

Glasgow School of Art Programme Specification

Programme Title: Master of Letters in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art)

Please note that this programme specification is correct on the date of publication but may be subject to amendment prior to the start of the 2024-25 Academic Year.

1. Programme Details:

Programme Title	Master of Letters in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art)
HECOS Code	100914
School	School of Fine Art
Programme Leader	Dr Karen Di Franco and Dr Alexandra Ross
Minimum Duration of Study	12 months, registered study
Maximum Duration of Study	24 months, registered study
Mode of Study	Full-time
Award to be Conferred	Master of Letters
Exit Awards	Stage 1: PG Cert in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) Stage 2: PG Diploma in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art)
SCQF Level:	11
Credits:	180

Academic Session	2024-25
Date of Approval	PACAAG August 2024

2. Awarding Institution	University of Glasgow
3. Teaching Institutions	The Glasgow School of Art / University of Glasgow
3.1 Campus	Glasgow
4. Lead School/Board of Studies	School of Fine Art
5. Other Schools/Board of Studies	N/A
6. Programme Accredited By (PSRBs)	N/A

7. Entry Qualifications	
7.1 Highers	N/A
7.2 A Levels	N/A
7.3 Other	A good Undergraduate Degree in a relevant subject (normally 2:1 or higher - although a lower classification may be considered where other areas of the application are strong) or equivalent professional or life experience. A good level of understanding of contemporary art relevant to the applicant's cultural context. Candidates will undertake an interview before selection.

	Candidates are considered on the quality of the following aspects of their application: Personal statement, previous relevant experience, references and performance at interview.
7.4 English Language Requirements	<p>All students will have to provide evidence of English language proficiency when applying.</p> <p><u>International Students</u> Students who require a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK must meet one of the following requirements in order to gain entry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS for UKVI Academic with an overall score of 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in all components; • Complete an acceptable Pre-sessional English Language Programme taught in the UK with an outcome that equates to the IELTS scores as stated above. <p>Students who have a degree from an English speaking country, or are a national of an English speaking country as listed in the UKVI Guidance, may use this as proof of English language ability.</p>

8. Programme Scope:

MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) is a 12-month Master's programme run jointly between The School of Fine Art (GSA) and The School of Culture and Creative Arts (UoG) aimed at graduates wishing to develop a curatorial pathway within the field of contemporary visual arts and other cultural fields. The programme is structured to enable and support students to pursue independent and self-directed work, alongside the practical, intellectual and professional foundations for future curatorial roles or contexts. Students have access to highly-regarded and experienced professional curators and practitioners, to acquire key skill sets and attributes alongside a peer network that are vital to the profession at all levels

MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) sits within The Glasgow School of Art's Common Academic Framework and the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SQFC), with all courses offered at SQFC level 11.

Situating Curatorial Practice:

The programme balances practice-based learning, contextual enquiry and professional perspectives, alongside a dynamic exploration of current developments, while supporting students to locate, articulate and refine curatorial interests and approaches.

- **The link between curator and artist.**

Curating is presented as an activity that is reliant upon close and on-going contact with artists and a considered understanding of their work. The programme focuses on the curation of contemporary art, situating its origins in the conceptual and post-conceptual practices of the 1960s and 1970s.

- The focus on **individual practice.**

Students in the programme are supported to identify and undertake individually motivated curatorial projects that will set the basis for the development of a self-sustaining practice. The programme encourages a diversity of approaches, which is reflected in the wide range of

curatorial work produced by the students and the diversity of backgrounds of Tutors and visiting staff.

At the same time, the programme explores curating as a form of research, in which knowledge is generated through practice. In this respect, it functions as a primer for practice-based PhD study.

Core to the programme is the accommodation of the MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) students alongside the Fine Art Practice students at The Glasgow School of Art. Students have access to a studio space, which functions also as a project space, and are encouraged to test and develop projects alongside MFA and M.Litt peers. The programme places emphasis on practitioner / peer support.

- **Contextual relevance.**

Curating is framed as an activity that takes place across an expanded field of practice, spanning a range of public spaces and social situations.. The programme investigates different modes of curating and encourages students to locate and test developing practice within a field. From this base, students examine curatorial concepts, theories and practices through a mixture of practitioner/ professional-led sessions and group analysis.

