Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	MA Art and Design: Interdisciplinary Practices
2	**BCU Course Code**	PT1139 (FT) PT1140 (PT)
3	**Awarding Institution**	Birmingham City University
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	

6	**Course Description**

Our MA Art and Design: Interdisciplinary Practices course develops your professional practice while engaging with the hybrid nature of art and design in contemporary culture. You will apply art and design methodologies to challenge conventional viewpoints. A multidisciplinary team of expert staff encourages you to work across mediums, processes and working methods (such as photography, installation, print, digital media, sculpture, illustration, curatorial practice, textiles, drawing, sound, graphic design, site-specific art, participatory arts or 3D design).

What's covered in the course?

This stimulating postgraduate course offers you an education in contemporary art and design from an interdisciplinary perspective. You will be supported as creative individuals from a range of tutors and practitioners, with the aim of pushing your existing practice in new directions. The course helps you develop a wider contextual understanding of your practice, while gaining strong research skills in order to develop interdisciplinary projects underpinned by contextual and theoretical debates.

You will be encouraged to develop independent study in relation to different cultural perspectives and a range of contemporary art and design practices, such as fine art, curation, visual communication, fashion, product and interior design.

Our graduates progress into many different careers including graphic design, independent contemporary art practice, typography, gallery education, arts administration, event management, photography, community arts and education. Our course prepares you for life as a creative professional, a PhD researcher or work in other career areas.

There is scope to work on external live projects and our academic staff are highly experienced with national and international research profiles.

Your Course Leader, is a contemporary artist, with work exhibited at the New Art Gallery Walsall and also runs Recent Activity, an artist-run initiative based in Birmingham

7	**Course Awards**		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Master of Arts Art and Design: Interdisciplinary Practices	7	180
	Master of Arts Art and Design: Interdisciplinary Practices with Professional Placement	7	240
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Postgraduate Certificate Art and Design: Interdisciplinary Practices	7	60
	Postgraduate Diploma Art and Design: Interdisciplinary Practices	7	120

8	**Derogation from the University Regulations**
	Not applicable

9	**Delivery Patterns**			
Mode(s) of Study	**Location(s) of Study**	**Duration of Study**	**Code(s)**
Full Time	City Centre	12 months	PT1139
Part Time	City Centre	24 months	PT1140
Full Time with Professional Placement	City Centre (and placement provider)	18 months	PT1429

10	**Entry Requirements**

The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/.

11	**Course Learning Outcomes**
Knowledge and Understanding of:	
1	The historical and contemporary cultural, social, political, theoretical, philosophical, critical and contextual factors that impact upon the current discourse of arts practices and their reception.
2	Practice, theory and context as an informed dialogue at an advanced level.
3	Professional Practice: Including skills that facilitate progression to a career as a professional practitioner, higher or research degrees or other career sequels.
4	Research methods and/or methodologies and their application as appropriate to the individual's course of study.
5	Ethical practice and responsibility in research activities and the presentation of research.
Intellectual and Cognitive Skills	
6	The ability to demonstrate intellectual, conceptual, speculative, imaginative and creative skills applicable to individual study and an appropriate theoretical model and/ or critical context.
7	The ability to demonstrate a breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding of theory, practice and context appropriate to individual study.
8	The ability to demonstrate the application of analytical and critical skills to problem solving, reflective evaluation and interpretation.
9	The ability to engage with research methods and/or methodologies appropriate to theory and context.
10	The ability to engage with research methods and/or methodologies appropriate to individual study.
Practical, Research and Independent Learning Skills	
11	The ability to demonstrate the application of effective specialised practical expertise and advanced technical skills where appropriate.
12	The articulation of ideas through the review, development, synthesis and realisation of individual project based practice and/or writing.
13	The ability to exercise initiative and demonstrate personal responsibility in the negotiation, realisation and presentation of individual practice.
14	The application of Information Technology and/or Multimedia as a research and presentation tool.
15	The effective application of appropriate research methods and/or methodologies in the review, development, synthesis, resolution and evaluation of a written academic essay or equivalent project.
16	The effective application of appropriate research methods and/or methodologies in the review, development, synthesis, resolution and evaluation of practice or written work.
Interdisciplinary	
17	The ability to develop skills in alternative media and/ or related cognate disciplines where relevant to an individual course of study.
18	The ability to demonstrate adaptability and flexibility in a range of contexts.
19	The ability to work collaboratively where appropriate.

