

Visual Culture Placement VC3-3

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits¹	5	Programme	BA Visual Culture
NQF level	8	School	School of Visual Culture
Stage	3	Module Co-ordinator	Dr Emma Mahony
Trimester	2	Module Team	Dr Emma Mahony
Contact	Neasa Travers, Secretary School of Visual Culture: visualculture@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	NCAD Academic Council and School of Visual Culture Board have responsibility for this module.		

1. Introduction

The purpose of the Placement module is to provide students with real world experience prior to completing their BA studies.

Placements with selected partners in the public and private cultural sector relate to the Visual Culture curriculum and provide students with the opportunity to explore one of the numerous professional sectors which reside around the the fields of the arts, design, heritage and film, including arts administration, project management, curation, arts education, critical and popular writing, archiving, marketing and advertising. Assessment of this module is based on the student's presentation and submission of annotated presentation slides, which critically reflects on the experience of the placement and is assessed by the placement supervisor. This will be an academic member of the School of Visual Culture.

Work placement agreements are put in place between NCAD and each placement host and between NCAD and the student and should be agreed prior to the start of the placement. The work placement agreement between NCAD and the student includes a learning contract that establishes broad learning objectives while on placement. The length of the placement may vary within weeks 1-12 of trimester 2 and may comprise 1-day a week for 12 weeks or 2-days a week for 6 weeks. Provision for an alternative placement opportunity within NCAD (with an organisation such as NIVAL EML or NCAD Gallery) will be established in the event that a student is unable to secure an external placement.

Should it prove impossible to undertake a placement in any given year, students will have an opportunity to undertake an equivalent module with comparable learning outcomes.

The aims of this module are to:

- Provide opportunities for students on the programme to understand and contribute the operations of an organisation related to Visual Culture.

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

- Provide an opportunity for critical reflection on the broader philosophical and intellectual claims of Visual Culture scholarship from the vantage point of professional experience.

2. What will I learn?

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

1. **RESEARCH:** Exercise initiative and personal responsibility towards the placement experience showing academic and professional purpose and the assimilation and application of pertinent knowledge.
2. **APPLY:** Demonstrate capacity for critical reflection that relates to short and long term professional objectives and development.
3. **COMMUNICATE:** Develop effective spoken, written and visual communication appropriate to specialist and non-specialist audiences showing an awareness of context and ability to adapt communication strategies to suit circumstances.

3. How will I learn?

Learning tools	Hours
Lectures	12
Specified Learning Activities	88
Autonomous Student Learning	110
Total Workload	200

Students learn through the tasks set and information provided by the host institution. Students will be required to engage in critical reflection of this experience in the form of a presentation to their peers and to a member of Visual Culture staff team.

4. What learning supports are provided?

Bibliographies, recommended readings for discussion in class, and online moving image and audio resources.

5. Am I eligible to take this module?

Module Requisites and Incompatibles

Pre-requisites	None
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?

Assessment tool	% of final grade	Timing
Presentation	50%	Week 10
Annotated presentation notes	50%	Week 12
Total	100%	

Assessment tool	Learning outcomes assessed
Presentation	All learning outcomes
Annotated presentation notes	All learning outcomes

7. Feedback, results and grading

Students are required to make a presentation to their peers and at least one tutor. They will receive informal feedback and then be required to submit the presentation as an illustrated text, for which they will receive written feedback. The work will be assessed against [NCAD Grade Descriptors](#).

8. What happens if I fail?

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.

9. When and where is this module offered?

The module is delivered in School of Visual Culture seminar rooms and classrooms as well as online, during weeks 1-11 of Trimester 2.

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. 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.**