

**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification  
Course Title: Expansion: Studio 3A**

*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 2026-27 Academic Year.*

| Course Code                    | HECOS Code | Academic Session |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| UPAP301A / UFAP301A / USEA301A |            | 2026-27          |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Course Title</b>   | Expansion: Studio 3A                       |
| <b>Course Contact</b> | Dr Zoë Mendelson/Lesley Punton/Sara Barker |

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Credits</b>     | 40                  |
| <b>SCQF Level</b>  | 9                   |
| <b>When Taught</b> | Stage 3, Semester 1 |

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

#### Course Introduction

This course supports you to expand your practices conceptually and practically, and to develop agency through self-directed working. The course brings together new and continuing students, as well as incoming exchange students, creating a dynamic community of practice.

You will develop a programme of study as a framework for your learning and your developing practice. Established patterns of work are built upon and visual languages developed through attention to media, subject specificity, context and risk taking. Work is tested through experimentation and extended periods of making informed by critical analysis and contextual insight.

The course supports you to build your understanding of context in relation to your work and extend and hone your own interests in relation to fine art practice. Developing work for audiences enables you to negotiate the terms of its future ambition as well as build confidence in discussion, presentation and situating work.

#### Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

- Develop autonomy in your critical studio enquiry through establishing self-directed approaches to making work
- Expand approaches to making work and material processes to enable an independent art practice to develop, underpinned by an awareness of ethics and sustainability build research methods and approaches in relation to a range of contexts and processes
- Deepen critical understandings through exploratory and reflective approaches to making work and developing your learning
- Use a range of skills including communication, presentation, time management and planning to support the development of independent art practice

### **Course Intended Learning Outcomes**

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

- Exercise autonomy and initiative in critical studio practice to sustain periods of production and experimentation
- Embed materiality and processes within the development of individual art making in an ethical and sustainable manner
- Analyse critical and contextual research to develop interests in relation to wider contexts
- Evidence a reflective and curious critical awareness within your individual art practice and learning
- Develop communication, presentation, planning and time management that allow you to sustain and build your creative practice

### **Indicative Content**

The course will introduce you to:

- Identifying and refining research areas and methods
- Develop and expand ideas, skills and processes associated with fine art practice
- Build independent working practices and frameworks
- Skills to manage a studio practice and making
- Critical awareness of individual practice and related contexts
- Understandings of professional arts contexts
- Methods to document, organise and communicate artwork in written, visual and aural forms
- An awareness of ethical, safety and sustainability as it relates to independent practice

### **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:

- Briefings
- Studio practice and activities
- Individual and group tutorials
- Group critiques, collaborative activities
- Presenting, communicating and sharing work
- Talks, lectures, seminars and study visits
- Reflection and self-evaluation

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.

Peer learning is a key component of the course and you are embedded within a subject specific community of practice. There are opportunities to engage with a wider context including Glasgow's cultural spaces.

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 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 40                       | 400                     |

#### 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 to your learning.

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 assessment will take place via a studio critique discussion with peers and staff midway 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 learning and teaching activities associated with the course.

The summative assessment for this course is based on your submissions of two components: an in-studio presentation of a selection of your artwork, works-in-progress and physical supporting material made so far in Year 3; a digital portfolio of work which will include evidence of research, professional practice and self-evaluation.

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 |
|--|----------|-----------------|
| <p>You will be assessed via your submission of two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Studio presentation of a selection of your artwork.</li> <li>- A digital portfolio – uploaded to canvas</li> </ul> <p>These components will be assessed holistically.</p> | 100%     | 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

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <b>Does this course represent a work placement or a year of study abroad?</b>   | No |
| <b>Is this course collaborative with any other institutions?</b>                | No |
| <b>If yes, then please provide the names of the other teaching institutions</b> |    |

#### **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.