

Major Practice Project

PGVC2004

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits¹	25	Programme	MFA in Art in the Contemporary World
NQF level	9	School	School of Visual Culture
Stage	2	Module Co-ordinator	Dr Francis Halsall, Dr Declan Long,
Trimester	Trimester 2 of Final Year	Module Team	Dr Francis Halsall, Dr Declan Long, and other members of NCAD staff as appropriate
Contact	Neasa Travers, School Secretary: visualculture@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	The NCAD Academic Council and the School of Visual Culture Board have responsibility for this module.		

1. Introduction

In this module, students will create the body of work which has been developed, explored and critiqued in the trimester 1 module 'Experimenting and Designing Practice' and sits within the horizon of research established and critiqued in trimester 1 module 'Contexts for Contemporary Practice.' This body of work might be a series of art works, a curatorial project or a body of critical writing. Given the diversity of potential outcomes which are possible, the module is supported by peer review and close supervision by a tutor with relevant experience and expertise.

The aims of this module are to support students both individually and as a group to:

1. Develop an original and coherent body of work which articulates and manifests a coherent research theme
2. Explore their practice and its techniques, strategies and mediums in an ambitious, systematic and coherent manner.
3. Test and choose the most appropriate and effective modes of presentation for their work

2. What will I learn?

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

1. RESEARCH: Demonstrate an original and coherent body of work that relates to a specific and appropriate research theme
2. ANALYSIS: Present their work in a manner which articulates the clear research themes of the project
3. COMMUNICATION: Address audiences of peers and stakeholders with practice that meets the highest standards of public display or publication.

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

Module content

Content will be created by the students with support from their peer group and tutors. This module is student-centred and the students take responsibility for developing their own expanded research/practice project. This involves realising the research and practice that was explored, developed and tested in trimester 1.

Students will continue to attend the Contemporary Art Practices (CAP) lecture series offered to all ACW students on a two year cycle. This provides important perspectives on contemporary art practice and encourages students to understand and debate current issues in art creation and display.

3. How will I learn?

Learning is predominantly student centred and is specific to each individual project. It occurs through close supervision from a tutor including individual tutorials and group discussions and crits.

This module features at least one crit at which the entire ACW MFA student cohort (and potentially other postgrad NCAD students) will share perspectives on the development of the practice (more may be held if the specific learning needs of the students require it). Students will prepare for each crit by preparing their work for scrutiny and feedback. This might take the form of a presentation or an in-studio display, for instance.

These crits are not formally assessed with a grade but will provide important formative feedback. In addition, students will continue to attend the CAP lecture series.

Learning tool	Hours
Tutor-led (tutorials, group work and crits)	26
Specified Learning Activities	24
Autonomous Student Learning	450
Total Workload	500

4. What learning supports are provided?

The main learning support is the expertise of the tutorial team provided in tutorials (individual and group.)

This module is supported by a dedicated VLE (Canvas or Google Classroom) in which bibliographic material, set readings, assignments and other supporting material is shared. Key materials in the NCAD library have been identified to support learning on this module. Support for technical training in key skills such as sound recording and editing is provided through LinkedIn Learning online tutorials.

5. Am I eligible to take this module?

Module Requisites and Incompatibles

Pre-requisites	To study this module, students must have already successfully completed the following modules:
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	PGVC2001 Contexts for Contemporary Practice PGVC2002 Experimenting & Designing Practice
Co-requisites	None
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?

Students will be assessed on a final portfolio of work that includes a clear description of contents, documentation of any relevant work, written rationale and articulation of the pertinent research themes.

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

Feedback is given by written assessment sheets and face to face discussion.

Assessment tool	% of final grade	Timing
Body of work (negotiated with ACW team) presented as a final portfolio.	100%	About weeks 12-15 of the trimester
Total	100%	

Assessment tool	Learning outcomes assessed
Body of work	All learning outcomes: Research, Analysis & Communication

7. Feedback, results and grading

Feedback

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

Feedback is given by written assessment sheets and face to face discussion.

Grading

Students' assessments will be assessed and graded by two tutors (blind marking) using the [NCAD Grade Descriptors](#).

Results

Via the NCAD online system.

8. What happens if I fail?

A resit opportunity will be provided following the final examination board.

9. When and where is this module offered?

Spring trimester of year 2 (depending on the programme delivery schedule), at various NCAD sites including studios where appropriate.

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. Students are also encouraged to complete the Irish Student Survey of Engagement. These evaluation events are important to current and future students, to ensure we can enhance the delivery of programmes at NCAD.

In addition, students are invited to discuss their experience on the module with their lecturers at any point during the year. Students can also relay your comments to the class student representative who will communicate their comments to the staff.

**For further details on the content of your module and teaching arrangements,
consult your Programme or Module Handbook**