

Foundation Degree (FDA) Fine Art at Hereford College of Arts



UNIVERSITY OF WALES VALIDATED DEGREE SCHEME Programme Specification

1. Qualification	2. Programme Title
Foundation Degree (FDA)	Fine Art

3. Programme Type
Modular, Full Time, Part-Time

4. Main Purpose and Distinctive Features of the Programme

Main purpose: This is an ideas based course aimed at both part-time and full time students, that will enable them to follow a variety of individual routes as their particular specialist practices develop.

Part-time and mature students often bring a wealth of life experience to their practice in art and design which causes them to be utterly committed, responsible students, greedy for knowledge and personal development. This course sets out to develop this potential while meeting a regional need.

Special features: This programme deals with the exploration of ideas; their generation, development and refinement and their realisation in the most appropriate materials and techniques. It provides the opportunity for students to research into and develop skills within a range of arts practice, enabling them to negotiate their own pathway through the programme. This may involve combinations of media and processes or the pursuit of a single specialism. The programme is weighted significantly towards studio practice and is taught by arts practitioners for arts practitioners. Project based Modules enable students to develop lateral thinking, problem solving and material skills within a studio environment.

The programme emphasises visual arts undertaken in a contemporary context, with supporting theoretical, historical and contextual studies. This discourse is seen as an intrinsic and essential component of the course and is delivered, not just as separate cultural studies units, but as a vital strand in each studio practice module.

Professional Studies, to equip the student with knowledge about their future as practitioners, is also integral to the course and is delivered through all the Modules. It covers all areas of professional practice including presentation of work, organisation of exhibitions, sale of work, promotion, commissions and tax responsibilities.

The range of teaching methods includes lectures and seminars, group critiques, team teaching, demonstrations, seminars and peer - learning as well as one to one and group discussions, group work, project work, self directed study, live projects, competitions, and placements.

5. What a Graduate Should Know and be able to do on Completion of the Programme

To gain the qualification the student will have demonstrated i) subject knowledge and understanding ii) cognitive skills iii) discipline-related practical and professional skills and iv) other general skills and capabilities specified in the learning outcomes for modules within the programme.

i) Knowledge and understanding in the context of the subject

- Understanding and demonstration of coherent and detailed subject knowledge and professional insights
- Understanding and use of objective critical self appraisal and evaluation as a basis for the creation of work within the chosen discipline
- Conceptual understanding and sufficiency of control of processes to enable the intellectual development and resolution of form and content in studio practice

ii) Cognitive skills

- Ability to describe, comment or reflect upon particular aspects of recent art or scholarship and place their own work within a context.
- Ability to apply their knowledge and skills to identify, elaborate and sustain a body of work
- Ability to effectively and professionally present the outcomes of their art practice and research in a manner that articulates and manifests by means of texts, studio work and other material as is appropriate the concerns that direct their scholarship

iii) Subject-specific practical\professional skills

- Knowledge, skills and ability to work in a range of media, materials and techniques at an appropriate level
- Knowledge and skills in a range of arts practice necessary for the development of a personal language and approach to art and design
- Knowledge, skills and practical experience in setting up and working as independent practitioners appropriate to a particular context
- Knowledge and understanding of the cultural and professional context of contemporary practice in a number of aspects of art and design
- Knowledge, understanding and ability to use a range of transferable skills in preparation for employment in a range of occupations both within art and design and outside this area.

iv)General transferable skills

These are normally integrated into the subject curriculum but are neither specific nor unique to art and design. They have applications in a wide range of contexts. typically holders of a Foundation Degree in an Art and Design discipline will have demonstrated:

Self management -

the ability to:

- Study independently, set goals, manage their own workloads and meet deadlines;
- Anticipate and accommodate change and work within contexts of ambiguity, uncertainty and unfamiliarity.

Critical awareness -

the ability to:

- Analyse information and experiences, formulate independent judgements and articulate reasoned arguments through reflection, review and evaluation;
- Formulate reasoned responses to the critical judgements of others;
- Identify personal strengths and needs.

Interpersonal and social skills -

the ability to:

- Interact effectively with others, for example through collaboration, collective endeavour and negotiation.

Skills in communication and presentation -

the ability to:

- Articulate ideas and information comprehensibly in visual, oral and written form;
- Present ideas and work to audiences in a range of situations.

the ability to:

- Source, navigate, select, retrieve, evaluate, manipulate and manage information from a variety of sources;
- Select and employ communication and information technologies.

6. Qualities, Skills and Capabilities Profile

The educational and training goals of the programme seek to promote and demonstrate the following qualities, skills, capabilities and values in the student:

<p>A. Intellectual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to analyse information and experiences, formulate independent judgements and articulate reasoned arguments through reflection, review and evaluation; • The ability to formulate reasoned responses to the critical judgements of others; • The ability to identify personal strengths and needs. • The ability to articulate ideas and information comprehensibly in visual, oral and written form; • The ability to present ideas and work to audiences in a range of situations. • Research and professional skills 	<p>B. Practical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to source, navigate, select, retrieve, evaluate, manipulate and manage information from a variety of sources; • The ability to select and employ communication and information technologies. 	<p>C. Personal and Social</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to interact effectively with others, for example through collaboration, collective endeavour and negotiation. • Study independently, set goals, manage own workloads and meet deadlines; • Anticipate and accommodate change and work within contexts of ambiguity, uncertainty and unfamiliarity.
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7. Main Subjects, Levels, Credits and Qualifications

a) Length of Study	PT 3 yrs FT 2 yrs
b) Mode of Study	Part – Time or full time
c) Pathways	All Modules are compulsory
d) Credit Value per Module	30
HE Certificate	120 credits
All Modules are compulsory	
1. Research and Exploration	30 credits
2. Realisation	30 credits
3. Specialist Practice	30 credits
4. Cultural and Professional Studies 1	30 credits
Foundation Degree in Fine Arts	240 credits
All Modules are compulsory	
5. Professional Practice	30 credits
6. Major Project - Research and Development	30 credits
7. Major Project - Realisation & Exhibition	30 credits
8. Cultural and Professional Studies 2	30 credits

8. Assessment

Main Features of the Programme's Overall Assessment Scheme

Assessment is focused on the following areas -

1. Creativity - The ability to:

- Initiate enquiry with originality, innovation, perceptiveness supported by informed critical analysis and judgement;
- To show a grasp of concepts and their inter-relationship;
- Bring together and interpret and develop all aspects of informed personal experience gained through investigation and discovery, with expression, imagination and technological study.

2. Technological Understanding - The ability to:

- Explore, experiment, select and apply the appropriate skills, processes and materials necessary to achieve a proposed outcome;
- Be concerned with an investigation of technology as part of the creative process.

3. Contextual awareness - The ability to:

- Contextualise knowledge, to relate theory to practice; to be aware of the historical and contemporary context of art practice;
- Have a concern for current issues;
- Have an understanding of contemporary professional, commercial or social contexts for art practice;
- Have an awareness of an international dimension.

4. Studentship - The ability to:

- Be committed to a programme of study;
- Be involved in and contribute to seminars and tutorials;
- Show communications skills and the ability to present ideas verbally and in written form with clarity;
- Present work professionally;
- Associate with colleagues and, where appropriate, work in a team;
- Contribute to additional activities - exhibitions, peer group exchanges, external projects;
- Regular attendance.

ii) Methods of Assessment

Studio work is assessed by presentation of work in exhibition or by portfolio, with appropriate additional documentation.

The Cultural & Professional Studies Units are assessed by essays and presentations.