

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Silversmithing and Jewellery Studio 3A



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
USJD301A		2025-26

Course Title	Silversmithing & Jewellery Studio 3A
Course Contact	Anna Gordon

Credits	40
SCQF Level	9
When Taught	Stage 3, 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 to identify and interrogate ideas and contexts surrounding the design and creation of contemporary artefacts, including body adornment, jewellery, and functional and decorative objects. The course supports students in initiating and defining their independent and collaborative learning with staff and peers and critically engaging with various perspectives and feedback.

The course encourages students to generate and iterate ideas by fostering a space for risk-taking and experimentation, where students further develop and apply their core technical skills to 3D making and sampling. The course supports students in critically and reflectively evaluating their creative process and practice, engaging with and responding to research, design approaches and contextual and ethical considerations.

The course focuses on projects that support professional practice as well as introducing more advanced technical making skills with supporting research and source material.

Students work with support and guidance from academic tutors, technical support staff, artists in residence and peer interaction. The course supports students in expanding and refining their skills in effectively communicating how they think about and through making to others.

The course supports students transitioning from Stage 2 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. identify appropriate research methods and findings to inform exploration of concepts and creative processes.
2. expand knowledge and understanding of processes by refining skills and methods for idea generation, exploration, and analytical skills appropriate to silversmithing and jewellery design.

3. develop advanced range and command of design, professional and technical skills in response to studio projects to further develop 3D-making skills through the introduction to subject-specific techniques, processes, and materials.
4. advance independent study skills, responsible working, and effective relationships with peers, tutors, and external partners and an understanding of safe and considered processes in the workshop environment.
5. expand knowledge of ethical, societal, and environmental issues concerning the role and critical discourse for silversmithing and jewellery design.
6. develop advanced communication skills to present project work and to effectively converse with peers, tutors, and external partners

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. articulate informed concepts and creative ideas using advanced approaches to primary, secondary, and contextual research relative to silversmithing and jewellery design practices.
2. evidence advanced design skills through experimentation, iterative processes, and critical reflection in response to project briefs.
3. demonstrate advanced design, technical and professional skills with critical analysis.
4. effectively manage course requirements, working independently and in collaboration with peers and staff and evaluating input from others.
5. identify and initiate informed responses to ethical issues within the discourse and context of contemporary design practice.
6. demonstrate advanced communication methods and skills to professionally and coherently present project work to peers, tutors, or external partners

Indicative Content

This course will introduce students to:

- focussed approaches to research, generation of ideas, and design development.
- studio-based projects exploring characteristics and creative processes associated with silversmithing and jewellery design
- skills to study independently and with others to manage project requirements and resources.
- methods to document, present and effectively communicate ideas and evaluate feedback.
- advanced jewellery and silversmithing skills in the specialist studio environment and 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
- student showcases
- 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.