

Art Seminars 3 PGFA1006

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits¹	5	Programme	MFA Fine Art
NQF level	9	School	School of Fine Art
Stage	1	Module Co-ordinator	Dr Sarah Durcan
Trimester	2	Module Team	MFA team
Contact	Dr Sarah Durcan durcans@staff.ncad.ie , fineart@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	The NCAD Academic Council and the School of Fine Art Board have responsibility for this module.		

Note: The MFA in Fine Art may be delivered commencing in September or in January. Reference to trimesters reflects this: Trimester 1 is the first trimester of delivery, regardless of when the programme starts.

1. Introduction

The aims of this module are to:

- Situate the students' knowledge of contemporary art practice in a professional industry context and a diverse range of encounters.
- Further develop a context and relevant critical models of practice and curation for students' individual practices and research interests.
- Nurture professional networks, dialogue and exchange within the students' immediate peer group and the wider art infrastructure of organisations, institutions, formal and informal spaces of encounter.
- Enhance students' ability to engage with and critically respond to the thematics and concerns that drive advanced contemporary art practice.

2. What will I learn?

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

1. ARTICULATE some of the key concerns at play in the economy and cultures of contemporary art exhibitions, events and other public sites.
2. DEMONSTRATE an ability to engage critically with a contemporary art event/exhibition both individually and within a group audience.

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

3. UNDERSTAND the critical contexts at play in both their own practices and the wider international field of contemporary art.
4. EVIDENCE how art is mediated both discursively and speculatively within the space of exhibition or other public site of art practice.

Module content

This module consists of a field trip or study visit to a designated contemporary exhibition project, event or site of contemporary practice. It is designed to build on the peer support and critical momentum developed in Trimester 1 by engaging with a current site of contemporary practice as project/situation/exhibition or other public event. Students strengthen their knowledge of a framework for contemporary practice across selected areas. Through peer driven presentations and discussion, with the support of staff, students build a mutually beneficial space of discursive enquiry and exchange of ideas. An emphasis is placed on interrogating critical issues in relation to praxis and bringing historical and cultural awareness to the understanding of contemporary practice.

3. How will I learn?

The module requires active participation in engaging with the object of study both experientially and discursively. The field trip/study visit will involve engaging with the multi-dimensional nature of events/exhibitions which unroll spatially and temporally across diverse sites. Students will be facilitated to reflect on and critically respond to the event/exhibition in situ and through available channels of mediation particular to the event/exhibition.

Learning tool	Hours
Seminars (1.5 hours x 6)	9
Assessment	3
Specified Learning Activities	15
Autonomous Student Learning	73
Total Workload	100 hours

4. What learning supports are provided?

Relevant reading and reference materials spanning a range of online and physical resources.

Visual and verbal material in the form of interviews, discussions and other modes of dissemination are provided.

Critical and contemporary relationships to presentation of material are modelled and practiced in class.

5. Am I eligible to take this module?

Module Requisites and Incompatibles

Pre-requisites	To study this module, students must have successfully completed the following modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PGVC1001 Introduction to Research Practices • PGVC1007 Contemporary Art Practices 2: Mediums of Art • PGFA1001 Practice Lab: Fine Art • PGFA1002 Art Seminars 1
Co-requisites	To study this module, students must have successfully completed the following modules, or be studying them concurrently: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PGFA1009 Art Seminars 2 or 5-credit variation with CFA module as available or designated. • PGFA1003 Practice Pathways: Fine Art
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

6. How will I be assessed?

The project brief, as set by the module co-ordinator, will require students to evidence their understanding and critical response to the artistic and curatorial tactics and strategies at work within the site of contemporary practice addressed by the study visit. This response may be delivered as a verbal presentation with appropriate documentation or other means of discursively responding to the project brief; e.g. a round table discussion, public seminar or performative response.

Assessment tool	% of final grade	Timing
Presentation with appropriate documentation or other means e.g. round table discussion, public seminar or performative response.	100%	End of the module
Total	100%	

Assessment tool	Learning outcomes being assessed
Seminar presentation of project work	1-4

7. Feedback, results and grading

Fully graded – contributes to passing Stage 1 of the programme. Refer to [NCAD Grade Descriptors](#).

8. What happens if I fail?

Students who are struggling should contact the module co-ordinator. Learning from presentational contents and strategy in the field can provide further examples to draw from.

Resit Opportunities

Opportunities will be provided during or at the end of Trimester 2 to students who do not complete all assessments in Trimester 1, but students will not be able to progress to the next stage of the programme until they have successfully completed all Year 2 modules, equivalent to 60 credits.

Resits will be capped at Pass grade of D- (D Minus).

9. When and where is this module offered?

Designated Seminar Room

Trimester 2 (January - May). **[for MFA programmes commencing in January, Trimester 2 may run over Summer]*

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, towards the end of 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**