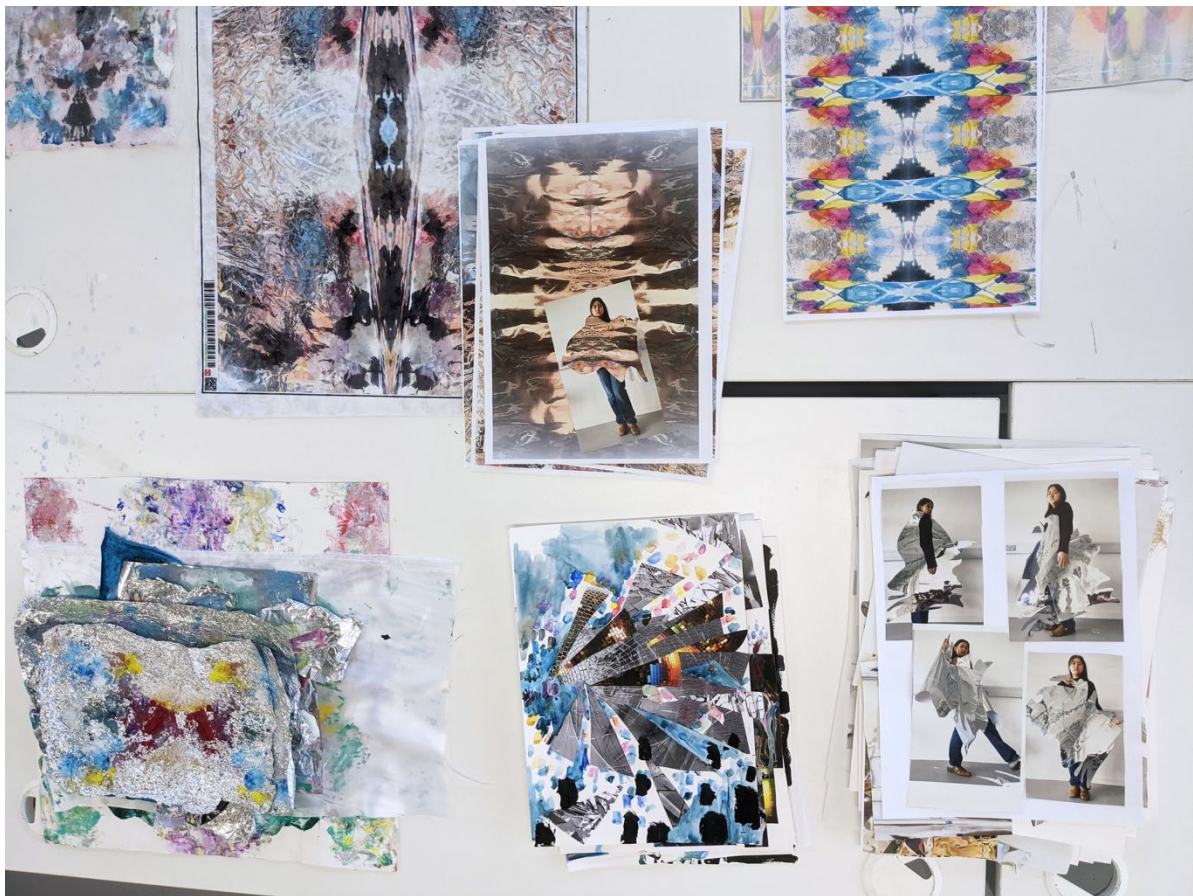


**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification  
Course Title: Foundation Studio 2**



*Image: Hou Surong International Foundation 2023*

*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 Academic Year.*

Course Code	HECOS Code	Academic Session
UINF105B		2026-27

<b>Course Title</b>	Foundation Studio 2
<b>Course Contact</b>	Conor Kelly (C.Kelly@gsa.ac.uk)

<b>Credits</b>	40
<b>SCQF Level</b>	7
<b>When Taught</b>	Semester 2

<b>Associated Programmes</b>	International Foundation
<b>Lead School</b>	School of Fine Art
<b>Other Schools</b>	N/A
<b>Date of Approval</b>	PACAAG April 2026

### Course Introduction

Foundation Studio 2 is designed to support the development of students' knowledge and understanding of Art and Design Studio practice. The course builds upon the learning and teaching in Foundation Studio 1 (Semester 1) guiding students to identify and explore specific areas of Art and Design through practical studio projects. The course emphasizes the integration of studio making and conceptualization, fostering students' ability to combine primary and secondary research in project development. This blending of conceptual and technical elements is central to creative practices across all disciplines in Art and Design. The course offers learning and teaching that is tailored to specialisation through two distinct pathways:

#### Design Pathway

The Design Pathway provides a comprehensive introduction to the study of design at undergraduate level. The pathway offers students a range of learning opportunities to develop a routine skillset and holistic understanding of the principles of a Design practice. The pathway is delivered through a series of structured project briefs that support the development of creative problem-solving, critical thinking and technical abilities through studio-making. Student learning is supported through a combination of individual and collaborative project work. The pathway supports the learning of students who are adaptive and versatile designers who are prepared for challenges from across the spectrum of undergraduate design.

