Additionally, specific skills you need for the art and design practice, such as being sensitive to diversity, promoting equality of opportunity and developing group practice, whilst fostering and supporting individual practice and enquiry. The course enables you to independently engage with relevant work experience in the arts while you are studying. You will also take part in a group show as part of the 'Degree Show' in your final year. You will also be able to take part in the Bedfordshire Edge Employability Award.

Learning and Teaching

The course is taught via a wide range of pedagogical practices including: seminar, lectures, Crits, on-line and tutorial-based support. Throughout the course you will be involved with reflective practice, which will require you to maintain a research journal, the purpose of which is to document your research and the unfolding context for your work.

The research journal will be key in acting as an aid in focusing research and improving your performance. Through records that you keep about the development of your work and from feedback you will receive from your tutors, you will be able to maintain a personal profile that monitors your progress and you will be able to evaluate your own individual effectiveness in achieving your aims. Working individually, you will have to set your own tasks to achieve your research goals, drawing on previous learning experience to achieve creative solutions to problems and to develop creative ideas. At the end of the course you should be able to realise a creative project of your own devising and be able to demonstrate your own particular insights into the critical, cultural and professional contexts in which your own work is placed.

To help you to learn independently and take responsibility for your own learning, the whole curriculum is organised to promote the progressive acquisition and entrenchment of the necessary concepts, skills,

attitudes and knowledge associated with Art and Design. The course will offer a degree of choice and is flexible in its approach to student learning with an underlying educational philosophy of self-directed learning managed and supervised through close contact the student.

Developing your employability

Employability skills are integrated into the course and provide you with an awareness of the real-world context of the creative industries in general and Art and Design professions in particular. You will be helped to develop a strategy for obtaining appropriate employment at the end of your course.

Careers development is integrated into the course and the course seeks to provide you with an awareness of the real-world context of the creative industries in general and your specific art and design practice. You will be helped to develop a strategy for obtaining appropriate employment at the end of your course.

Professional practice will be emphasised as part of all learning units.

Department (s)

Art and Design

Assessment

A range of appropriate assessments will enable you to grow in confidence and demonstrate your acquisition. You should, provided you have engaged in the course, be able to meet the demands of formal summative assessment in your stride. The requirements for assessment range through the types listed below.

Since self-directed practical projects are at the heart of learning activities they will logically be the subject of assessment. Formative and summative assessments of practical assignments are seen as an important method of ensuring your understanding, developing relevant cognitive and practical skills and of ensuring personal creative development and progress.

Continuous appraisal by both peer review and your tutors is a feature of the course and although there are no end-point examinations, summative assessment is carried out in relation to the work that you produce as part of the course. This will predominantly be based on an accumulation of the work that is done as a result of a research enquiry that is initiated and developed by you engaging in a range of activities as part of its production.

The following are examples of the various assessment methods used:

- Coursework to include examples of, creative practice in an appropriate medium, associated research material, notebooks, research reports, essays, contextual writing.
- Assessments based on individual presentations.
- Portfolio reviews are a key means of assessing but they are also important for collating work for presentation in a professional context, such as an interview.

Essays and reports feature in developing your writing skills, helping you to express ideas in a variety of ways and styles and to develop academic writing skills that are of particular benefit in producing the a contextual rationale for your major project.

After Graduation

Typical graduate destinations for Art and Design students include:

Direct work within contemporary Arts:

- Galleries
- Group Shows
- Craft and enterprise

Work in related areas to art and design practice such as:

- Teaching
- Art administration

- Art promotion
- Community arts projects

Further study at Doctoral level MPhil and PhD.

Student Support during the course

All students will be allocated a personal academic tutor (PAT) at the start of the course. The tutor will provide you with personal tutorials providing academic support and monitoring of academic and professional development.

You will also have unit tutor and course coordinator who will also be able to assist you with decisions relating to career possibilities and final project topics.

Unit tutors and the course coordinator are always available to discuss your concerns through published office hours, personal appointments arranged by e-mail and informal guidance on the phone. The feedback given to students as part of the assessment process will enable self-assessment and development of your learning and skills, and promote progress to overcome any of your problems. Tutors will also refer you to appropriate services in the event of issues that lie outside the boundaries of the tutor relationship.

For example, you can make use of the University's Professional Academic Development (PAD) team, and where appropriate ARTPAD, to support your particular learning needs. Language and communication skills are also addressed when need is identified and support provided by the PAD team.

For students where English is your second language, the University provides free English lessons from intermediate up to more advanced level English language skills, Library Services offer tutor led computer skill training workshops.

Students with disabilities

The course welcomes students with disabilities. During the application process disabled students discuss their needs with individual members of the academic staff, as well as staff from the Disability Advice Team. It has normally been the case that disability has not provided an obstacle to students participating fully in all aspects of coursework, but you are advised to consider the practical demands of the course in considering whether it is the most appropriate choice for you.

The Disability Advice Team is available to discuss any issues you may have and can provide services such as sign language interpreters, note takers, dyslexia screening/tuition and support with mobility on campus. They offer confidential advice and information about academic and personal issues, adjustments in examinations, applying for the Disabled Student Allowances (DSA) and buying suitable equipment.