	Transferable / Key Skills
20	The ability to think in a creative, imaginative and speculative manner at an advanced level and in a range of academic and professional situations.
21	The ability to demonstrate communication and presentation skills through the articulation of ideas in written, verbal and practical forms.
22	The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of professional practice and professionalism through the application of communication, exhibition and/or presentation skills.
23	The ability to reflect and communicate in an articulate, informed, confident and effective manner.
24	The ability to work independently while demonstrating initiative and self-reliance.
25	The ability to demonstrate a high level of motivation and appropriate organisation, negotiation and planning skills and the ability to strategise effectively.
26	The ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of appropriate procedures compliant with Health and Safety policy and good practice in a variety of working environments and situations.
	Internalisation
27	The ability to devise a Personal Development Plan relevant to a local, national and/or international context.
28	The ability to exercise initiative and demonstrate personal responsibility in professional practice and the development of a career trajectory in local, national and/or international contexts.
29	The ability to publicly disseminate work in an appropriate form.

12	**Course Requirements**

| 12a | **Level 7:**

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 160 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ART7910	Practices and Processes in Art and Design	40
ART7872	Advanced Practice 2	40
ART7902	Research in Practice	20
ADM7912	Major Project	60

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ART7877	Contemporary Philosophy and Aesthetics	20
ART7881	Models and Methods of Curatorial Practice	20
ART7900	Queer Strategies in Practice	20
ART7883	Small Arts Business Set Up	20
ART7882	Photography as Research	20
ART7878	Creative Publishing and Public Dissemination	20
ART7884	Technical Methods, Workshop Practice and Learning	20
ART7901	Social Practice in the Visual Arts	20
ART7887	Art and Transcultural Communication	20
ART7899	Art and Ecologies	20
ADM7006	Collaborative Practice	20

Level 6:

In order to qualify for the award of MA Art and Design: Interdisciplinary Practices with Professional Placement, a student must successfully complete all of the Level 7 modules listed above as well as the following Level 6 module:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PLA6003	Professional Placement	60

12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

Full Time Mode		
Semester 1 Stage 1: Postgraduate Certificate	Semester 2 Stage 2: Postgraduate Diploma	Semester 3 Stage 3: Masters
(Discipline Specific) Subject Module 1 **Practices and Processes in Art and Design** 40 credits	(Discipline Specific) Subject Module 2 **Advanced Practice 2** 40 credits	Common Core Module **Major Project** 60 credits
Option Module 1** 20 credits	Common Core Module* **Research in Practice** 20 credits	
*All Students choose to follow one option module in Stage 1		

Professional Placement	
Semester 1	Semester 2
Professional Placement 60 credits	

Part Time Mode – Year 1		
Semesters 1 Stage 1: Postgraduate Certificate	Semester 2 Stage 1: Postgraduate Certificate	Semester 3 Stage 2: Postgraduate Diploma
(Discipline Specific) Subject Module 1 Practices and Processes in Art and Design 40 credits		(Discipline Specific) Subject Module 2 **Advanced Practice** 2 20 credits
Option Module 1** 20 credits		Common Core Module* **Research in Practice** 20 credits

Part Time Mode – Year 2		
Semester 4 Stage 2: Postgraduate Diploma	Semester 5 Stage 3: Masters	Semester 6 Stage 3: Masters
Common Core Module* **Research in Practice** (cont.)		
Option Module 1** 20 credits		
Common Core Module **Major Project** 60 credits		
*All Students choose to follow one option module in Stage 1 (Semester 1 in Years 1)		

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for assessments and submission points

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

Workload

% Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	236
Directed Learning	1204
Private Study	360
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	