

Theories and Concepts in Critical Cultures 1

CEAD2003

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits¹	5	Programme	Higher Diploma in Art
NQF level	8	School	School of Education
Stage	1	Module Co-ordinator	Nuala Hunt
Trimester	Autumn	Module Team	CEAD Department
Contact	Nuala Hunt: hunttn@staff.ncad.ie ; cead@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	The NCAD Academic Council and the School of Education Board have responsibility for this module.		

1. Introduction

This module focuses on the development of knowledge of critical cultures through research and analysis of texts and visual imagery.

The aims of this module are to:

- Introduce key concepts and ideas underpinning visual culture and contemporary art practice,
- Encourage students to examine ideas and theories related to cultural practices in the modern period,
- Relate theories and ideas in modern and contemporary visual art practice to their emergent practice,
- Become familiar with a range of cultural resources, gallery spaces and museums,
- Plan and structure written assignments in response to a brief,
- Contribute to discussion and seminar based presentations.

2. What will I learn?

On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

1. Critically analyse key concepts underpinning critical cultures.
2. Appraise a number of theories informing visual and critical cultures in the modern/post-modern era.
3. Identify key phases in modern and contemporary culture.

¹ European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, where 60 ECTS credits equate to the workload of a full-time academic year

4. Summarise different perspectives on the role of the museum and gallery as a site for presentation and display.
5. Integrate theories within an emergent practice.
6. Organise and present written assignments using appropriate academic conventions.

3. How will I learn?

Lectures, Seminars, class based discussion, gallery and museum visits,

Learning method	Hours
Lectures	12
Seminars	12
Specified Learning Activities	36
Autonomous Student Learning	40
Total Workload	100

4. What learning supports are provided?

Use of library resources, tutor supports and guidance in the analysis of text and imagery

Reading

Stallabrass, J. (2006), *Contemporary Art, A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

E-flux Journal, *What is Contemporary Art?*, New York, Sternberg Press.

Reading: Ryan B. (2009), 'Altermodern: A Conversation with Nicholas Bourriaud', available: <http://www.artinamericamagazine.com/news-features/interviews/altermodern-a-conversation-with-nicolas-bourriaud/>.

Bourriaud, N. (2009), *Altermodern: 4th Tate Triennial*, London: Tate.

Foucault, M. (2007a) [1978], 'What is Critique?' in Lotringer, Sylvère (ed.) (2007) *The Politics of Truth*. Los Angeles Semiotext, pp. 41-83, available: <http://anthropos-lab.net/wp/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Foucault-Critique.pdf>. (PDF in Dropbox).

Kant, I. (1784), 'An Answer to the Question: "What is Enlightenment"', Königsberg in Prussia, 30th September, 1784, available: philosophy.eserver.oef/kant/what-is-enlightenment.txt.

Other sources to be provided.

5. How will I be assessed?

Assessment tool	% of final grade	Timing	Learning outcomes assessed
Written assignment	100%	End of Trimester	All learning outcomes
Total	100%		

Students' assessments will be graded using the [NCAD Grade Descriptors](#).

6. What happens if I fail?

Resit Opportunities

Opportunities will be provided at the end of the Trimester to students who do not complete all assessments in the Autumn Trimester, but students will not be able to progress to the next stage of the programme until they have successfully completed all LO's and modules.

Remediation

Students who fail where possible may repeat the module in the following academic year.

7. Am I eligible to take this module?

Module Requisites and Incompatibles

Pre-requisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Incompatibles	None
Prior learning	Where a student can demonstrate that they have achieved at least 80% of the learning outcomes of this module, by academic certified achievement, or through quantifiable and documented experience, they can apply to the School for that prior learning to be recognised. Applications must be received prior to the commencement of delivery of the module.
Recommended	None

8. When and where is this module offered?

Use of appropriate bookable spaces	Autumn Trimester
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9. How will I have the chance to evaluate the module?

It is important to NCAD that students inform the development of teaching and learning at NCAD. We encourage all students to communicate their concerns and their observations about their study to members of staff so that any changes can be made in a timely manner.

A student forum will be convened to gather students' comments about their study and the delivery of the programme. In addition, at the end of the Spring Trimester, students have the opportunity to complete an online evaluation of their study and experience at NCAD. These evaluation events are important to current and future students, to ensure we can enhance the delivery of programmes at NCAD.

In addition, you are invited to discuss your experience on the module with your lecturers at any point during the year. You can also relay your comments to the class student representative who will communicate your comments to the staff.

**For further details on the content of your module and teaching arrangements,
consult your Programme or Module Handbook**