

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification

Course Title: FACS 2: Exploring the Discipline - Ideas, Materials and Forms

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:
UFACS2		2023-24

1. Course Title:
FACS 2: Exploring the Discipline - Ideas, Materials and Forms

2. Date of Approval:	3. Lead School:	4. Other Schools:
PACAAG April 2023	School of Fine Art	N/A

5. Credits:	6. SCQF Level:	7. Course Leader:
20	8	Dr James Hutchinson

8. Associated Programmes:
BA (Hons) Fine Art

9. When Taught:
Year 2, Semester 1 and 2

10. Course Aims:
<p>This course aims to introduce students to the historical, theoretical and critical contexts which have informed the development of contemporary art practices. Through lectures and group discussion, students consider the ways in which we may understand key ideas, materials, forms and processes as having shaped and transformed the landscape of Fine Art practice from the 20th century through to the present day. During the course students will develop critical and analytic skills in academic writing through formative and summative assessment.</p> <p>At the start of the course, students are introduced to common cross-disciplinary concepts, debates and practices in modern and contemporary art through lectures and workshops. These may include concepts such as the readymade, appropriation or the simulacrum. Students are then separated into discipline-specific strands dedicated to the historical, theoretical and critical contexts of the School of Fine Art's three studio departments of Fine Art Photography, Painting & Printmaking and Sculpture & Environmental Art. Situated within the wider perspective of contemporary art, this discipline-specific approach informs and grounds the student's knowledge of the historical and theoretical contexts of their studio discipline, aligning the development of academic skills in critical analysis and writing with development in their studio work. The course is underpinned by a range of theoretical approaches within art history and cultural studies, such as materialist, post-structuralist, feminist and post-colonial, that encourage the acknowledgment of</p>

different histories and perspectives, and develop a versatility in engaging with these, in our understanding of the visual arts.

11. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:

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

- Identify, understand and use basic key discourses and concepts to contextualise and interpret modern and contemporary art practices.
- Demonstrate critical and analytic skills in the use of examples of art and visual culture in the explanation and use of appropriate discourses.
- Demonstrate core skills and principles of academic writing in the interpretation of art history and visual culture, utilising effective communication skills.
- Recognise the fact of different approaches, histories and perspectives as being an essential component to the academic study of art and visual culture.

12. Indicative Content:

- Critical approaches to contemporary art through histories of twentieth and twenty-first century art and visual culture.
- Explanation and discussion of key concepts, ideas and discourses.
- Analysis of artworks, individually and collectively, in relation to relevant contexts. Consideration of the geographical and historical specificity of discourses and practices in relation to the international and global dimension of contemporary art.
- Critical and analytic skills in academic writing.

13. Description of Summative Assessment Methods:

Assessment Method	Description of Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week (assignments)
Essay	3,000 word essay (as per assessment brief on Canvas)	100%	Semester 2, Week 9

13.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:

Students are required to submit an essay directly to Canvas. Feedback and indicative grade are issued to students individually via Canvas.

14. Description of Formative Assessment Methods:

Essay plan/draft (500-1000 words) (as per assessment brief on Canvas)
Submission week: Semester 2, Week 4

14.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:

Students are required to submit an essay plan directly to Canvas. Written feedback will be issued to students individually via Canvas and general feedback provided in a group tutorial.

15. Learning and Teaching Methods:

Formal Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
23	200

15.1 Description of Teaching and Learning Methods:

This course will be delivered through a series of lectures and supporting seminars taught by specialist staff from Fine Art Critical Studies and occasionally by guest lecturers. Learning Methods may include:

- Lectures
- Guest Lectures
- Directed Study
- Seminars / Reading groups
- Small groups discussions
- Enquiry-led learning
- Field visits and external research trips
- Reading lists and reading

Course takes place on Tuesdays in Semester 1 and 2. See Canvas for detailed timetable.

16. Pre-requisites:

Successful completion of SCQF Level 7 or equivalent

17. Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?	Yes
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:

N/A

22. Indicative Bibliography:

Bishop, Claire, *Artificial Hells: Participatory Art and the Politics of Spectatorship* (London: Verso, 2012)

Campt, Tina M.; *The Black Gaze: Artists Changing How We See* (Cambridge MA: MIT Press, 2021)

Graw, Isabella (ed.), *Painting Beyond Itself: The Medium in the Post-Medium Condition* (New York: Sternberg Press, 2016)

Han, Byung-Chul; *In the Swarm: Digital Prospects* (Cambridge MA: MIT Press, 2017)

Raicovich, Laura; *Culture Strike: Art and Museums in an Age of Protest* (London: Verso, 2021)

Souter, Lucy, *Why Art Photography* (2nd edition) (London: Routledge, 2018)