#### Fine Art Pathway

The Fine Art Pathway provides an essential introduction to the study of undergraduate fine art. The pathway provides students with learning opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of contemporary fine art practice whilst refining their individual and collaborative creative practices. The pathway supports the learning of students to be open-minded and collaborative makers who are adaptive and prepared for a deeper exploration of fine art.

### Course Aims

The aims of this course are:

- To foster students' knowledge and understanding of specialist study within Art and Design studio practice

- To develop students' practical skills and enhance technical abilities for specialist study within Art and Design
- To support the effective use of primary and secondary research as part of a creative practice
- To apply critical thinking in Art and Design through analysis, reflection and self-evaluation

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

- Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of specialist study within Art and Design studio practice
- Showcase a range of practical skills and basic technical processes in response to assigned specialist study project briefs
- Use a combination of primary and secondary research as part of a creative process
- Demonstrate the application of critical thinking through analysis, reflection and self-evaluation

### Indicative Content

This 14-week course is delivered in Semester 2 through two distinct Pathways with students nominating a Pathway and at least one specialism within that Pathway at the beginning of Week 2.

The **Design Pathway** prepares students for specialist study in 2D Design (Communication Design), 3D Design (Fashion, Textiles, Silversmithing and Jewellery), Architecture, Digital and Interactive Design (Games & Virtual Reality, 3D Modelling, Interaction Design), Interior Design, and Product Design. The Design Pathway is delivered through a series of assigned project briefs that enable students to better understand the design process, to map its development. Students effectively communicate their design journey and the decisions that inform the direction of their work through a Design Journal.

The **Fine Art Pathway** prepares students for specialist study in Fine Art practice (Fine Art Photography, Painting & Printmaking, Sculpture & Environmental Art). The Pathway supports students' emerging interests in Fine Art practice through a series of assigned project briefs. Students use their Fine Art Practice sketchbooks to document studio work, collect inspiration, archive secondary sources, and map the development of their creative journey.

#### Assigned Projects

Projects range from 3-4 weeks in length. Students are assigned a brief that outlines the parameters of the project including all submission requirements. Submissions require the documentation of both primary and secondary research alongside coherent final outcomes. Projects typically embrace a range of contemporary themes in Art and Design. Coursework promotes the use of ethical and sustainable practice in Art and Design and assigned project work advocates for co-operation and collaboration in a shared studio environment.

#### Specialist Study

The course is structured to enable students to clearly identify their individual strengths and attributes whilst contextualising their creativity with the broader context of Art & Design. The course is designed to support the exploration of a range of creative approaches and techniques

and each student is afforded the opportunity to develop their own creative voice within the context of their nominated specialism.

The Foundation Studio 2 course is taken in tandem with the Communication in Context course in Semester 2.

#### Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

**Learning and Teaching** is conducted with International Foundation Studio Tutors through a range of activities including studio workshops, lectures, seminars, group tutorials, one-to-one tutorials, progress reviews, and group critical feedback.

There are a range of methods in how we approach teaching on the programme. Workshops are usually instructional and are designed for larger groups of students, while seminars and group tutorials allow for closer participation between smaller groups, typically 3-5. We also offer one-to-one tutorials where individual student needs can be better addressed.

Whilst the programme is focussed on a hands-on studio experience, our learning activities are facilitated through a hybrid blend of in-person and online activities. All learning activities are published in advance on our virtual learning environment (Canvas). Timetabling and learning resources are also available through Canvas. Students are advised to make regular use of the GSA library and the programmes recommended reading.

Indicative Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
102	400

#### Description of Formative Assessment and Feedback Methods

**Formative Assessment** is designed to support the development of each student's creative practice and is an ongoing process undertaken through reviews and tutorials with staff and fellow students. In Week 8, students participate in a **Progress Review** where they submit their coursework to date for assessment to staff and receive verbal and written staff responses that act as feedback. The feedback is constructive and will offer future-oriented options and solutions that students can use to ensure they meet Intended Learning Outcomes.

#### Description of Summative Assessment arrangements

**Summative Assessment** measures the learning of each student. The Summative Assessment determines progress and level of attainment in relation to the Intended Learning Outcomes. Each student submits a digital portfolio of all Foundation Studio 2 coursework in Week 13. The submission should contain annotated images of all primary investigations and secondary research alongside a 250-word self-evaluation of their experiences and the work produced during the course. Each student is required to produce their own annotated documentation of all group work prior to individual assessment. Submissions will be assessed and moderated in line with the code of assessment. 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
Digital portfolio of work alongside a 250-word self-evaluation.		100%	13

#### 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

An accessible and updated resource list can be found on [Resource Lists](#).