

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification

Course Title: *Exploring Studio Practice*



Image courtesy of Matthew Barnes (Interim Show: work by Chih-Kang Hsu, Joshua Breen Tucci and Heejun Choi)

Course Code	HECOS Code	Academic Session
PMFA203	100059	2025-2026

Course Title	Exploring Studio Practice
Course Contact	Dr Roddy Hunter

Credits	40
SCQF Level	11
When Taught	Stage 2, Semester 2

Associated Programmes	N/A
Lead School	School of Fine Art
Other Schools	N/A
Date of Approval	Programme Approval February 2025

Course Introduction

This course allows you to deepen your exploration of key material, technical, conceptual and contextual aspects of your studio practice as identified through critical re-appraisal. You will take a self-directed approach to acquiring new skills, knowledge and proficiency that are tested out through the presentation of artworks in critiques and reflected upon through individual and group tutorials. Having reviewed and speculated upon the approaches undertaken, you are then able to produce work to a higher level of resolution, ready for public exhibition in the Interim Show.

Course Aims

The course aims to:

- Enable the further development of intellectual, critical and evaluative skills in relationship to recent issues within historical and theoretical fields of enquiry and contemporary contexts.
- Provide an opportunity to demonstrate originality and creativity through the development of creative practice in response to critique and evaluation.
- Facilitate the planning, development and execution of a significant body of artwork or project through the enhancement of practical skills and problem solving to produce artwork of a professional standard for public exhibition.
- Encourage the development of knowledge and understanding of health and safety and exercise good judgement regarding ethical and environmental good practice where appropriate.
- Provide a further opportunity to enhance communication skills and build confidence whilst working constructively with others.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon full participation in and successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Apply insights from critical reflection to explore complex problems, theories or ideas in your work.
- Implement both speculative and iterative approaches in your studio practice, testing and refining your work through ongoing exploration and experimentation.
- Engage with feedback from peers and tutors, incorporating constructive insights to refine and resolve your work.
- Acquire professional skills in the preparing and presenting work for public exhibition.
- Create new work capable of public exhibition that addresses and resolves identified problems or issues in your work through practice.

Indicative Content

The course is designed to focus your attention on exploring your work through practice in relation to your engagement with historical and/or theoretical discourse and contextual research. In other words, whilst further experimentation and the testing out of ideas in practical form is encouraged and whilst you may continue to investigate alternative media and/or related disciplines, this is a time when the insights gained from the critical review and reappraisal of your artwork, and your increasing focus on research, should start to find an increasingly resolved form, capable of public exhibition in a group show. As such, the course will support and enable you to develop a greater awareness of professional practice through professional practice seminars, artists talks and exhibition opportunities.

Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

A range of learning and teaching methods are used to support you to engage in an explorative and individual approach to the development of your learning. These include:

briefings

- Critical Review Sessions
- 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
- Progress review and self-evaluation
- Opportunities to collaborate with peers across the PGT programmes
- Student-led pop-up exhibitions and events
- Interim Show

Digital skills, materials 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.

Indicative Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
40	400

Description of Formative Assessment and Feedback Methods

Formative assessment offers you the opportunity to obtain ongoing tutor and peer feedback through developing your work for the summative submission over the length of each course. You will actively participate in assessment through regular self-reflection and critical evaluation to encourage increasing self-direction.

You are supported in your learning through a range of formative activities with staff and peers, such as group critiques, progress reviews and tutorials offering ongoing formative feedback as you progress through each course within this programme.

Formative assessment for this course takes the form of a written Progress Review Report and a subsequent Progress Review meeting documenting and reflecting upon progress of creative practice, its theoretical underpinning and the contextualisation of artwork in a contemporary context.

Description of Summative Assessment arrangements

In this course, you will identify and present your most significant artworks in both studio and exhibition settings and submit a digital portfolio of relevant documentation and supporting material including critical self-evaluation. Although comprising different elements, this body of work will be assessed holistically as a single submission and awarded a single grade. This enables you to present and contextualise the relationship between process and outcome in a way that best reflects your working methods and practice.

Submissions will be assessed and moderated in line with the Code of Assessment, and you will receive written feedback accounting for the grade awarded and advice on how to improve. Reassessment opportunities where a student has not passed the course are outlined in the Code of Assessment.

Description of Summative Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A body of work presented in a group exhibition and the studio. A digital portfolio of work and supporting material A completed critical self-evaluation form <p>Although comprising different elements, this body of work will be assessed holistically against the course Intended Learning Outcomes as a single submission and awarded a single grade</p>	100%	Week 12 (Stage 1 Semester 2)

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?	N/A
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.