The context of Glasgow is central to the development of the programme. The city has a distinct contemporary art scene that connects to International fields, and its artist-led ethos is echoed in the agile approach to curating encouraged within the programme. The course draws upon on this community of artists, institutions, curators and international connections.

Throughout the 12-months, students are guided to undertake research and curatorial work and develop approaches to practice with an awareness of context and active participation within it. Students are encouraged to explore a wide range of resources, including collections, archival material and publishing facilities. The programme makes topical use of curatorial projects and programming taking place within Glasgow and Scotland more broadly. The programme attracts students from all over the world and fosters collaborations with a growing network of international partners, all contributing to a rich learning environment.

Programme Structure:

- Stage 1 focuses on situating practice and theory, guiding students to locate research collaboratively through connecting with peers and practitioners.
- Stage 2 encourages the development of curatorial research, with teaching that responds to the specific research interests within each cohort alongside professional practice
- Stage 3 shifts focus towards independent work, as students undertake a substantial curatorial project, dissertation, or a combination of both.^[1]_[SEP]

The full programme course list is as follows:

Stage 1:

- Core Course: Curatorial Practice 1 (40 credits)
- Mandatory Course: Research Methods and Methodologies in Practice (20 credits)

Stage 2:

- Core Course: Curatorial Practice 2 (40 credits)
- PGT Elective (20 credits)

Stage 3 (selection of one of the following):

- Master's Project in Curatorial Practice 1 (60 credits)
- Master's Project in Curatorial Practice 2 (60 credits)
- Dissertation (60 Credits)

The Core Courses are designed to place engagement in independent and self-directed exploration and research, the acquisition of practical skills and professional attributes, and contact with experienced professionals at the core of the programme.

In Stages 1 and 2, Curatorial Practice 1 and Curatorial Practice 2 have a flexible structure, which respond to particular programming or specific project or exhibition opportunities that arise within any one academic year.

Alongside CP1 and 2 students are required to take Research Methods and Methodologies in Practice (20 credits), in Stage 1 and an Elective or a Work Placement in Stage 2.

In Stage 3 students choose from three possible routes towards submission for final assessment. These are either Master's Project option 1 (100% Curatorial Project), Master's Project option 2 (50% Curatorial Project and 50% Extended Essay) or a Dissertation (100%). Whether pursuing a Master's Project or a Dissertation, it is expected that student submissions contribute to the field of curating.

Teaching and Learning Methods:

The structure of the teaching and learning methods is particular to the Programme and has been devised in order to construct the most conducive approach towards independent practice possible. The Core Courses Curatorial Practice 1 (Stage 1) and Curatorial Practice 2 (Stage 2), follow an integrated model of practice and contextual enquiry, where the methods of teaching explore the inter-relationships of the theoretical with the practical. This is developed through core teaching strategies: the lecture/seminar, the professional skills training, the discussion of practice-based research and curatorial work (through tutorials and group sessions), and the workshop. These aspects are supported by visits to exhibitions and peer organised sessions (talks, screenings.)

Within this pedagogical framework, independent study plays a major role. Students take significant responsibility for their own learning, with extended study and research underpinning the development of assessed work throughout the year. Through independent study, students are encouraged to refine project ideas, broaden understanding of relevant contexts and confirm curatorial positions.

A series of lectures/presentations and seminars spanning across the two courses inform from critical, historical and theoretical positions, whilst the tutorials (and peer sessions) establish a platform for discussion focusing upon the critical framing and outcomes of practice. These modes are supported and expanded through workshops, giving students the opportunity to encounter, examine and discuss the work of leading practitioners in depth. At the core of this strategy is the development of individual practice and understanding of forms of contemporary curatorial practice, which will enable students to move towards becoming an independent practitioner.

The end of stage 2 culminates with the submission of a Proposal – which students outline their individual plans for final submission in Stage 3.

Stage 3 enables students the opportunity to select one of three possible routes/pathways towards submission for final assessment. These will be either 100% Curatorial Project, 50% Curatorial Project/50% Extended Essay, or 100% Dissertation. In Stage 3 students work largely independently, supported through regular supervisory meetings and peer presentation.

