THE GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART

Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Studio 3: Consolidating Practice



Image: Lydia Hall

Course Code	HECOS Code	Academic Session
	100061 / 1000062 / 100063	**2026-27**

Course Title	Studio 3: Consolidating Practice
Course Contact	

Credits	60
SCQF Level	11
When Taught	Stage 3, Semester 3

Associated Programmes	Master of Design in Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography Awards Master of Design in Graphic Design, Master of Design in Illustration, Master of Design in Photography (individual pathways)
Lead School	School of Design
Other Schools	n/a
Date of Approval	Programme Approval February 2025

Course Introduction

This course supports students to consolidate their practice within their chosen pathway of Graphic Design, Illustration or Photography as a reflective practitioner in an interdisciplinary studio-based learning environment among a diverse postgraduate community.

Students produce a final portfolio of work, focused within their chosen pathway and informed by the previous semesters of study, through a reasoned choice of methodology, relevant research and theory in the production of a significant body of work as a final portfolio for submission.

Through the final portfolio, students demonstrate the application of in-depth research, theory, material making and rigorous critical reflection to resolve a self-directed project or projects, applying the established skills for a sustainable professional practice and life-long learning. A critical reflective document contextualises the student learning journey and situates their practice within their chosen specialist pathway.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

1. consolidate students' practice-led research through a self-directed project or projects employing a range of specialist skills and methods.

2. consolidate students' extended knowledge and understanding of specialist research and theory informing practice.

3. consolidate students' critical reflection analysis, evaluation of learning applied to creative practice.

4. equip students with the relevant skills to participate in discipline-specific academic discourse recognising the complexity of ethical, societal, political and environmental contexts.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. evidence the application of practice-led research and relevant discipline-specific methods and processes of making.

2. evidence the synthesis of discipline-specific research and specialist theory in the development and execution of a significant self-directed project or projects.

3. evidence critical reflection in the execution and evaluation of a self-directed specialist project or projects.

4. demonstrate their engagement with relevant academic discourse recognising the complexity of ethical, societal, political and environmental contexts as specialist practitioners.

Indicative Content

The course will consolidate student knowledge and understanding of:

- approaches to contemporary, historical, and cultural research informing practice

- methods of critical reflection applied to practice

- self-directed, authorial, learning.

- planning and executing a self-initiated project or projects.

Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

This course is designed as a project-based course. Project briefs encourage an independent, tutor-supported approach that emphasises individual and in-depth self-directed study.

A range of learning and teaching methods are used to support students to engage in an explorative and individual approach to learning. These can include:

- Briefings
- Introductions, Inductions and demonstrations
- Technical and process workshops
- Studio activities
- Peer-led activities

- Lectures, seminars, presentations and study visits
- Individual and group tutorials
- Staff/Student/Peer reviews of student work
- Critical reflective methods, textual, dialogic and visual.
- Journal and documentation of learning activities
- Continual reflective self-evaluation of progress and learning

Skills, including digital, material 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
Students are 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. Formative assessment offers students the opportunity to present the progress of their project work to staff and receive feedback to inform the development and refinement of their submission for summative assessment.

Description of Summative Assessment arrangements
Summative assessment is designed to support students to review, collate, and communicate work produced in response to project briefs and learning and teaching activities associated with the course. 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
Students are required to submit a portfolio of work produced in response to a self-directed project or projects. A critically reflective document of 1000 words contextualising the student's learning should accompany the submission.		Semester 3 Week 13
Portfolio of work	75%	
Critical Reflective document	25%	

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

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. Tutors and peers will provide further recommendations appropriate to student's chosen area of research and focus.