



National College of Art & Design

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MA Design History and Material Culture "Identities"

Credits	<u>5</u>	Course	MA DHMC
Level	9	School	VISUAL CULTURE
Semester	1	Module Coordinator	TBC

Synopsis

This module introduces students to the ways in which artefacts can embody, represent and communicate cultural, national, social, personal or political identities. At the core of this module is the premise that objects have agency. This is investigated through case studies which explore, for example, the way in which objects 'perform' and their role in conveying social position, objects as political totems, and the role of material culture in building a national identity. Themes surrounding gender, religion, politics and class are interrogated, facilitating the development of an advanced critical literacy in the interpretation of design and material culture, particularly with reference to the meanings and/or identities objects can embody, represent or communicate.

This module is available as an elective option for postgraduate students in Fine Art, Education or Design.

What will I learn?

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

1. RESEARCH: develop a thorough and advanced understanding of the themes and methods in the study of the artefact as a bearer of cultural, national, social, personal or political identities.
2. ANALYSE: develop an advanced critical literacy in the interpretation of design and material culture, particularly with reference to the meanings and/or identities objects can embody, represent or communicate.
3. COMMUNICATE: (i) Acquire experience and competency in the study and contextualisation of design and material culture artefacts and the meanings and identities objects can embody, represent or communicate. (ii) Write an essay demonstrating strong skills in research and analysis.

How will I learn?

	HRS/ Semesters
Lectures	0
Seminar	24 hours (12 weeks x 2 hours)
Specified Learning Activities	<u>36</u>
Autonomous Student Learning	<u>40</u>
Total Workload	<u>100</u>

How will I be assessed?

	% of Final Grade	Timing
Written assessment <u>Presentation</u>	100	End of Module

What happens if I fail?

Resit Opportunities

End of Semester Exam

Remediation

If you fail this module you may repeat, resit, or substitute where permissible

Am I eligible to take this module?

Pre-Requisite:

Required : none

Co-Requisite: none

Incompatibles: n/a

Prior Learning

Requirements:

Excluded:

Recommended:

Should be prepared to read extensively and participate fully in all course activities including visits

When and where is this module offered?

Timetabling information is displayed only for guidance purposes, relates only to 2015/16 and is subject to change.

Mondays, Semester 1.

For further details on the content of your module and teaching arrangements consult your course handout