The approach embedded within the Programme is to enable students to engage with ‘live’ projects as and when they may happen (as they do in the real world), in order that students can gain the most engaged and professionally focused experience possible. This inevitably creates an outward looking focus through which Glasgow and beyond become the platform of activity. Thus, enabling an engagement with the public and the audiences of the different (varied) modes of contemporary curatorial practice, including exhibition making, the curation of collections and archives, and relational and event-based practices. This methodology links directly into the employability aspects embedded within the provision, and these include current links (between GSA and GU) with external institutions including the Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery, Glasgow Life, GOMA, Tramway, Glasgow International, the Common Guild, the CCA, Transmission, LUX Scotland and Kelvingrove Museum amongst others.

9. Programme Structure:

This programme is a 12-month full-time taught programme from September to September. Students take all core major and minor courses spread over Stages 1 and 2 and undertake to produce an independent curatorial project, a combination of curatorial work and an Extended Essay component, or a Dissertation during Stage 3 (submitting in August).

Stage 1 comprises a 20-credit research skills component (GSA) and a 40 credit Curatorial Practice block (GSA/UoG). Stage 2 comprises a 40 credit Curatorial Practice block and a 20 credit elective course option (selected from the range of courses offered by GSA and UoG’s College of Arts). This will lead to a Master’s Project in Curatorial Practice or Dissertation (60 credits) in Stage 3.

Regulations

This programme is governed by the GSA Code of Assessment, and the relevant regulations published in the GSA section of the University Calendar. These regulations include the requirements in relation to:

- a) Award of the degree
- b) Progress
- c) Early exit awards
- d) Entry to Honours (For undergraduate programmes, where appropriate)

Stage 1	Credits	SCQF Level
PCUR101 Curatorial Practice 1	40	11
PCXS101 Core Research Methods: Research Methods And Methodologies In Practice	20	11
Total	60	
Exit Award		PG Cert
Stage 2		
PCUR201 Curatorial Practice 2	40	11
PGT Elective	20	11
Total	60	

Exit Award	PG Dip	
Stage 3		
PCUR301 Master's Project in Curatorial Practice 1	60	11
PCUR302 Master's Project in Curatorial Practice 2	60	11
PCUR303 Dissertation	60	11
Total	60	
Exit Award	Masters	

9.1 Programme Structure – Exchange In/Exchange Out/Study Abroad:

N/A

10. What are the requirements for progressing from each stage?

A student will be permitted to progress to Stage 3 only if they have obtained a grade point average of C3(12.0) or above in the taught courses (Stage 1 & 2) with at least 75% of the credits at grade D3(9) or above and all credits at grade F3(6) or above.

11. Programme Aims:

The programme offers a 1-year MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) is a 12-month Master's qualification run jointly between The School of Fine Art (GSA) and The School of Culture and Creative Arts (UoG) aimed at those graduates wishing to develop a curatorial pathway within the field of contemporary visual arts and other cultural fields. The programme is structured to enable and support students to pursue independent and self-directed work, alongside the practical, intellectual and professional foundations for future curatorial roles or contexts. Students have access to highly-regarded and experienced professional curators and practitioners, to acquire key skill sets and attributes alongside a peer network that are vital to the profession at all levels. The programme is structured to enable and support you to pursue independent and self-directed working, and to lay the practical, intellectual and professional foundations for your future approach to curatorial roles or contexts.

The programme balances practice-based learning, contextual enquiry and professional perspectives, alongside a dynamic exploration of current developments, while supporting students to locate, articulate and refine curatorial interests and approaches.

The MLitt in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) is designed to:

- Develop knowledge and expertise in the field of contemporary curatorial practice, including forms of curation aligned to the most expansive artists' practices, the spectrum of platforms through which curators work, and the curator's place within the visual arts infrastructure;
- Develop understanding and application of the discourse and literature on contemporary curatorial practice, through a critical engagement with key developments, debates, perspectives, texts and platforms for practice and discussion;
- Enable students to identify and locate your own position in relation to the field of practice as well as to wider social contexts;
- Enable students to critically evaluate your own curatorial work alongside peers;
- Enable students to acquire and apply a core body of skills and attributes, including critical inquiry, research capacity, project-planning, project administration, budgeting, practical problem-solving and professional working;

- Enable students to enhance and apply knowledge and understanding of Health and Safety regulations impacting on curatorial practice;
- Provide students with an opportunity to develop an informed understanding of the responsibilities inherent in ethical relations and ethical good practice in the practices and contexts of curating;
- Enable students to engage with key / appropriate audiences and construct an understanding of those audiences for different modes of curatorial practice, whether within an institutional / museum or an independent curatorial context.

