

**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification**  
**Course Title: Critical Reflective Journal**

*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 2024-25 Academic Year.*

<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>HECOS Code:</b>	<b>Academic Session:</b>
PCMD302		2024-25

<b>1. Course Title:</b>
Critical Reflective Journal

<b>2. Date of Approval:</b>	<b>3. Lead School:</b>	<b>4. Other Schools:</b>
PACAAG August 2022	School of Design	N/A

<b>5. Credits:</b>	<b>6. SCQF Level:</b>	<b>7. Course Leader:</b>
20	11	Programme Leader - Brian Cairns

<b>8. Associated Programmes:</b>
MDes Communication Design MDes Graphics/Illustration/Photography

<b>9. When Taught:</b>
Stage 3 – Semester 1 (Week 1 to week 15) & Semester 2 (Week 1 to 15) Total of 30 Weeks

<b>10. Course Aims:</b>
The course aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist students in the production of a Critical Reflective Journal (CRJ).</li> <li>• Encourage students to identify how theory can inform their practice.</li> <li>• Encourage students to engage in academic discourse/s surrounding Communication Design practice and theory.</li> <li>• Deliver publication design skills that enable students to produce a CRJ publication.</li> <li>• Develop students as reflective practitioners.</li> </ul>

<b>11. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:</b>
At the end of the course, each student should have the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate understanding and knowledge of contemporary design theory and practice, and its relation to their own work.</li> <li>• Engage with academic discourse/s surrounding Communication Design theory and practice.</li> <li>• Present research findings in an appropriate visual and textual context.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an awareness of contemporary and historical debates surrounding practice.</li> </ul>

- Demonstrate independent learning in the development of a CRJ.
- Demonstrate effective time and project management skills to realise the CRJ.

### 12. Indicative Content:

The Critical Reflective Journal will take a publication format with a word count of 5000 words, with a word count allowance of 10% (both under and over).

The publication must be in English and clearly legible, including a bibliography using MHRA referencing. All references must be accurately cited (including textual and visual material). Where a citation is not credited to another party the content must be original and the authorship of the student alone (unless a collaborative practice has been declared explicitly). There should be no ambiguity regarding authorship.

The students may express appropriate design decisions in relation to their topic.

### 13. Description of Summative Assessment Methods:

Assessment Method	Description of Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week (assignments)
Written Submission as a publication	A Critical Reflective Journal 100%	100%	Week 14 of Semester 2 of Year2

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

The Critical Reflective Journal will take a publication format with a word count of 5000 words, with a word count allowance of 10% (both under and over).

The CRJ will be assessed on the quality of reflection informed through research and theory relating to the student's own project.

Evidence of appropriate criticality informing the design decisions of the CRJ.

### 14. Description of Formative Assessment Methods:

Engagement with formative assessment is a mandatory requirement.

Whilst there is no formative assessment point formative feedback will be issued by a variety of methods from the teaching staff and from peers.

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

N/A

### 15. Learning and Teaching Methods:

Formal Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
20	200

#### 15.1 Description of Teaching and Learning Methods:

N/A

### 16. Pre-requisites:

Average grade across stages 1 and 2 of C3 or above
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<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	

<b>21. Additional Relevant Information:</b>
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The Critical Reflective Journal (CRJ) provides tangible evidence of the student's ability to reflect and consider their own position as a reflective practitioner within the wider context of Communication Design practice. Explicit evidence of research, theory, methodology and reflection informing the student's final project is required.
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<b>22. Indicative Bibliography:</b>
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The bibliography is available in the Library Section on CANVAS (Virtual Learning Environment)
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