**Joint Course in Critical Cultures in 2021-22**

*[This guidance is not for Visual Culture BA students or for Education students – separate arrangements are in place for you!]*

**What is Joint Course?**

Next year, your Critical Cultures studies at NCAD will take the form of ‘electives’ – a themed seminar focusing on a particular area of art, design or culture. Second year students sign up for an elective at the start of each semester. An 90 minute weekly class running for 11 sessions, each elective is a chance to focus your interests and to share ideas with your peers from different parts of NCAD.

Unlike other students (who take one elective each semester in the second year), Joint Course students take two electives each semester throughout the second year and one each semester in the third year. By the end of the degree, Joint Course students will have studied four more electives than those who don’t take up this option.

To balance their work, Joint Course students are not usually expected to take the ‘Professional Practice’ modules on offer as part of the studio programme. This means that if you become a Joint Course student, you will complete the same number of credits as everyone else on your programme.

The range of elective options changes every semester. Please consult outline of electives (last spring’s offer appear here - [https://www.ncad.ie/students/programme-information/visual-culture-information-for-ba-studio-programmes](https://www.ncad.ie/students/programme-information/visual-culture-information-for-ba-studio-programmes/)/).

**Who should become a Joint Course student?**

Joint Course is a great option for someone with a strong interest in criticism and ideas, and a desire to develop good writing and analytical skills. It can be challenging too – Joint Course students write two essays each semester (but the essays are scheduled to avoid too many clashes).

**How do you apply to be Joint Course student?**

If you are interested in signing up for the Joint Course, you need to complete the application form attached. You will need to achieve an average of B- or higher in your first year work in Critical Cultures. *Clearly, you have not had the feedback yet for semester 2. So if you are interested, please put in the application and we can advise you.* The deadline is Monday 24th May 2021. You should also talk to your tutors in the studio about the module that you will be dropping by signing up for Joint Course.

**Will I get my first choices if I become a Joint Course student?**

We try to support the interests of Joint Course students but cannot guarantee that you will be given your first choice.

**How can I find out more?**

Please ask your Thursday seminar tutor for advice. You can also email visualculture@staff.ncad.ie with any queries.

**How do I apply?**

Please complete the form and return by Email to visualculture@staff.ncad.ie by Monday 24th May 2021.

**Critical Cultures Joint Course Application form 2021-22**

NAME:

SCHOOL:

DEPT:

STUDENT NUMBER:

EMAIL:

I wish to become a Joint Course student from autumn 2021.