11.1 Stage 1 Aims:

Stage 1 of the MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) programme comprises 2 courses:

1. Core Course: Curatorial Practice 1 (40 credits)

This Stage 1 Course is designed to give students a broad introduction to curatorial practice in context, and to set out some of the key parameters that determine particular curatorial approaches, platforms and outcomes. Students are introduced to key histories and contextual debates, a range of professional skills, and will engage with experienced curators and arts professionals as they begin to identify and locate interests.

Students undertake a curatorial project as part of a group - beginning, through this, to articulate curatorial approaches, locate resources to support their work, develop contacts and consider how to engage different publics. The emphasis for project work in Stage 1 is placed on encouraging experimentation, an agile and productive approach to curating and a peer-supportive working environment. All students are supported through tutorial meetings, as well as peer sessions.

In addition to this, students undertake research on individual areas of interest and write a Context Review that will identify key references, across theory and practice. Through the Context Review students begin to articulate either a research focus, a set of questions or a curatorial approach, which will form the basis of focused research in Stage 2 and planning towards the final Master's Project or Dissertation submission in Stage 3.

This Stage 1 course is designed to enable students to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of key histories and contexts pertinent to curating, through a critical engagement with key debates, perspectives, texts and platforms for practice and discussion;
- Engender an understanding of the role and the place of the curator within the visual arts infrastructure and the various capacities and skill-sets – critical, production, administrative, budgetary, inter-personal – through which curators work;
- Encourage creative and inquiring approaches to curatorial practice through a collaborative project;
- Enable students to initiate an independent, self-directed exploration of various modes of curatorial practice and to begin to locate individual curatorial interests;
- Enable students to acquire a core body of skills and attributes, including critical inquiry, research capacity and project planning, and apply these to the development of independent work;
- Enable students to develop awareness of Health and Safety regulations impacting on curatorial practice;
- Encourage students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of ethical good practice and ethical responsibility in the curation of projects;
- Support students to engage with the visual arts sector in Glasgow and Scotland more widely, in relation to UK-wide and international contexts;

- Enable students to develop key contacts with artists and other arts professionals to form peer networks.

2. Mandatory Course: Research Methods and Methodologies In Practice (20 credits)

Please refer to the relevant Course Specification document for the Aims of this course.

11.2 Stage 2 Aims:

Stage 2 of the MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) programme comprises 2 courses:

1. Core Course: Curatorial Practice 2 (40 credits)

Building on the critical grounding in Curatorial Practice 1 this course shifts the focus towards exploring a wide range of curatorial modalities and curating as a form of research. The course encourages a diversity of approaches, which is reflected in the wide range of curatorial work that students encounter.

Students are supported to undertake focused research aligned with their curatorial interests to produce an Extended Essay, enabling a critical foundation for practice, alongside a Peer Presentation. Research can include curatorial fieldwork such as studio visits, and provide a platform for initiating conversations leading to project work later in the year. The Extended Essay will be framed as curatorial text, targeted at a specific audience, and students might develop a bespoke layout and graphic identity for it. The format for presenting research to peers is flexible, and may range from a traditional symposium presentation to a bespoke discursive curatorial format. These decisions are made in consultation with your supervisor.

Students write a Proposal outlining plans for their final submission in Stage 3. The Proposal will include different elements and perspectives, depending on the selection of a Master's Project, a Master's Project with an Extended Essay component, or a Dissertation.

