

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Creative Platforms

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 | Creative Platforms |
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| Course Contact | Dr Zoe Mendelson/Lesley Punton/Sara Barker |

| Credits | 20 |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| SCQF Level | 10 |
| When Taught | Stage 4, Semester 1 & 2 |

| Associated Programmes | BA (Hons) Fine Art |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Lead School | School of Fine Art |
| Other Schools | N/A |
| Date of Approval | PACAAG August 2025 |

Course Introduction

This course enables the development and application of a critical understanding of creative platforms (for example, publication, exhibition or event) and the context within which artworks are situated. You will be challenged to explore your practice to consider, experiment and test the platforms and interfaces for your work. This 20-credit course is paired with the 20-credit Critical Writing course as an alternative to the 40-credit Critical Writing: Dissertation course. You will be developing work for the course whilst also planning for the consolidation of your BA studies. This course is designed to inform and enrich the thinking behind how you will approach your final presentation of work, widening possibilities for how to engage audiences.

During the course you will identify and develop a creative platform (physical or virtual) to share and make your work public, and will reflect upon and evaluate how this has impacted your practice. You are encouraged to experiment with conventional and/or expanded notions of the platforms through which your work might be encountered and to experiment and test the platforms and interfaces for your work. This may include a range of contexts such as bookmaking, zine, exhibition, live event, performance, website or digital platform. Where appropriate you will engage with real life situations and opportunities for presenting, publishing or platforming your work.

This course explores the processes by which you propose and activate your work. and you will be expected to evaluate the modes and methods by which you will propose and develop your creative platform. You are encouraged to take creative risks in how you might platform your work and engage with audience as this course focusses on the effectiveness of your proposal and reflection on your proposed platform. The three phases of the course, which align with professional practice, are: proposal, realisation and presentation. The course prepares you for future encounters with audiences by creating a deeper understanding of how your work might be seen.

Course Aims

The course aims to:

- Support you to develop and apply a critical understanding of creative platforms and appropriate contexts for their work to be encountered
- Embed self-initiative in the testing of new ideas and possibilities and an awareness of risk-taking, experimental and inventive approaches
- Critically consider and utilise ethical and professional requirements, such as documentation and presentation skills, relevant to creating a public platform for their work
- Reflect upon, evaluate and articulate how they situate and understand their work in relation to its context

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate a rigorous and critical understanding of potential creative platforms for artwork
2. Demonstrate inventive approaches and initiative to platforming your work
3. Critically consider how you might make your work public, evidencing professional and ethical approaches
4. Reflect, evaluate and articulate how your work can be situated and contextualised

Indicative Content

The course will introduce you to:

- How to contextualise and situate artwork to an audience, following examples of practice, both historical and contemporary
- The theory and practice of received, expanded and experimental notions of publication, platforms and interfaces
- An exploration of notions of public, audience and encounter within a variety of contemporary art practices
- Modes of documentation and presentation skills, that include how to assemble visual and other documentation, methods to articulate critical reflection, both verbally and in writing
- Ethics and health and safety surrounding the creation of platforms for artworks

Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

This studio course is designed to enable independently driven study, supported by course content, tutor support and peer learning.

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

Key learning and teaching methods include:

- Self-directed study and research
- Peer learning and collaboration
- Tutorials
- Lectures and seminars (such as platforming work, publication and audience)
- Presentations, pitching own work and peer presentations

- Real life situations (where appropriate) for presenting, publishing and platforming work
- Bibliography: The Edit: www.theedit.site

You will be guided in developing an independent and self-directed approach to study and to utilise the collaborative learning environment of the studio as a place of ethical, sustainable and inclusive practice.

Digital and material skills and technical resources are supported through engaging with technical workspaces. Independent learning skills are developed and supported through guided activities and digital online learning resources available on Canvas.

| Indicative Contact Hours | Notional Learning Hours |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 20 | 200 |

Description of Formative Assessment and Feedback Methods

You will engage with meaningful and authentic assessment to support your learning and undertake self-evaluation to help build a reflective and evaluative approach.

For Formative Assessment you will present a 5-7minute proposal for a platform – with prepared visual presentation – in front of a small group (staff and peers). Reasonable adjustments will be agreed for students as necessary.

Formative feedback supports you in developing and refining your project work towards submission for summative assessment. Learning is supported through a range of formative activities with staff and peers, such as crits and tutorials offering ongoing formative feedback as you progress through the course.

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

Description of Summative Assessment arrangements

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

Summative assessment will be based on two components: A PDF proposal, uploaded to Canvas in week four; and pre-recorded 8 – 12 minute presentation that describes, documents, contextualises and evaluates the development of your creative platform and its relation to your work in week 10.

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 | Submission week |
|--|-----------------------|
| The submission of a pre-recorded presentation (8-12 minutes) that describes, contextualises and evaluates the development of your creative platform and its relation to your work. Included in the submission is a completed ethics and risk assessment proforma. | Semester 2 Week 10 |

| 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 |
|---|
| <p>The course indicative reading and online resource list is accessible via the course Resource List (via course Canvas)</p> <p>This list will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect course content and subject developments.</p> |