

**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification**

**Course Title: FACS 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*

<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>HECOS Code:</b>	<b>Academic Session:</b>
UFACS4DI		2023-24

<b>1. Course Title:</b>
FACS 4: Dissertation

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

<b>5. Credits:</b>	<b>6. SCQF Level:</b>	<b>7. Course Leader:</b>
40	10	Dr Benjamin Greenman

<b>8. Associated Programmes:</b>
BA (Hons) Fine Art

<b>9. When Taught:</b>
Semester 1 (Fine Art)

<b>10. Course Aims:</b>
<p>This course comprises the Honours Year submission to FACS. 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"> <li>• To encourage an active engagement with source materials according to individual research interests and contemporary contexts</li> <li>• To advance students' confidence and capacity to manage sustained research and writing on their chosen topic</li> <li>• To equip students with an advanced vocabulary to engage in discussion on issues of increasing relevance to their own studio practice</li> <li>• To further develop the core skills required to formally present debate and discussion in critical, historical and cultural studies</li> </ul>

**11. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:**

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

- Understand and apply appropriate research methods according to individual research interests
- Recognise the diversity of voices and perspectives in art critical studies and that different conclusions can be reached depending on the critical method selected
- Employ a comprehensive range of appropriate terms and definitions within discourse on art critical and cultural studies in the practice of analysis, interpretation and argumentation
- 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
- Contemporary perspectives on art, politics and ethics
- Languages and vocabularies of art critical studies
- Research sources and use of 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	8,000-word Dissertation	100%	Fine Art: Semester 1, Week 15

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

Students submit 1 digital copy to GSA's virtual learning environment, Canvas.

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

Formative assessment is provided at staged intervals throughout the course.

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

Students will receive written and oral formative feedback during one-to-one tutorials with their supervisor and oral feedback and peer support during group sessions. Written feedback is provided on one formative draft submission.

**15. Learning and Teaching Methods:**

Formal Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
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7	400
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**15.1 Description of Teaching and Learning Methods:**

This course is primarily self-directed. An introductory session is provided to outline the course in detail and each student is supported through six-one-to-one tutorials and one group workshop with the student's allocated supervisor. Oral feedback is provided on their project proposal and for two drafts of their Dissertation and written feedback is also provided for one the drafts. Additionally, students can meet their supervisor through their Drop-In Hours.

Definitive timetable for each School issued via Canvas

**16. Pre-requisites:**

Requisite Year 3 studio and critical studies courses in Fine Art

<b>17. Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?</b>	No
<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:**

N/A

**22. Indicative Bibliography:**

Each student compiles a bibliography on their individually-chosen subject, augmented by recommendations by their supervisor.

Archibald, Jo-Ann., Jenny Lee-Morgan, and Jason. De Santolo, *Decolonizing Research: Indigenous Storywork as Methodology* (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2022)

Haylock, Brad and Patty, Megan (eds.), *Art Writing in Crisis* (London: Sternberg Press, 2021)

Kapur, Geeta, *Speech Acts* (New Delhi: Tulika Books, 2023)

Rodger, Johnny, *Key Essays: Mapping the Contemporary in Literature and Culture* (London: Routledge, 2021)

Söntgen, Beate and Voss, Julia (eds.), *Why Art Criticism? A Reader* (Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz Verlag, 2022)