This Stage 2 Course is designed to enable students to:

- Expand understanding and knowledge of a range of modalities of curatorial practice, through a critical engagement with other professionals representative of that range;
- Deepen understanding and application of the various capacities and skill-sets – critical, production, administrative, budgetary, inter-personal– through which curators in the contemporary visual arts work;
- Expand experience in the wider areas of work or associated programming that can attend artist's projects or exhibitions, such as event planning, public talks etc.;
- Support advanced exploration of various modes of curatorial practice and the testing out of approaches to self-directed practice;
- Enable students to apply a core body of skills and attributes to the development of independent work;
- Support students to define, communicate and plan a substantial curatorial or research project, to determine its requirements and assess its feasibility;
- Enable students to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of Health and Safety regulations as applicable to curatorial practice;
- Encourage students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of ethical good practice and your ethical responsibility in the curation of projects;
- Support continued development in respect of individual practice, and in preparation for the Master's Project or Dissertation;
- Enable students to further develop key contacts with artists and other arts professionals, and forming the peer networks.

2. Elective Course (20 credits)

In Stage 2 students also undertake an Elective Course from among the range on offer at The School of Fine Art (GSA) and The College of Arts (UoG).

11.3 Stage 3 Aims:

In Stage 3 of the Programme, the focus shifts towards consolidating the knowledge base and increasing awareness of curatorial interests arising from Stages 1 and 2 through the production of a distinct curatorial project or piece of research.

Dependent upon the model of submission the Aims of the Stage are outlined below:

Master's Project in Curatorial Practice 1

This Stage is designed to enable students to:

- Develop a Master's Project planning (Proposal) towards final resolution;
- Finalise and realise an independent, self-directed curatorial practice project, putting into effect various key skills and attributes;
- Further evidence knowledge and understanding of the role of the curator;
- Explore a critically informed range of presentation and communication methodologies;
- Enable students to demonstrate and apply an advanced knowledge and understanding of Health and Safety regulations impacting on curatorial practice;
- Encourage students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of ethical good practice and ethical responsibility in the curation of projects;
- Critically evaluate and reflect on individual curatorial work, and situate it in relation to the wider field of curatorial practice.

Master's Project in Curatorial Practice 2

This Stage is designed to enable students to:

- Develop a Master's Project planning (Proposal) towards final resolution;
- Realise a curatorial project, putting into effect various key skills and attributes;
- Engage with other scholarly, critical, or theoretical arguments relevant to the particular curatorial approach that is being explored;
- Develop and sustain an argument in the form of an Extended Essay;
- Further evidence knowledge and understanding of the role of the curator;
- Enable students demonstrate and apply an advanced knowledge and understanding of Health and Safety regulations impacting on curatorial practice;
- Encourage students to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of ethical good practice and ethical responsibility in the curation of projects and the pursuing of research;
- Critically evaluate and reflect on own curatorial work, and situate it in relation to the wider field of curatorial practice.

Dissertation

This Stage is designed to enable students to:

- Develop and sustain an argument in an area of personal research interests and situate it within the theme of contemporary curating;
- Promote an engagement with other scholarly, critical, or theoretical arguments relevant to that area;
- Encourage the application of acquired research skills to a supervised research project;
- Enable students to demonstrate an advanced knowledge and understanding of ethical good practice and ethical responsibility as applicable to research.

12. Intended Learning Outcomes of Programme:

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and to demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes as described below.

Knowledge and Understanding

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

- Recognise and evaluate various approaches taken to the role of the curator today in respect of artists, institutions, collections, places and audiences, and in relation to a range of contexts and platforms;
- Articulate their developing curatorial role, agenda or interests, and situate those in relation to the wider field of contemporary curatorial practice;
- Navigate the visual arts sector and infrastructure supporting artists, including public funding policy and priorities in areas such as quality production, talent development and audience engagement;
- Negotiate the primary aspects of curatorial project development, planning and delivery;
- Apply a key range of attributes and skills whether working independently or within an institutional context;
- Harness knowledge of the visual arts sector in Glasgow and Scotland and more widely in relation to UK-wide and international contexts.

Skills and Other Attributes

By the end of this programme students should be able to:

Subject-specific/practical skills

- Plan projects or programmes effectively, including the preparation of work-plans, funding applications, installation or production schedules;
- Organise and co-ordinate logistics, if necessary between multiple artists, insurance, lenders or artworks;
- Manage conflicting needs as they might arise, for instance between institution, artist, audience, funders and other parties.

Intellectual skills

- Evidence advanced understanding of the contemporary visual arts, and support artists in respect of their practices and wider activities;
- Generate meaningful curatorial projects, which engage audiences through visual arts practice / the work of artists;
- Formulate and apply a rigorous and critical curatorial approach, supported by independence of thought and research that is capable of revealing new perspectives, positions or practices.

Transferable/key skills

- Apply initiative and evaluative thinking when working alone or with others in order to design and implement projects;
- Apply negotiating or influencing skills, and inspire trust and confidence in partners, participants and audiences through professional working;
- Apply a critically informed range of presentation and communication methodologies and work confidently in a transnational sector;
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Health and Safety regulations impacting on curating;
- Exercise good judgement and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of ethical good practice and ethical responsibility in the curation of projects.

12.1 Intended Learning Outcomes of Stage 1

1. Core Course: Curatorial Practice 1 (40 credits)

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

- Identify and evaluate the broadening role of the curator in relation to the visual arts, and their key relationships with artists or audiences;
- Evidence engagement with the discourse and field of literature on contemporary curatorial practice, and an ability to apply this in relation to key texts and debates;
- Harness knowledge of the visual arts sector in Glasgow and Scotland more widely, in relation to UK-wide and international contexts;
- Demonstrate growing critical understanding of curatorial project development and apply and implement key skills, such as project-planning, budgeting, fundraising, press communication;
- Demonstrate an ability to undertake research as means to support the development of individual curatorial work;
- Evidence an awareness of Health and Safety issues that may arise in the curation of projects;
- Demonstrate an awareness of ethical good practice and ethical responsibility in the curation of projects.

2. Mandatory Course: Research Methods and Methodologies In Practice (20 credits)

Please refer to the relevant Course Specification document for the ILOs of this course.

12.2 Intended Learning Outcomes of Stage 2

1. Core Course: Curatorial Practice 2 (40 credits)

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

- Apply an advanced understanding of the nature and the range of the demands placed upon a curator, in the origination and development of particular projects or programmes through to their management and delivery;
- Evidence understanding of a range of curatorial modalities, and the ability to initiate and test proposals and approaches to practice, while being able to argue their relevance through curatorial writing;
- Demonstrate an increasing sense of individual practice, and the ability to articulate areas of artistic practice, or issues or resources to be addressed;
- Recognise and evaluate the differing requirements of working independently and with self-direction, or as part of a team, or to a pre-existing brief or programme;
- Apply and implement key skills, through proposal writing, project-planning, and budgeting
- Demonstrate the capacity to apply good ethical practice in the planning of a project;
- Synthesise research and learning in order to plan a substantial curatorial or research project.

2. Elective Course (20 credits)

ILOs are outlined in the relevant Course Specification document.

12.3 Intended Learning Outcomes of Stage 3

Master's Project in Curatorial Practice 1 (60 credits)

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

- Demonstrate the progression of a reflexive curatorial practice, through the realisation of an independent, self-directed final project;
- Consolidate and synthesise a range of the principal skills, processes and practices associated with curatorial practice, and make informed judgments in relation to complex problems and issues;
- Evidence an advanced knowledge of and engagement with the visual arts infrastructure in Glasgow and Scotland more widely;

- Apply a critically informed range of presentation and communication methodologies to underpin contemporary curatorial practice;
- Apply good Health and Safety practice as pertaining to curatorial work;
- Apply good ethical practice as pertaining to curatorial work;
- Take significant responsibility for consolidating independent enquiry.

Master's Project in Curatorial Practice 2 (60 credits)

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

- Demonstrate the progression of a reflexive curatorial practice, through the realisation of a final curatorial project;
- Consolidate and synthesise a range of the principal skills, processes and practices associated with curatorial practice, and make informed judgments in relation to complex problems and issues;
- Evidence an advanced knowledge of and engagement with the visual arts infrastructure in Glasgow and Scotland more widely;
- Apply a critically informed range of presentation and communication methodologies to underpin contemporary curatorial practice;
- Demonstrate mastery of the main relevant primary and secondary sources in a chosen area of research;
- Apply good Health and Safety practice as pertaining to curatorial work;
- Apply good ethical practice as pertaining to curatorial work and the pursuing of research;
- Take significant responsibility for consolidating independent enquiry.

Dissertation (60 credits)

On completion of the dissertation students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to execute a sustained, focused, and coherent research project;
- Demonstrate pertinent skills, research expertise and potentially practical application in the field of curatorial practice;
- Demonstrate substantial and detailed first-hand knowledge of a chosen area of research and mastery of the main relevant primary and secondary sources;
- Apply good ethical practice as pertaining to the pursuing of research;
- Demonstrate the ability to execute a substantial piece of written work in clear and appropriate academic English, supported by adequate referencing and relevant visual material;
- Demonstrate the ability to work independently.

13. Learning and Teaching Approaches:

The programme integrates theory and practice, where methods of teaching and assessment explore these inter-relationships, led by staff from the University of Glasgow and Glasgow School of Art. The programme is built around four core teaching strategies: the lecture / seminar; professional skills training; discussion and presentation of research and practice-based work (through tutorials and peer sessions) and workshops. . In Stages 1 and 2 These methods are supported and expanded through study days, clustered around particular subject areas, practical approaches or critical topics with contributions from visiting local and international guest speakers.

Lectures inform critical, historical and theoretical positions alongside seminars focusing on selected literature and case studies. Professional skills sessions focus on different aspects of

production of curatorial and professional work. Tutorials and peer sessions establish a platform for discussing student work. These methods are supported and expanded through study days, clustered around particular subject areas, practical approaches or critical topics with contributions from visiting local and international guest speakers. This sits alongside SoFA's long-running and highly successful Friday Event talk series.

The development of practice is underpinned by a series of core and elective courses, including the Research Methods and Methodologies *in Practice* course (20-credits) course delivered to all SoFA PGT students in Stage 1; a self-selected GSA Elective course in Stage 2 (20-credits) with a specific work placement option, only for CPCA students hosted by the University of Glasgow, alongside cross-course PGT professional practice sessions. Stage 3 is where students fully realise a curatorial project or a dissertation, supported by tutorials and workshops to prepare them for the transition into professional life

14. Assessment Methods:

A combination of formative and summative assessment methods is used.

The structure of the MLitt comprises of 140 credits of project work (CP1,2,3), a 20 credit PGT Elective course, plus 20 credits of specialised Research Methods and Methodologies *in Practice* (RMMiP) training.

There are summative assessment points throughout the programme. Summative assessment methods include a range of forms as defined by the course, for example: solo and group project portfolios, context review, extended essay/dissertation, exposition, often accompanied with a self-appraisal report (Critical Reflection).

Throughout the Programme students will receive formative feedback through their participation in workshops, peer-to-peer presentations, reading groups and seminars and through their engagement with professional practitioners. Formative assessment points also occur at mid-points in each semester.

The 60-credit Masters Project in Stage 3 is individually supervised towards the completion of work for a Masters Project. Projects are supported by regular supervisory meetings and feedback on progress. The outcome may be:

- 1) an individual curatorial project supported by a portfolio with a critical evaluation
- 2) a combination of a curatorial project and an extended essay component (7,500 words)
- 3) an individual dissertation (15,000 words)

15. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements and Other External or Internal Reference Points:

All programme and course information relates to the Art and Design subject benchmark statement: Definitive Version 2001 and revised statement 2008.

The SCQF (level 11) benchmark statements have been imperative in the writing of this documentation, the subject benchmarks and SCQF guidelines have been the primary reference points in the writing and development of the documentation and have been rigorously adhered to.

16. Additional Relevant Information:

As per the other PGT programmes in SoFA this programme requires the same resource in terms of library facility and positive discussion has been held with the Head of Learning Resources to ensure that appropriate and current material is held on the subject area. Students in the programme have also full access to UoG Library and similar conversations are being held with its team to ensure holdings remain relevant and updated.

The student support system is through GSA and the structure of support within GSA is the sole mechanism as the programme accommodation is based within SoFA at GSA.

The programme has distinct employability features embedded throughout, with 'live' projects and engagement with potential employers being a key aspect of provision. From the theoretical needs and requirements through to the activities and event-based live projects, the programme has a core focus of employability throughout.