

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Fine Art Studio 4 (Essay)

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:
UPAP401/UFAP401/USEA401		2023-24

1. Course Title:
Fine Art Studio 4 (Essay)

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:
100 credits if opting for one of the following 20 credit FACS courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Essay • Critical Journal • The Curatorial Rationale 	10	Relevant Head of Department

8. Associated Programmes:
BA (Hons) Fine Art

9. When Taught:
Semester 1 & 2

10. Course Aims:
In Year 4, the undergraduate programme places emphasis on the consolidation of studio and exhibition practice. The specific aims of the Year 4 Studio course are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate you to become fully independent personally, artistically and intellectually. • Enable you to synthesise individual artistic and intellectual knowledge and understanding as a body of artwork (practice). • Facilitate you to communicate and present, and critically articulate, ideas, knowledge and understanding. • Enable you to form a critical awareness of their individual practice in relation to the professional context of Fine Art. • Consolidate your professional skills and experience. • Inform your decisions on possible career paths or further study following graduation. • Enable you to present artwork through exhibition and publication, in the public domain.

11. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:

Upon successful completion of Studio 4, you should be able to:

- ILO1: Demonstrate a refined, critical understanding of your individual, self-directed art practice within the professional context of fine art through relevant contextual and thematic research.
- ILO2: Critically develop, evaluate and synthesise ideas, methods, and processes through material enquiry and the realisation of your self-directed programme of study.
- ILO3: Develop, realise and resolve your artwork to an advanced level reflecting a comprehensive critical understanding of your self-directed art practice.
- ILO4: Evidence substantial independent learning through the ability to manage your studies in an integrated and coherent manner, meet deadlines, and engage in reflective and critical self-evaluation.
- ILO5: Use advanced skills and critical judgement to document and share your self-directed fine art practice and achievements with others, and demonstrate independence in seeking opportunities to test artwork in a variety of contexts.
- ILO6: Work professionally and engage in your studies in a safe, ethical and sustainable manner.

12. Indicative Content:

Year 4 (Fourth Year): is delivered by a team of dedicated subject specialist tutors within each of the subject areas on the BA Fine Art Programme: Painting and Printmaking, Photography and Sculpture and Environmental Art.

During the fourth Year the expectation is that you will develop your own self-directed practice. This will be supported by tutorials, group seminar critiques and discussion. You will develop your understanding and expertise of the specific critical languages and working practices of their chosen subject area. Subject-specialist staff will support you and the course aims to encourage and assist you in advancing your understanding of your own Fine Art practice.

The Fourth Year aims to allow you to rigorously investigate the methods, both conceptual and practical with which you need to create your artwork independently, as well as devising strategies for display and developing an in-depth awareness of the potential audiences for your work.

As the culmination of the four year programme, you will be supported to consolidate your practice and enable the presentation of work for public display.

The specific details of the subject areas and the indicative content by department is listed below:

- Sculpture and Environmental Art:

You will develop your independent programme of study, consolidating and synthesising your practice within a knowledge and understanding of broader contemporary fine art practice. You will be supported to situate your practice in relation to the broader field of Fine Art Practice through artists' talks, field trips and lectures.

Critical skills are further developed through critical feedback sessions and studio discussions. Learning is supported by individual/group tutorials, seminars, lectures, and gallery visits.

Sculpture:

The subject focus in Sculpture is supported through Public Exhibition, Documentation and Presentation. You will work to complete their independent programme of study and present a body of work and its documentation for final examination. This includes documentation of your Public Exhibition.

Environmental Art:

The subject focus in environmental art is supported through the Public Art Project. Students work to complete their independent programme of study and present a body of work and its documentation for final examination. This includes documentation of your Public Art.

- **Fine Art Photography:**

During the fourth year, you will be required to initiate, develop and realise a significant group of works that together form a coherent project. These self-initiated studio projects are presented as work-in-progress in staff-led viewings. Critical skills are developed through feedback sessions and studio discussions, and learning supported by individual/group tutorials, and seminars which encourage you to further articulate how you situate your practice within contemporary photography/art. Practical skills in both production and installation are also enhanced from the support of the technical and studio staff, and by actively encouraging you to regularly present your work outside of the studio in self-organised exhibitions. Your fully realised and resolved projects form the core submission for examination at the end of the year.

- **Painting and Printmaking:**

Students ongoing development of your independent study programme is maintained and you will receive tutorial guidance and advice on preparing an artist's statement. At this stage, the course aims to develop a professionalism of approach in accord with the your status as an emerging artist/creative practitioner entering the world outwith the art school. Artist talks, field trips and lectures continue to shape and situate their practice in relation to the contemporary art world. Web based resources in contemporary visual art, suggested reading material and other supplementary information are available to final year students on Canvas. Seminars designed to assist you with the presentation of your support work and research material will be offered later in the session. There is an intensified emphasis on presentation and exhibition skills as students prepare to present a resolved body of work and its supporting documentation for the Degree Examination at the end of session.

