



MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Art in the Contemporary World “Key Theories 4: The Politics of Participation”

Credits	5	Course	MA ACW
Level	9	Faculty	VISUAL CULTURE
Semester	2	Module Coordinator	Declan Long/ Francis Halsall

Synopsis

This module focuses on key accounts of the politics of participatory and collaborative practices. Students will explore particular theories and key examples. Participatory Art is widely understood as a shift away from the static object-based notion of art practice toward an exploration of art as the indeterminate organisation of spatial relations between the artist and the public. Questioning the conventional divide between the artist and the audience, Participatory Art also challenges assumptions about the role of the museum, the curator, and the critic.

Students will consider examples from early performance-based and conceptual art to Artist Collectives and online works rooted in the multi-user dynamics of Web 2.0 platforms. The course will explore concepts such as: Participation and the ‘other’, Relational Aesthetics, Socially Engaged Practice, The Dialogical, Informal Pedagogical Practices and Utopian Politics.

What will I learn?

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

1. RESEARCH: the key theoretical paradigms and models that inform current debates about participatory and collaborative practices;
2. ANALYZE: (i) the possible political implications of their own thought and practice; and (ii) the potential for meaningful collaboration;
3. COMMUNICATE: a good knowledge of the theories and figures that influence contemporary understandings of participation and collaboration.

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:

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