



MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Art in the Contemporary World “Key Theories 2: 21st Century Revisions”

Credits	5	Course	MA ACW
Level	9	Faculty	VISUAL CULTURE
Semester	1	Module Coordinator	Declan Long/ Francis Halsall

Synopsis

This module focuses on key contemporary theoretical paradigms that inform Contemporary Art Discourse. Students will engage in some of the major theories that inform writing and thinking about art today. Indicative content includes key terms such as Materialism, Realism, Speculative Philosophies, Nihilism and the writings of thinkers such as Žižek; Deleuze & Guattari; Laruelle and Meillasoux.

What will I learn?

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

1. RESEARCH those key theoretical paradigms from the 21st Century that inform current debates in contemporary art;
2. ANALYZE: the contemporary coordinates and milieu for their own intellectual positions and in particular those from the 21st Century;
3. COMMUNICATE & ORGANISE: a good knowledge of important theoretical paradigms and key figures from current writing on and around art.

How will I learn?

	HRS/ Semesters
Lectures	0
Seminar	12 hours (6 weeks, 2 hours)
Specified Learning Activities	36 hours (6/ week, reading)
Autonomous Student Learning	52
Total Workload	100

How will I be assessed?

	% of Final Grade	Timing
Written assessment	100	End of Module

What happens if I fail?

Resit Opportunities

Essay resubmission

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: Students should aim to familiarize themselves with the theory under discussion, either viewing some other primary works in addition to the selected text, or undertaking secondary readings so as to introduce and contextualise the issue that we will discuss. Preparation may include a guide to contemporary theorists such as one of these:

- Costello, Diarmuid and Jonathan Vickery, *Key Thinkers on Art* (London: Berg, 2007)
- Murray, Chris (ed.) *Key Writers on Art: The Twentieth century* (London: Routledge, 2003).

The Routledge Critical Thinkers series is also useful, providing substantial but clear guides to many of the theorists we will discuss.

- <http://www.routledge.com/books/series/SE0370/>

When and where is this module offered?

Timetabling information is displayed only for guidance purposes, relates only to 2014/15 and is subject to change.

Semester 1, Friday mornings, weeks 1-6

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