

Design Studio & Research 1

DES2005

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits¹	15	Programme	BA Education & Design BA Design BA Design with Critical Cultures BA Design and Visual Culture
NQF level	8	School	Design
Stage	2	Module Co-ordinator	Alex Milton
Trimester	Autumn	Module Team	School of Design staff
Contact	School Secretary David Bramley: bramleyd@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	The NCAD Academic Council and the School of Design Board have responsibility for this module.		

1. Introduction

This module enables you to develop the in-depth knowledge and skills appropriate to your chosen design discipline. You will work on a series of exercises and projects of differing timeframes and increasing complexity within a studio environment. You will be encouraged to develop an integrated iterative creative process that incorporates making, evaluating, presenting and reflecting. In this module you will also be introduced to research methods appropriate to your specific discipline. You will apply these methods to creatively inform and underpin your studio practice.

The aims of this module are to:

1. Introduce creative methods, techniques and approaches
2. Explore how practitioners personally conceptualise briefs
3. Introduce materials and processes
4. Introduce research methods, techniques and approaches
5. Enable students to develop a body of research informed by an introduction to historical and contemporary creative practice, and user/audience needs
6. Initiate students critical analysis and reflective appraisal of set research themes

2. What will I learn?

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

1. EXPLORE: demonstrate the ability to respond to project briefs, and to explore concepts through a structured and transparent methodology.

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

2. INVESTIGATE: use a variety of practical and theoretical methods to demonstrate an investigation of research themes.
3. DEVELOP: select and apply appropriate material and conceptual development through a transparent iterative process of evaluation.
4. PLAN: undertake studio-practice using appropriate time management skills, including attendance, participation and timely project submission.

3. How will I learn?

Students will learn through a combination of set activities within the studio and self-directed study within and outside the studio.

Learning tool	Hours
Lectures, seminars, workshops and reviews	90
Autonomous Student Learning	210
Total Workload	300

4. What learning supports are provided?

Reading lists, suggested websites and other learning supports are included in the project briefs.

5. Am I eligible to take this module?

Module Requisites and Incompatibles

Pre-requisites	None
Co-requisites	Design Yr 2 modules
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.

6. How will I be assessed?

Assessment tool	% of final grade	Timing
Portfolio of module work: Workbook/Sketchbook/Journal Research	100%	End of trimester
Total	100%	

Assessment tool	Learning outcomes assessed
Portfolio of module work	All learning outcomes

7. Feedback, results and grading

Students will receive feedback on their progress in the form of formative assessments and informal feedback as well as feedback on summative assessments.

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

8. What happens if I fail?

Resit Opportunities

Opportunities will be provided during or at the end of Trimester 2 or 3 to students who do not complete all assessments.

9. When and where is this module offered?

Design studios	Trimester 1
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10. 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.

About two-thirds of the way through the year, 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 Trimester 2, 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**