

**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Silversmithing & Jewellery Studio 2A**



Image: S&J studio

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 2025-26 Academic Year.

Course Code	HECOS Code	Academic Session
USJD201A		2025-26

Course Title	Silversmithing & Jewellery Design Studio 2A
Course Contact	Anna Gordon

Credits	40
SCQF Level	8
When Taught	Stage 2, Semester 1

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

Course Introduction

This course enables students broaden skills and to strengthen and develop an understanding of ideas and contexts surrounding the design and creation of contemporary artefacts, including body adornment, jewellery, and functional and decorative objects. The course fosters independent and collaborative learning by offering students opportunities to discuss their work and reflectively engage with various perspectives and feedback from staff and peers.

The course encourages students to experiment with their 3D making in specialist workshop contexts, engage in technical exercises, and explore and apply core technical skills to 3D making and sampling. Students are supported in creative and critical approaches to developing their understanding and practice, generating design ideas through engaging with and responding to research, design approaches, and contextual and ethical considerations.

This course introduces core technical metalworking skills and design skill development alongside primary and secondary source gathering to encourage students to establish a personal approach to project work.

Students work with support and guidance from academic tutors, technical support staff, artists in residence and peer interaction. The course supports students in building and testing their skills in effectively communicating their ideas to others and reflecting on their creative processes.

The course supports students transitioning from Stage 1 at GSA or other entry routes, with a supportive learning community central to building confident designers who can adapt to challenges to articulate, innovate, and evolve their ideas.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. strengthen and develop appropriate research methods to inform creative practice
2. generate ideas through creative experimentation by testing, sampling, and evaluating skills and methods appropriate to silversmithing and jewellery
3. acquire and apply 3D-making skills through the introduction of subject-specific techniques, processes, and materials
4. foster independent and collaborative learning, and an understanding of safe and considered processes in the workshop environment
5. develop an understanding of ethical, societal, and environmental issues concerning the role of the responsible practitioner
6. engage with the variety of skills required to effectively communicate ideas to others, engaging with perspectives and feedback

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. explore a range of primary, secondary, and contextual research to inform their creative process.
2. employ core skills and processes to test and evaluate ideas, materials, design development through iterative approaches.
3. explore the application of core technical skills from 2D to 3D making and sampling, relevant to project work.
4. work independently and in collaboration with peers and staff, considering guidance and feedback to evaluate and inform learning.
5. evidence a consideration of ethical, societal, and environmental practice within the context of your project work.
6. utilise core presentation methods and skills to communicate research, experimentation, process, and curation of project work to peers and staff.

Indicative Content

This course will introduce students to:

- various approaches to research, generation of ideas, and design development
- specialist studio-based projects exploring core characteristics and creative processes associated with silversmithing and jewellery design.
- skills to study independently and with others.
- ways to manage project requirements and resources and evaluate feedback.
- ways to collate, research, document and communicate work.
- basic technical jewellery and silversmithing skills in the specialist studio environment safe working practices

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. As an indication, 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

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 1 Week 13

Exchange/Study Abroad

Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?	Yes
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.