# Course Specification
# MA Fine Art

## 1. General information

| Course Title | MA Fine Art | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Awarding University | Leeds Arts University | | |
| University at which course is delivered | Leeds Arts University | | |
| Relevant benchmark(s) | Master's Degree Characteristics (2020), Sector Recognised Standards | | |
| Date of most recent review | 20 April 2023 | | |
| Date of next review | 2027-28 | | |
| Awards | Credits | Duration | Mode of study |
| MA Fine Art | 180 | 1 year / 2 years | Full time/ Part time |
| PGDip in Fine Art* | 120 | | Full time /Part time |
| PGCert in Fine Art* | 60 | | Full time / Part time |
| *Exit Award only | | | |

## 2. Course Aims

| This course aims to: |
|---|
| The MA Fine Art course aims to advance, widen and deepen your existing fine art practices, enabling your progress through practice research. It aims to create a stimulating environment in which fine art practice is informed by research and advanced scholarship and underpinned by the University's research culture. It aims to further develop the University's externality through the imaginative exchange of ideas grounded in practice research methods and theoretical understanding, and promote a fine art culture of sustained, high-level practice that may be visual/object-based/oral/aural or written, and which is informed by a range of relevant creative contexts and cultural industries. It aims to engage you in an imaginative exchange of ideas in an experimental, critical and creative learning environment, and support and promote an independent, analytical, proactive and negotiated approach to your individual fine art practice and professional development. It aims to develop and sustain the application of critical, analytical judgements which are informed by theoretical and material understanding and self-directed practice research, to facilitate the production of a body of investigative fine art work. |

## 3. Distinctive Features of the Course

This course promotes and supports fine art making across the widest possible range of media, methods and practices. It aims to advance, widen and deepen your existing fine art practices, enabling your progress through practice research. It is led by research active staff, and dialogic exchange is at the heart of this course. The course attracts students from a diverse range of backgrounds, including international contexts which ensures that a vibrant and contemporary culture exists amongst the cohorts, featuring varied and dynamic debate, a broad base of experience and a rich diversity of viewpoints.

The inter-disciplinary nature of the Postgraduate Studies at Leeds Arts University will allow you to work and network with a wide range of students from related disciplines across the field of arts

practice, and the course includes an external facing and high-profile show case event at the culmination of your studies. Public-facing professional activity relevant to individual practice (such as gallery exhibition) is encouraged throughout the course. The course will enable you to develop effective research skills, and includes components such as a dissertation module for example. Business/enterprise teaching is also included within the course, and is designed to help you plan your future career.

Whilst at Leeds Arts University you can access a wide range of workshop facilities including ceramics, photography, sewing, printmaking, moving image, metalwork, woodwork and digital facilities. The course is offered on a part time and full-time basis and is accommodated in a bespoke suite of rooms dedicated to Postgraduate Studies.

## 4. Course Structure

### 4a. Module Framework

| Level 7 | Credit points | ECTS | Learning hours |
|---|---|---|---|
| Propose | 30 | 15 | 300 |
| Position | 30 | 15 | 300 |
| Public | 30 | 15 | 300 |
| Research Methods | 15 | 7.5 | 150 |
| Business Planning | 15 | 7.5 | 150 |
| Visualising Research | 15 | 7.5 | 150 |
| Digital Marketing | 15 | 7.5 | 150 |
| The Dissertation | 30 | 15 | 300 |

### 4b. Course Map / Structure

| Full Time Mode | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trimester 1 (September – December) | | Trimester 2 (January – April) | | Trimester 3 (April – July) | |
| Propose (30 credits) | | The Dissertation (30 credits) | | Position (30 credits) | 180 credits |
| Visualising Research (15 credits) | Business Planning (15 credits) | Research Methods (15 credits) | Digital Marketing (15 credits) | Public (30 credits) | |

| Part Time Mode | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Trimester 1 (September – December) | | Trimester 2 (January – April) | | Trimester 3 (April – July) | |
| Y1 | Propose (30 credits) | | Research Methods (15 credits) | Digital Marketing (15 credits) | Position (30 credits) | 90 credits |
| Y2 | Visualising Research (15 credits) | Business Planning (15 credits) | The Dissertation (30 credits) | | Public (30 credits) | 90 credits |

# 5. Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the following learning outcomes, you will be eligible for the award of MA Fine Art.

| CLO 1 **Research** | Create specialised work outputs, which are informed by current practice, research and scholarship | Propose (30) The Dissertation (30) Position (30) Research Methods (15) Visualising Research (15) |
|---|---|---|
| CLO 2 **Analysis** | Use, analyse, critique and evaluate a range of research methods, as you develop your specialist, subject and professional knowledge and practice. | Propose (30) Position (30) Research Methods (15) Visualising Research (15) |
| CLO 3 **Subject Knowledge and Understanding** | Evidence an in-depth knowledge and understanding of your specialist, subject and professional practice, including that of contemporary critical and conceptual debate, and practical developments. | The Dissertation (30) Research Methods (15) Business Planning (15) Visualising Research (15) Digital Marketing (15) Public (30) |
| CLO 4 **Experimentation** | Experiment with techniques, ideas and approaches to advance your specialist, subject and professional practice. | Propose (30) Position (30) Public (30) |
| CLO 5 **Techniques and Processes** | Choose, apply and evaluate a range of techniques and processes appropriate to your practice. | Propose (30) Position (30) Research Methods (15) Business Planning (15) Visualising Research (15) Digital Marketing (15) |
| CLO 6 **Personal and Professional Development** | Work with autonomy, initiative and professionalism as you evaluate, revise and disseminate your practice. | Dissertation (30) Public (30) Research Methods (15) Business Planning (15) Visualising Research (15) Digital Marketing (15) |

# 6. Learning and Teaching Strategies

The learning and teaching methods and strategies included in this course are aligned to the descriptor for master's degrees as defined by the Office for Students in the *Sector Recognised Standards* document (February 2018). Further information is available by following this link: https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/securing-student-success-regulatory-framework-for-higher-education-in-england/.

The *Characteristics Statement [for] Master's Degrees* (February 2020) has also informed the design of the award. In particular, the document notes the following:

*… all master's degree graduates have in-depth and advanced knowledge and understanding of their subject and/or profession, informed by current practice, scholarship and research. This will include a critical awareness of current issues and developments in the subject and/or profession; critical skills; knowledge of professional responsibility, integrity and ethics; and the ability to reflect on their own progress as a learner*. Further information is available here: https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/master's-degree-characteristics-statement.pdf

Therefore, the learning, teaching and assessment strategies on this course have been designed to enable the student to become effective practitioners and researchers; to develop critical and analytical skills and to develop and evidence in-depth knowledge and understanding of their

subject area. They also encourage and facilitate an experimental approach to practice and research and allow the student to extend their specialist technical knowledge. They are designed to support and facilitate personal and professional development and allow the student to work with initiative and autonomy.

**Teaching and Learning:**
Teaching and learning strategies include the following approaches:
- Lectures and presentations
- Seminars and discussion groups
- Independent research and self-directed study
- Demonstrations including technical demonstrations and workshop inductions
- Peer group presentations and collaborative practice
- One to one tutorials
- Group tutorials and 'crits'
- Individual presentations
- Live projects

**Assessment:**
Assignment submissions are made in response to set briefs. The content of the submission is usually negotiated with your tutor, and related to, or derived from, your research interests.

The briefs and assignment requirements are informed by the module content and may include for example, subject specialist art-based practice work, written submissions, presentations, business and research plans, research books, sketch books and/or work books.