13. Description of Summative Assessment Methods:

Assessment Method	Description of Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week (assignments)
Portfolio	Submission of artwork and related material	100	Semester 2 Week 13

13.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:

Summative assessment occurs at the end of each year. Students are expected to present the outcomes of their study in an exhibition format and digitally, in line with the assessment brief. The Final Examination comprises an extended process where the department staff assess the work, then that assessment of the work is moderated by a team of SoFA staff including Departmental staff, finally, that assessment process is examined by External Examiner. An External Examiner, one of three such examiners in the School of Fine Art, is appointed to gain an overview of the quality of the course and of the students' work. A preliminary visit to Departments is made by all External Examiners in Semester 2 and again at the stage of final examination in order to review the examination process across the School of Fine Art.

14. Description of Formative Assessment Methods:

Engagement with formative assessment is a mandatory requirement. Interim Assessment in late January / early February, students are assessed by departmental staff and given clear feedback on their progress. Students are given an indicative mark to help identify areas of weakness in their study.

14.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:

Formative assessment occurs early in Semester 2. For this assessment, students are expected to present all studio work in their space, accompanied by a self-evaluation form and Programme of Study documentation. Formative assessment includes guidance in how to develop a digital portfolio, to support students in the preparation for summative assessment.

15. Learning and Teaching Methods:

Formal Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
100	1000

15.1 Description of Teaching and Learning Methods:

The BA (Hons) Fine Art programme at The Glasgow School of Art aims to build a creative study culture and environment for a rewarding learning experience. A range of learning opportunities is offered throughout the programme, appropriate to the aims of each year-stage. The aims reflect and prepare for, the professional context of Fine Art. A guiding principle of the School of Fine Art is that learning and teaching is actively informed by the professional practice and research of the teaching staff. All Fine Art studio tutors are practising artists.

Studio Practice

The studio is central to the learning environment of all Fine Art areas. Each student is assigned a space for production, fabrication, display, peer group learning, assessment and critical analysis.

Self-directed Programme of Study

The Self-directed Programme of Study structures the independent learning experience at Year 4. This is manifested in the students' writing of a negotiated (with studio staff) document called the 'Programme of Study' based on guidelines provided by academic staff. The Programme of Study must outline the students' proposed conceptual rationale, research interests and aims, methods, processes, resources and possible outcomes of study. Self-evaluation and staff assessment is based upon the negotiated aims and intentions of the Programme of Study in relation to the intended learning outcomes of Year 4.

Individual Tutorials

Tutorials take place throughout the course and are directed towards the students' own work and its development. Students may receive a range of tutorials, such as introductory tutorials, individual tutorials, group tutorials and sign up tutorials. Tutorials are timetabled and take place between a member of academic staff and an individual student or groups of students, usually in the students' studio space.

Critical Feedback Sessions

Critical feedback sessions are key to the learning experience in the School of Fine Art. Critical feedback sessions help students to develop work and ideas in relation to an audience, critical awareness of their own practice, and language and communication skills. At a critical feedback session (or 'crit') a small group of students and staff engage in the critical evaluation of finished work and work in progress. These sessions provide students with concentrated peer and staff feedback at strategic intervals in a projects, or programme of study's development and realisation. Critical feedback sessions are facilitated by staff and driven by students' engagement.

Peer Group Learning

The studio environment ensures students have a base to foster the peer group learning and social interaction crucial to the development of a critical community. Exchange and reciprocal learning are central to the development of a fine art practice and facilitate exposure to the ambitions and achievements of other students.

Workshops & Technical Support

A wide range of technical support is available to all students in fine art and includes electronic media, printmaking workshops, photography, woodwork, casting and metal workshops.

Critical Discourse

Critical discourse in the School of Fine Art is valued as a key learning and teaching tool. Critical discourse is crucial to the transfer of knowledge, contextualising individual practice, as well as fostering a culture of reciprocal learning within the year group. The culture of critical discourse is centred on this process and is led and facilitated by teaching staff and students.

Transferable Skills

The BA (Hons) Fine Art course aims for professionalism in Fine Art. Transferable skills are integral to the development of Fine art skills and abilities. They are currently identified as the ability to:

- Structure and communicate ideas effectively
- Manage time and resources and to work to deadlines
- Interact effectively with others through collaboration, collective endeavour and negotiation
- Source information and use information technology
- Critically analyse and evaluate
- Work independently, self-manage and set priorities

Professional Practice

Professional practice is an integral part of studying at the School of Fine Art and is embedded with the course curriculum of the four year- stages of the programme, or provided by the Careers Service. It provides students with the opportunities, experience and skills to engage professionally within the local, national and international art world contexts.

This may include:

- Preparation of artist's CV's and documentation of work
- Gallery visits, exhibition initiation, organisation and publicity
- Fund-raising, applications for grants and sponsorship for individual and group projects
- Seminars on self-employment, professional organisations and networks, artist's groups and artists' initiatives.
- Seminars on art law including copyright and intellectual property
- Participation in exhibitions outside of the institutional context

Each student will be provided with comprehensive timetable, including all teaching sessions, workshops and mandatory events required of the course. Main studio contact days are Monday,

16. Pre-requisites:

N/A

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:	
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N/A

21. Additional Relevant Information:

N/A

22. Indicative Bibliography:

N/A