Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Course Title: Consolidation: Studio 4

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
UPAP414		2026-27

Course Title	Consolidation: Studio 4
Course Contact	Dr Zoë Mendelson/Lesley Punton/ Sara Barker

Credits	80
SCQF Level	10
When Taught	Stage 4, Semesters 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 you to develop your practice-based fine art enquiry and build on the learning of the programme to create an ambitious, ethical and coherent body of artwork ready for public audience. You will gain agency and skills to prepare you for your transition out of the programme into professional contexts or further study.

Working within a community of practice, you will manage, organise and proactively build your critical and sustainable studio practice. An extended period of informed experimentation and making is undertaken, where you are able to absorb and test critical ideas, contexts and develop your making, leading to the creation of a consolidated body of work.

Through engaging with the world beyond the art school, you will learn to sustain a practice into the future and to position yourself within a range of cultural fields. Towards the end of Semester 2 you will propose and prepare a public exhibition of your work, and present your audience-ready work, alongside and in communication with peers.

Course Aims

The aims of this course are to:

- Enable the consolidation of studio practice so that it can sustain an independent and autonomous practice
- Consolidate and refine modes of making to create a body of work and share with audiences
- Support students in understanding how research relates to individual artwork as well as a tool to sustain art practice in professional contexts
- Refine critical thinking to support and build and generate knowledge within an identified area of enquiry
- Activate professional skills to support the development of independent and autonomous art practice, demonstrating an awareness of ethics and sustainability

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

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

- Consolidate and exercise autonomy in critical studio practice to enable a transition into independent practice
- Expand and sustain material enquiries and processes to bring a body of artwork to open conclusion for audiences
- Integrate critical and contextual research to position and situate individual work and the work of others in a field of practice
- Synthesise critical thinking and art making within an identified field of enquiry
- Actively prepare for sustaining and developing your artistic activities within social, professional and practical contexts in a safe and ethical manner

Indicative Content

The course will introduce you to:

- Building an active research portfolio
- Extending and consolidating ideas, skills and processes associated with fine art practice
- Building independent and autonomous modes of practice
- Skills to sustain a critical studio practice
- Critical awareness of own practice and its contexts
- Proposal, presentation and exhibition skills
- Understandings of how to engage with professional arts contexts and audiences
- Documentation, organisation and communication in written, visual and aural forms
- An awareness of ethical, safety and sustainability as it relates to independent practice and presentation

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

- Briefings
- Studio practice and activities
- Individual and group tutorials
- Group critiques
- Talks, lectures and seminars
- Study visits and trips
- Peer learning and collaborative activities
- Exhibiting, presenting and sharing work with others
- Reflection and self-evaluation

Digital and material skills and technical resources are supported through engaging with technical workshops.

Independent learning skills will be developed and supported through guided activities and digital online learning resources available on Canvas.

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

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. You will be supported in your learning through a range of activities with staff and peers, such as workshops, crits and tutorials offering ongoing formative feedback as you progress through the course. Early in Semester 2 you will present your work for a formative assessment for which you will receive feedback and an indicative grade. You will present a selection of your artwork, works-in-progress and physical supporting material made so far in Year 4 along with a digital portfolio that documents your work, process and development in Year 4 to date (uploaded to Canvas). Formative feedback is designed to support you in developing and refining your work towards 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 learning and teaching activities associated with the course. Summative assessment will be via two components: A presentation of body of work for public exhibition (see assessment brief on Canvas for further details); and a digital portfolio, which will be an organised record of your artwork and include an artist's statement, CV, self-evaluation and ethics checklist. 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
You will be assessed via your submission of two components: - A presentation of work for public exhibition - A digital portfolio – uploaded to canvas These components will be assessed holistically.	 13 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
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.