

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Design History and Theory 4: Dissertation

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:
UDHT4D		2023-24

1. Course Title:
Design History and Theory 4: Dissertation

2. Date of Approval:	3. Lead School:	4. Other Schools:
PACAAG April 2022	School of Design	

5. Credits:	6. SCQF Level:	7. Course Leader:
40	10	Helen McCormack

8. Associated Programmes:
BA (Hons) Communication Design BA (Hons) Communication Design (SIT) BA (Hons) Fashion Design BA (Hons) Interaction Design BA (Hons) Interior Design BA (Hons) Interior Design (SIT) BA (Hons) Silversmith and Jewellery Design BA (Hons) Textile Design

9. When Taught:
Year 4, Semesters 1 and 2

10. Course Aims:
<p>This course comprises the Honours Year submission to Design History and Theory. The Dissertation represents a substantive piece of critical inquiry and research commensurate with this level of study.</p> <p>Aims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encourage an active engagement with source materials according to individual research interests and contemporary contexts • To advance students' confidence in taking critical control of their chosen topics • To equip students with an advanced vocabulary to engage in discussion on issues of increasing relevance to their own studio practice • To further develop the core skills required to formally present debate and discussion in critical, historical and cultural studies

11. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:

Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:

- Understand and apply certain research methods according to individual research interests
- Recognise that different critical opinion can be reached on visual and material culture depending on the method selected for criticism
- Employ a wide range of key terms and definitions within discourse on cultural studies and the analysis of material culture
- Apply the core principles of critical writing and verbal presentation in critical, historical and cultural studies
- Understand the importance of self-directed and original critical work in critical, historical and cultural studies

12. Indicative Content:

- Self-directed study and research
- Multi-disciplinary approaches to critical inquiry
- International perspectives on material culture, politics and ethics
- Languages and vocabularies of critical studies
- Research sources and principles of research
- Independent argument and critical analysis

13. Description of Summative Assessment Methods:

Assessment Method	Description of Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week (assignments)
Dissertation	10,000 word Dissertation	100%	Semester 2, Week 9

13.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:

Students submit 2 bound copies directly to the DH&T (Design) admin office and 1 digital copy direct to CANVAS.

14. Description of Formative Assessment Methods:

Engagement with formative assessment is a mandatory requirement.

Students receive formative assessment at staged intervals throughout the research and writing process

14.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:

Students will receive written and oral formative feedback during one-to-one tutorial sessions with their supervisor.

15. Learning and Teaching Methods:

Formal Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
7	400

15.1 Description of Teaching and Learning Methods:

Detailed timetable issued via CANVAS

16. Pre-requisites:

Successful completion of Year 3, SCQF Level 9, at GSA in the School of Design

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

N/A

21. Additional Relevant Information:

N/A

22. Indicative Bibliography:

Bibliography to be compiled by student, augmented by recommendations by supervisor