

# Glasgow School of Art Course Specification

## Course Title: Research Project 4

*Please note that this course specification is correct on the date of publication but may be subject to amendment prior to the start of the 2023-24 Academic Year.*

<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>HECOS Code:</b>	<b>Academic Session:</b>
UBAR503 / UDPF103		2023-24

<b>1. Course Title:</b>
Research Project 4

<b>2. Date of Approval:</b>	<b>3. Lead School:</b>	<b>4. Other Schools:</b>
Academic Council December 2023	Mackintosh School of Architecture	N/A

<b>5. Credits:</b>	<b>6. SCQF Level:</b>	<b>7. Course Leader:</b>
30	10	Florian Urban

<b>8. Associated Programmes:</b>
Bachelor of Architecture (Hons) Diploma in Architecture

<b>9. When Taught:</b>
Semester 1 and 2

<b>10. Course Aims:</b>
The aim of the course is to extend architectural research skills, and provide the opportunity to explore a self-defined subject of study related to architecture.

<b>11. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:</b>
At the end of the course each student should have the ability to demonstrate and/or with:  Category 2: Practice – Applied Knowledge and Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A sense of direction and the ability to develop and sustain a line of enquiry – being able to identify and develop design ideas thematically as well as undertaking sequential problem-solving.</li><li>• Execute complex defined and self- defined projects of research, development or investigation and identify and implement relevant outcomes.</li></ul> Category 3: Generic Cognitive Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make judgements where data/information is limited or comes from a range of sources.</li></ul>

Category 4: Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills

- Communicate and articulate ideas and information fluently and work comprehensively in visual, oral and written forms to a professional level.

Category 5: Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others

- Exercise autonomy and initiative in carrying out set project briefs and self-directed

**12. Indicative Content:**

The research project is a self-directed work on a topic of the student's choice. The investigation and communication of a research project is commonly undertaken through a written piece, but other media can be used. There are two main options:

1. A textual research project will be a 10,000-word dissertation.
2. A visual research project is based on other media (graphics, models, drawings, designs etc.) It must be accompanied by a 5,000-word text of a similar quality that contextualises, describes and references the work.

In both cases the word count includes footnotes, references, etc., but excludes bibliography. The research project is normally submitted double-line spaced on A4, illustrated, fully referenced and with a bibliography.

**13. Description of Summative Assessment Methods:**

All learning outcomes for the Course are assessed through submission of written course work as described in section 9.

Pass in ALL components required

Assessment Method	Description of Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week (assignments)
Dissertation	10,000 words	100	Semester 2, week 10
or			
Artefact	Visual Research Project	50	Semester 2, week 10
Written Submission	5,000 word written submission	50	Semester 2, week 10

**13.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:**

Learning level outcomes stated for course must be achieved, and ability to fulfil these is graded against the marking scheme (see Academic Regulations).

**14. Description of Formative Assessment Methods:**

Engagement with formative assessment is a mandatory requirement.  
Verbal feedback given during tutorials. Written feedback given following interim submissions.

**14.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:**

Tutorials given periodically throughout the course with two interim formative submissions.

**15. Learning and Teaching Methods:**

Formal Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
6	300

**15.1 Description of Teaching and Learning Methods:**

Contact hours will include the presentation of the research and typically up to four one-to-one or small group tutorials between supervisors and students over the course of the year.

Timetable:

- Start of semester 1: General introduction, submission topic and research question, and allocation of supervisors.
- Mid-semester 1: Meeting with supervisor and submission of synopses, chapter structure and programme of work.
- Start of semester 2: Submission of progress report to supervisors
- Mid- semester 2: Meeting with supervisors
- End of semester 2: Final submission

**16. Pre-requisites:**

A pass in B.Arch Stage 3, or equivalent

<b>17. Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?</b>	Yes
<b>18. Are all the students on the course taught wholly by distance learning?</b>	No
<b>19. Does this course represent a work placement or a year of study abroad?</b>	No
<b>20. Is this course collaborative with any other institutions?</b>	No
<b>20.1 If yes, then please enter the names of the other teaching institutions:</b>	
N/A	

**21. Additional Relevant Information:**

**22. Indicative Bibliography:**

Self selected related to Research Project 4 area of study.

For writing skills/dissertation writing see for example

Borden, I. (2000). *The Dissertation: An Architectural Student's Handbook*. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann.

Greetham, B. (2001). *How to Write Better Essays*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.

Willis, P. (1983). *Dissertation Handbook: A Guide to Research and Writing*. London: RIBA.