For further information about the Disability Advice Team and what they can do for you, go to – <http://www.beds.ac.uk/studentlife/student-support/health/disabilities>

Assessment Map

BA Art and Design BAND-S

A1 - Assessment part one A2 - Assessment part two F - Feedback due - 15 working days after submission

Unit Code	Weeks																											
	C/O	4	6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
ART001-6	C		A1.1			F		A1.2		F	A2		F															
ART002-6	C					A2		F		A1		F																
ART003-6	C							A1		F	A2		F															
ART004-6	C	A2.1				A2.2		F		A1		F																
ART005-6	c					A2		F		A1			F															

Section 3 - Academic Information

This section will be used as part of the approval and review process and **peer academics** are the target audience.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, a graduate of typical standard will be able to:

LO 1: A detailed knowledge and understanding of art & design and its contexts.

LO 2: Gain the practical experience to develop independent artistic or design projects.

LO 3: Plan and execute complex practice-based projects autonomously and professionally.

LO 4: A detailed knowledge and understanding of various production techniques based on contemporary approaches to art and/or design.

LO 5: Critically evaluate the art & design produced by other practitioners and use the insights gained to reflect on and evaluate your own work.

LO 6: Construct sophisticated arguments in current practice-led research methods to support your understanding of practice-based production and give a critical focus to your own creative work.

LO 7: Develop your practice to a level that will sustain you beyond the course as a professional artistic or design practitioner or for further research in art and design.

Course-specific regulations

None

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

An essential feature of the teaching strategy will be to encourage you to engage in independent learning and research.

The course aims to build a close relationship between practice and theory and to this end you will be encouraged to take ownership of your creativity and its outcomes, whilst at the same time developing an understanding of a range of contexts that affect art or design practices generally and your practice in particular.

Your self-determined project will therefore engage you in creative and research activities that confront visual problems and ideas relevant to expression or response through art and/or design practices. At the same time you will be expected to take professional and academic artistic or design practices into consideration.

At the end of the course you should be able to realise a focused and critically justified creative project of your own devising and be able to demonstrate your own particular insights into the critical, cultural and professional contexts in which your own work is placed. This will be the product of a discursive approach to teaching and an approach to learning involving enquiry and analysis of issues and a synthesis of ideas with practice.

Teaching will also require you from time to time to participate in and contribute to peer review of your work in which the outcomes of your research and practice will be the subject of critical scrutiny by both your peers and your tutor(s). This is part of formative assessment having the attribute of assessment for learning. Overall, the teaching, learning and assessment strategy is designed to support and enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the course. Making, curation and research, for example, appear at all levels of the course to link learning to 'real world' experience and prepare students for demanding nature of the commercial environs of art and design. Feedback on assessment is an essential part of the learning experience and the reflections made on the tutor comments will enable students to critically assess their learning and develop between briefs and tutor led studio 'crits'.

Additional Academic Information

Peer-assisted learning (PAL)

n/a

Initial Assessment

Introduction to Historical Contexts: Art and Design (ART003-6). Initial assessment takes place in week 6 of the course. The task will be a written proposal for your essay. Your proposal will answer one of the essay questions which will be available for the unit on BREO and on the assessment hand-out.

- introduce students to undertaking PG assessment tasks
- provide students with development feedback
- introduce students to reflect and act on feedback
- allow course teams and personal tutors to identify any additional support needed
- provide engagement data for the Student Attainment and Review (StAR) board

Improving students' learning

Research-led practice is a key skill in becoming an employable and dynamic professional. Throughout the course you will be involved with research and research-led practice, which will require you to maintain a research journal, the purpose of which is to document your research and the unfolding context for your work.

The research journal will be key in acting as an aid in focusing research and improving your performance. Through records that you keep about the development of your work and from feedback you will receive from your tutors, you will be able to maintain a personal profile that monitors your progress and you will be able to evaluate your own individual effectiveness in achieving your aims.

Working individually, you will have to set your own tasks to achieve your research goals, drawing on previous learning experience, alongside new knowledge acquisition, to achieve creative solutions to problems and to develop creative ideas. You may work in groups and you need to be able to measure your own performance in relation to the group to map your own learning curve.

Academic Integrity

Research and essay writing are introduced at Level 7 and integrated into all course units. High risk assignment types – coursework essays – are balanced by low risk presentations and portfolio reviews. ArtPad, alongside Pad gives support and encouragement to students in their written assignments and in general organisation matters.

HEAR implementation**Internationalisation**

Art and Design is always examined and reflected upon in an International context – research is encouraged to reflect the global nature of art and design – with particular reference to Photography and the Video Arts. The contextual units in the course reflect upon the global nature of art and design in general, and specifically at level 7 in ART003-6 **Contemporary Issue: Art and Design** which introduces the global debates in art and design today.

Sustainability

All studio units are informed by the cultural and environmental impact of contemporary practice in art and design. Student research is encouraged to reflect upon the environment and broader ideological contexts of sustainability.

Section 4 - Administrative Information

This section will be used as part of the approval and review process and peer academics are the target audience.

Faculty	CATS
Portfolio	Graduate Art and Design
Department/School/Division	Art and Design
Course Coordinator	Colin Davies
Version Number	2015/1
Approved by (cf Quality Handbook ch.2)	University Transition
Date of approval (dd/mm/yyyy)	April 2015
Implementation start-date of this version (plus any identified end-date)	2015/16

Form completed by:

Name:Colin Davies

Date: April 2015

Authorisation on behalf of the Faculty Teaching Quality and Standards Committee (FTQSC)

Chair:

Date:

Course Updates		
Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Nature of Update	FTQSC Minute Ref: