Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Interaction Design Studio 1B
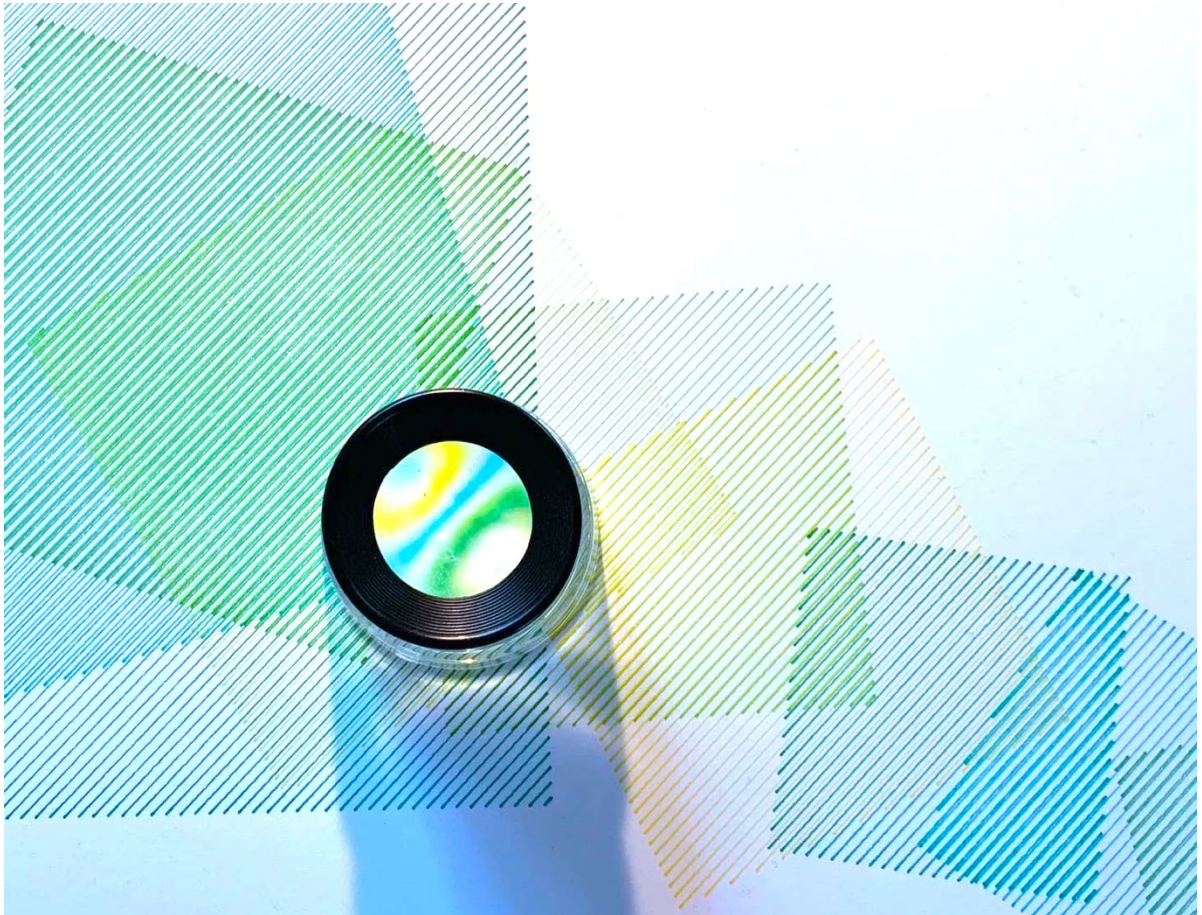

Image: Nicholas McLaughlin

Course Code	HECOS Code	Academic Session
UACT101B		2025-26

Course Title	Interaction Design 1B
Course Contact	Paul Maguire

Credits	40
SCQF Level	7
When Taught	Stage 1, Semester 2

Associated Programmes	BA (Hons) Interaction Design
Lead School	School of Design
Other Schools	N/A
Date of Approval	Programme Approval February 2024

Course Introduction

The BA (Hons) Interaction Design programme is designed to progress in clear stages with core themes framing each year of study:

1. **FOUNDATION** [introductory methods, concepts and contexts]
2. **ITERATION** [exploring further, augmenting craft and deepening enquiry]
3. **CONNECTION** [connecting concepts, technologies and enquiries]
4. **EXPRESSION** [consolidating this knowledge to realise a personal project]

This course is **FOUNDATION** [1B]

This course introduces foundational skills and knowledge associated with study in Interaction Design. The course further supports students transitioning to GSA's learning community and the studio environment within Interaction Design.

The course consolidates and builds upon fundamental methods, concepts, contexts and skills associated with the study of Interaction Design while exploring the unique nature of the interactive digital media design space.

The course furthers students' investigation into expressive digital toolsets and creative code. The course extends students' initial understanding of the unique creative considerations within the subject area, while further developing confidence in interpretation, independent learning, peer learning, and reflective practices.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. embed fundamental research methods and principles within the subject area of interaction design
2. encourage the generation of creative ideas through curiosity, iterative approaches, and playful experimentation within the subject area of interaction design
3. develop fundamental practical and critical skills related to the subject area of interaction design
4. embed fundamental independent study and collaborative working skills through peer-led activities
5. introduce ethical, societal and environmental considerations in the practice of interaction design
6. develop basic documentation, presentation and communication practices

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. demonstrate basic primary and secondary research methods to contextualise and inform project responses
2. engage with a range of creative responses to familiar and unfamiliar processes and materials associated with interaction design
3. apply fundamental practical skills and creative processes to develop and realise project responses
4. manage project learning and resources using tutor and peer interaction and feedback to inform reflection and learning
5. acknowledge societal and environmental considerations in the practice of interaction design
6. apply basic presentation and documentation skills to communicate project responses to tutors and peers

Indicative Content

The course will introduce students to:

- fundamental primary and secondary research methods
- key methods and considerations in creating digital media
- concept development and professional practices
- skills to manage project requirements, resources and to evaluate feedback
- methods for documenting, collating and communicating project outcomes

Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

This studio course is designed as a project-based course. Project briefs encourage an independent, tutor-supported approach to directed and self-directed study.

A range of learning and teaching methods are used to support students to engage in an explorative and individual approach to learning. These include:

- briefings

- inductions and demonstrations
- technical workshops
- studio activities
- individual and group tutorials
- talks, lectures, seminars, and study visits
- group critiques and reviews, peer review, and presentations
- presentations and writing
- reflection and self-evaluation

Skills, including digital, material and technical resources, are introduced through inductions, demonstrations, and workshops.

Independent learning skills will be developed and supported through guided activities and digital online learning resources available on Canvas.

A variety of teaching and learning approaches, including in person, blended and online learning and delivery, are employed to support student engagement with the curriculum and the achievement of the intended learning outcomes.

Indicative Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
40	400 hours

Description of Formative Assessment and Feedback Methods

Students are supported in their learning through a range of activities with staff and peers, such as workshops, reviews and tutorials offering ongoing formative feedback as they progress through the course.

Formative feedback supports students in developing and refining their project work towards submission for summative assessment.

Formative feedback offers students the opportunity to present the progress of their project work to staff and or peers, receiving feedback to support the development and refinement of their project work towards submission for summative assessment.

Description of Summative Assessment Arrangements

Summative assessment is designed to support students to review, collate, and communicate work produced in response to project briefs and learning and teaching activities associated with the course.

Submissions will be assessed and moderated in line with the Code of Assessment, which outlines reassessment opportunities where a student has not passed the course.

Description of Summative Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week
Students are required to submit a body of work produced in response to project brief/s and learning and teaching activities, which is assessed holistically against the intended learning outcomes for this course.	100%	Semester 2 Week 13

Exchange/Study Abroad	
Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?	No
Are all the students on the course taught wholly by distance learning?	No
Does this course represent a work placement or a year of study abroad?	No
Is this course collaborative with any other institutions?	No
If yes, then please provide the names of the other teaching institutions	

Reading and On-line Resources
The course indicative reading and online resource list is accessible via Resource Lists. This list will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect course content and subject developments.