

**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: CO-LAB**



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	CO-LAB
Course Contact	Katy West

Credits	20
SCQF Level	7
When Taught	Semester 1

Associated Programmes	BA (Hons) Communication Design BA (Hons) Fashion Design BA (Hons) Interaction Design BA (Hons) Interior Design BA (Hons) Silversmithing & Jewellery BA (Hons) Textile Design BA (Hons) Fine Art Photography BA (Hons) Painting & Printmaking BA (Hons) Sculpture & Environmental Art BArch (Hons) Architecture BDes (Hons) Product Design BSc (Hons) Immersive Systems Design Cert HE International Foundation (Art & Design)
Lead School	School of Design School of Fine Art Mackintosh School of Architecture School of Innovation & Technology
Other Schools	N/A
Date of Approval	PACAAG April 2024

Course Introduction

This course introduces students to sustainable creative practice. It is designed to bring students together from across the schools and programmes of GSA to foster community and enable them to explore their potential as emergent creative practitioners through research, studio-based making, and collaborative encounters.

The course will enable students to explore ideas and contexts around making through disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and collaborative learning. It will support students in developing creative and critical approaches to making work and to reflect upon how behaviours, actions and choices may contribute to community, change and sustainable creative practice.

Through the course, students will work with support and guidance from tutors within their programme and across GSA. They will develop an awareness of the context within which their chosen discipline operates and its relationship to other disciplines across GSA and the wider creative community.

The course will culminate in a celebration and presentation of work produced in response to the course theme and shared project brief.

Course Aims

This course aims to:

- Introduce students to ideas and contexts around responsible making and sustainable creative practice.
- Encourage students to explore their potential as emergent, creative practitioners through research, making and collaborative encounters.
- Foster community, criticality, and reflection to support learning, generate ideas, and inform the development of their work.
- Support students to document, present and communicate their work to others.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Identify and evaluate ideas and contexts within sustainable practice relevant to their discipline and creative work.
- Make work that responds to contexts within sustainable practice through research and the exploration of ideas, materials, processes.
- Reflect upon and evaluate their learning, ideas and work produced in response to the course theme and shared project brief.
- Produce documentation that presents and communicates their work to others.

Indicative Content

This course will introduce students to:

- Ideas and context around researching, making work and sustainable creative practices.
- Explore disciplinary practice and interdisciplinary connections through collaborative learning and making processes.
- Approaches to critically reflect upon and evaluate research, making and learning.
- Methods to document, present and communicate work.

Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

This course is designed as a studio and project-based course. It uses a range of learning and teaching methods to support students to engage in explorative and collaborative learning. These include:

- Briefings, talks and screenings
- Studio-based making
- Disciplinary and interdisciplinary workshops
- Tutorials, lectures, and seminars
- Peer review, critiques and presentations of work

Independent learning skills will be supported and developed through guided activities and digital learning resources made available on the Co-Lab Course Canvas site.

Indicative Contact Hours

Notional Learning Hours

Description of Formative Assessment and Feedback Methods

Students will be 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.

A mid-point formative review will offer students the opportunity to present the progress of their work to staff and peers and receive feedback to support the development and refinement of their work towards submission for summative assessment.

Description of Summative Assessment arrangements

The summative assessment method is designed to support students to demonstrate, communicate and critically reflect upon their learning and work in response to the course theme and shared project brief.

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

Description of Summative Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week
Digital Portfolio: Students are required to submit a digital portfolio documenting work produced in response to the course theme, shared project brief and workshops. The visual documentation should be supported with research, critical reflections, and evaluative commentary.	100%	Week 12

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

* Whilst this course is not collaborative with any other institution, students enrolled with the GSA on the Glasgow Clyde College (GCC) Associate Student Scheme also participate in this course. As enrolled students, they will have access to course materials and activities on campus and via Canvas and are required to submit an assignment. All teaching

and assessment is by the GSA staff who run the Associate Student Scheme. The students do not receive credit from the GSA or GCC and the college is not involved in the teaching or assessment of students.

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.