

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification

Course Title: Silversmithing and Jewellery Design Studio 4



Image: Sarah Wilmott

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
		2025-26

Course Title	Silversmithing & Jewellery Studio 4
Course Contact	Anna Gordon

Credits	80
SCQF Level	10
When Taught	Stage 4, Semesters 1 and 2

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 formulate and sustain a self-directed creative process in relation to self-generated ideas and contexts surrounding the design and creation of contemporary artefacts, including body adornment, jewellery, and functional and decorative objects. Students critically engage with feedback and evaluate input from others, with individual and group conversations around self-defined interests supporting students in developing, defining, and refining a body of work and their personal and professional skills.

The course fosters a bespoke framework for independent and shared learning. Students design their project brief within which they refine specialist technical skills, engage in critical and reflective experimentation, and develop innovative approaches to process and practice that provoke new insights in line with individual creative interests. The course supports students in critically reflecting on creative processes and practice, engaging with, and responding to research design approaches, and positioning their work in relation to contextual and ethical considerations to resolve an individual design signature.

Students work with support and guidance from academic tutors, technical support staff, artists in residence, and peer interaction. The course supports students in rehearsing and performing professional communication skills to various audiences, distilling, and presenting their specialist and self-directed perspectives at the threshold of professional practice.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. provide the opportunity to formulate and undertake a sustained period of creative, specialist self-directed study at the threshold of professional practice.
2. construct specialist knowledge and understanding of the silversmithing and jewellery design process, utilising criticality, and reflection throughout.
3. develop specialist critical, practical, and technical skills to provoke new insights and to expand the discipline in line with individual interests.

4. build personal and professional skills to enable independent and collaborative working in preparation for lifelong learners.
5. position personal project work within relevant contexts considering responsible design in relation to an area of expertise and individual interests.
6. provide opportunities to rehearse and execute professional communication and presentation skills to a variety of audiences

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. formulate a robust concept and specialist approach to primary, secondary, and contextual research, generating a considered project proposal which aligns with individual interests.
2. consolidate and implement specialist design skills and methods, employing criticality, risk taking and reflection throughout the design process.
3. execute specialist practical and technical skills, underpinned with in-depth analysis, to generate a comprehensive brief to resolve project work in line with silversmithing and jewellery design interests.
4. manage own learning with self-awareness and resourcefulness, to implement robust strategies for the development and completion of self-directed project.
5. position their work within relevant silversmithing and jewellery contexts, defining a personal design signature, that engages in societal or environmental challenges in relation to individual design interests.
6. professionally communicate an individual design process, development, detail, specialist knowledge within the production of a final collection of work to present to a range of audiences

Indicative Content

This course will introduce students to:

- robust research practices and concepts in line with an individual project proposal
- rigorous testing of ideas in a variety of media appropriate to project work.
- specialist technical and practical skills to support individual interpretation of ideas and development.
- management of individual learning with self-awareness, resourcefulness, and critical reflection
- methods to document, present and professionally communicate work to a variety of audiences
- embedded responsible, sustainable, 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 that emphasises individual and in-depth self-directed study at the threshold of professional practice.

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.

As a course taught over two semesters, the course includes a formative assessment point in which a student submits formative work. This is marked, with feedback and an indicative grade recorded, and made available to the student.

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.

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,	100%	Semester 2, Week 13

which is assessed holistically against the intended learning outcomes for this course		
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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 subject developments. Tutors and peers will provide further recommendations appropriate to student's chosen area of research and focus.