

CIGN Module Descriptor

Title of Module: Researching Creative Practice

Module ID:

Credits (national system): 20 **ECTS:** 10

Responsible Institution: UWS

Module Coordinator: UWS Staff Team, (Art, Music and Performance)

Module Type: theory based course

Language: *English*

Prerequisites:

Summary of Module:

This Module aims to introduce students to a variety of research approaches appropriate to the study of art, design and visual culture. The module will develop in students the skills necessary to identify an area of research suitable for study on an extended research project and the key sources required, and to assist students in planning a strategy for embarking on an extended research project. This module provides students with the opportunity to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of a wide range of research skills, encompassing conventional qualitative and quantitative methods, and emergent practice based methods.

A series of lectures will introduce a range of critical theories appropriate to researching creative practice. The principles underpinning research as an academic practice will also be introduced. Concurrently, seminars will introduce specific methodological approaches, the ethics of research and the collection and use of data.

Students will be supported by specialist tutors in Art and Design to develop a written research proposal of circa. 3000 words. The module requires an amount of planning, time-management, independent study and critical thinking. Students will work closely with tutors to engage with previous research and practice in their subject area, as well as examining and selecting research methods and/or professional practices to support their research proposal as appropriate.

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Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this module, students will:

L1. Identify and analyse suitable lines of enquiry for an appropriate research project and indicate relevant sources required to study them.

L2. Gather and critically evaluate theoretical and visual evidence relevant to the chosen topic.

L3. Plan an appropriate outline strategy and timetable for the research preparation and investigation needed to complete an extended research project

Learning Objectives:

Theoretical Principles	30%
Analyses	20%
Conception	20%
Realization	30%

Specialist Skills:

- Level 1: recognize & reproduce
- Level 2: comprehend & apply
- Level 3: compare & evaluate
- Level 4: connect, deepen & develop

Module Delivery Method(s):

 classroom

The module is designed to be delivered within a blended learning model, employing mixed modes of learning, teaching and assessment. This will include lectures, seminars and workshop activities, along with extensive online learning resources and activities.

Learning & Teaching Activities:

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Learning and Teaching on this module will be a combination of lectures, seminar-based discussions and independent study. Seminar-based discussions will equip students with skills in observation, description and interpretation, enabling them to produce written responses required by the assessable elements of the module. Lectures will demonstrate and exemplify how a range of methodological approaches can be applied to the study of cultural artifacts, using previous dissertations as examples. This will provide students with the necessary tools required to develop an independent research project proposal for continued study.

Learning and teaching is focused on a critical engagement with key cultural theories complemented by independent learning and creative development, emerging practice based research methods and related critical theory guided by specialist tutor supervision. Delivery patterns will take the form of a series of weekly lectures and seminars for the first section of the module. The remaining weeks will be delivered by means of individual tutorials and subject specific reading groups with a specific supervisor(s), culminating in the production of the hypothetical research proposal.

The first part of the module, delivered through lectures and seminars, will focus on the development of a framework for research methodologies. They will also introduce several conventional qualitative and quantitative methods and consider ethical issues concerning the use of creative practice in academic research. During individual tutorials, it is anticipated that staff will collaborate during the provision of supervision and that more than one tutor may be assigned per group depending on the breadth of expertise required.

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Learning Material:

Indicative Resources / Obligatory Readings:

D'Alleva, A. 2010. How to Write Art History. London: Laurence King Publishing

Fortier, M. 2002. Theory / Theatre 2nd edn. London: Routledge [available online]

Stebbins, L.F. 2006. Student Guide to Research in a Digital Age: How to Locate and Evaluate Information Sources. London: Libraries Unlimited [available online]

Sturken, M. & Cartwright, L. 2009. Practices of Looking: an Introduction to Visual Culture. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Thody, A. 2006. Writing and Presenting Research. London: Sage [available online]

Feedback and Assessment Method(s):

Assessment will comprise of a hypothetical Research Proposal (100%): (L1, L2, L3)

Students will submit a circa. 3000 word written proposal for the design of a hypothetical research project, using appropriate research methodology, reflecting on ethical considerations, and presenting a timeline for completion. It is anticipated that this will prepare students for completing a more substantial future research project

Costs of Subscription: