Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Portfolio Preparation – Creative Practices

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.

Course Code:	HECOS Code:	Academic Session:
UCON101		2023-24

1. Course Title:
Portfolio Preparation – Creative Practices

2. Date of Approval:	3. Lead School:	4. Other Schools:
PACAAG April 2022	School of Fine Art	N/A

5. Credits:	6. SCQF Level:	7. Course Leader:
60	6	Head of Professional and Continuing Education: Shona Paul Course Leader: Deborah Holland

8. Associated Programmes:
None

9. When Taught:
This course is taught over 23 weeks from August/September to February each year to support the effective development of students and their portfolios to fit with the timescales of application and interview to HE through UCAS.

10. Course Aims:
Through studio-based practice, the Course aims to work with students to support the development of high-quality portfolio work to support successful application and progression to further study within creative disciplines at HE level. It seeks to do this by: • Introducing students to the key pedagogical practices of a studio-based learning environment • Supporting the development of basic understanding of the key concepts, language and principles of a range of creative practices. • Develop practical and conceptual skills through reflective and collaborative learning • Support the development of students to start the process to student-initiated practice and peer supported learning • Introduce students to writing, research and presentation skills

- Develop student's understanding and requirements of their specific subject area to support effective decision making in the application process and presentation of a portfolio of work
- Assist students to successfully produce and present a portfolio of work developed throughout the year which exemplifies and supports their progression to HE.

11. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:

By the end of this course students will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Demonstrate an understanding and awareness of the basic principles, analytical concepts, terminology and practices within a range of creative interests and areas followed by the student
2. Demonstrate the ability to relate the basic concepts of creative practices to their portfolio development and practice
3. Demonstration of supporting skills relating to wider knowledge domains (including Critical Inquiry)

Applied Knowledge and Understanding: Studio Based Practice

4. To demonstrate the use of creative 2D and 3D making and technical skills in the practical application of creative practices
5. Demonstrate and evidence an understanding of the application of relevant creative principles to effectively complete briefs and other activity
6. Demonstrate a basic critical awareness of their studio practice

Communication, Autonomy and Working with others

7. Evidence an ability to work independently and collectively to organise and manage time and resources to achieve the successful outcomes of project briefs and activities set
8. To present and communicate ideas, concepts and information both verbally and written to their peers and staff
9. Have an awareness of the available pathways, progression opportunities and relevant application processes to allow effective and successful progression to Higher Education

12. Indicative Content:

1. The course is team taught with specialist staff from Open Studio and input from others as required to allow for a broad range of practitioners from different disciplines to work with the students.
2. Creative Project Briefs are delivered to explore and improve core experimental and practical skills in both 2D &3D.
3. This is supplemented by Specialist Practical Skills Workshops in areas such as Experimental Plaster Casting & Printmaking, Life Drawing/Painting, Paper Engineering, Material Exploration and Presentation Skills.
4. A Personal Development Project Brief encourages students to establish independent practice, underpinned by an introduction to research methodologies appropriate to their chosen specialisms.
5. Students are supported in developing communication, presentation and organisational skills through developing their portfolio and application to HE, 'Crits', Creative Writing Workshops and curating the end of course student exhibition.

13. Description of Summative Assessment Methods:

Each candidate's performance graded according to the GSA Code of assessment – taking due account of course's credit rating (60 credits)			
Assessment Method	**Description of Assessment Method**	**Weight %**	**Submission week (assignments)**
Efolio and Full Portfolio Submission	Appraise work submitted by completing the Final Assessment Score Sheet	100%	Week 22 Course Leader Assessment Week 23 External Examiner

13.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:
Record of Assessments: Purpose to give students guidance and critical feedback on progress and level of attainment in relation to learning outcomes • Progress Review one mid-course (Nov) Student Evaluation Form completed and Course Leader verbal Feedback given and UCAS Reference supplied. • End of Course (March) Student Evaluation Form Completed. Course Leader Final Assessment Score Sheet completed, and final grades determined on evaluating individual students, full portfolio of work by Course Leaders and ratified by External Examiner. **Cause for Concerns** – Stage 1. Verbal, Stage 2. Written - issued if a student is not meeting work requirements or attending timetabled sessions (Management notified/comply with GSA Protocols). This is intended to be offered as a supportive tool to work with students to identify and deal with issues as appropriate.

14. Description of Formative Assessment Methods:
Formative Assessment occurs at the end of each Creative Project Brief delivered (approx. 10). Students present all work in the Studio. Engagement with formative assessment is a mandatory requirement.
14.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:
• Tutorial - A reflective and critical discussion to provide feedback about work in progress, one-to-one basis or involving a group • Review - Presentation of work in progress or completed work, one-to-one with staff or involve a group • Peer Evaluation - Completed by a student about another student in relation to group tasks within a project • Self-Evaluation - Completed by a student providing an opportunity for reflection on progress

15. Learning and Teaching Methods:	
Formal Contact Hours	**Notional Learning Hours**
375	600
15.1 Description of Teaching and Learning Methods:	
Presentation of: 1. Efolio – Formal 2. Full Portfolio of Work 3. Mock Interviews Timetable: 23 weeks with 2.5 days each week and 2 x days weekend/online activity. Induction and applicant support also delivered digitally	

16. Pre-requisites:
Entry Requirements: • Application form and Efolio   • Interview with Full Portfolio if required   • Qualifications, dependant on experience and prior learning of each applicant. Attention is paid to applicants progressing aspirations and qualifications required at HE level

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

21. Additional Relevant Information:
This course has been delivered more than 18 years and has a high success rate in student retention and completion. On average annually 80% of student's progress to HE courses, within Scotland, UK wide and European Union.   Credit enhances the student learning experience, supports their onward progression to GSA 1st year, 1st year programmes across Scotland/UK wide institutions, and for an increasing (albeit small at present) number of applicants to 2nd year and MA Courses, and in keeping with the strategic aim to develop a credit bearing offer through Open Studio.   Students are supported throughout the programme to engage effectively with the both the core services and cultural resources of the institution and city to fully explore their portfolios.   Guest lectures and Q&A sessions are available with current GSA staff and students to help develop and clarify the student's progression aims. This is also supported by Mentoring Activity – current GSA Undergraduates, Ex-Portfolio Preparation Students sharing knowledge/experiences etc.   Students are also invited to GSA Events, Exhibitions, Lectures, for example, SoFA Friday Lecture Series, UG Student Pop-Up Exhibitions to support the progression to an HE environment.

22. Indicative Bibliography:
Students receive individual guidance on their reading as interests develop and mature during the Course.   **Core Texts include:**   Anon., *Whitechapel : Documents of Contemporary Art*, book series, London: Whitechapel. Editors, P.,   Vitamin, Book Series, Phaidon Press Limited.   Hudson, J., 2010. *1000 New Designs 2 and Where to Find Them*, London: Laurence King.   Ingledew, J., 2014. *The A-Z of Visual Ideas: How to Solve Any Creative Brief*, London: L. King Publishing.   Kalb, P., 2014. *Art since 1980: charting the contemporary*, London: Laurence King Publishing.   Lefteri, C., 2014. *Materials for design*, London: Laurence King Publishing.