Programme Specification for BA Fine Art



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| **1. Programme title** | BA Fine Art  |
| **2. Awarding institution**  | Middlesex University |
| **3. Teaching institution**  | Middlesex University |
| **4. Programme accredited by**  | N/A |
| **5. Final qualification**  | BA(Hons) |
| **6. Academic year** | 2012-13 |
| **7. Language of study** | English |
| **8. Mode of study** | F/T or P/T |

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| **9. Criteria for admission to the programme**See the University Guide and Regulations for specific criteria for admissions to the University. Students joining Level One of the programme are normally admitted after completing a Foundation or similar course. Applicants are required to submit a portfolio of recent work of a suitable standard. For undergraduate degrees we require a minimum score of IELTS 6.0 with not lessthan 5.5. in any component, or equivalent. |

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| **10. Aims of the programme** |
| The programme aims to:1. Enable individuals to establish an art practice that they can sustain and develop in relation to the field of contemporary fine art.2. Produce articulate and informed graduates who have knowledge and understanding of fine art and its related fields.3. Produce individuals with an understanding of the relationship between contemporary fine art practice and the broader social, political and community contexts.4. Enable individuals to extend their creative and intellectual abilities, technological and communication skills and to develop the expertise to make an informed contribution to the cultural, technological, social and economic needs of society in general. |

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| **11. Programme outcomes** |
| **A. Knowledge and understanding**On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :1. The Practice of fine art incorporating an understanding of the particularity of media and the relationship between different media.2. Fine art practice in relation to its histories, the contemporary field and current critical theories and discourses3. The role of fine art in the context of contemporary social, political and cultural formations4. The process of information gathering and research and its relationship to individual art practice | **Teaching/learning methods**Students gain knowledge and understanding throughPractice and theory based lectures and seminarsIndividual tutorialsGroup tutorials, student led presentations and critiques (peer group learning)Self-directed learning (inc. studio practice, gallery visits, library and archive research),workshop demonstrations and use of an appropriate range of technologies.Set and negotiated project/placement work**Assessment Method**Students’ knowledge and understanding is assessed by |
| **B. Cognitive (thinking) skills**On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:1. Initiate processes from which art work is made, demonstrating imagination and ambition2. Analyse and critically evaluate ideas, themes and concepts as they arise out of practice and inform its further development3. Engage with complex ideas and concepts as articulated through practice and written/oral communication4. Adopt risk taking strategies as a way of developing work and ideas5. Integrate knowledge and understanding of practice with knowledge and understanding of theory, and the convergences of these categories.  | Students learn cognitive skills through:Lectures and seminarsIndividual tutorials that encourage the forming and testing of ideas and their realisations Student presentations that focus on the understanding and articulation of practice.Group tutorials and critiques (peer group learning)Self-directed learning (inc. studio practice, gallery visits, library and archive research)Workshop-based practiceSet and negotiated project/placement work**Assessment Method**Students’ cognitive skills are assessed by coursework, which is presented by exhibition and archival documentation of visual and/or audio artefacts and oral and written form, extended piece of writing and short text statements. |
| **C. Practical skills**On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Demonstrate competence and professionalism in the choice and use of appropriate media and process through evidence in practice2. Apply research skills appropriate to chosen ideas, themes, concepts or areas of experimentations3. Clearly articulate complex ideas and concepts in appropriate visual/verbal and written forms4. Negotiate, organise and manage practical studio and/or placement projects with an understanding of resource parameters | **Teaching/learning methods**Students learn practical skills throughStudents learn practical skills through:Workshop introductions, demonstrations and useProfessional practice lectures Individual tutorials and group seminarsGroup tutorials and critiques (peer group learning)Self-directed learning (inc. studio and workshop practice, gallery visits, library and archive research)Set and negotiated project/placement work**Assessment Method**Students’ practical skills are assessed by coursework,Professional presentation of current and past documented practice in appropriate visual and/or audio form, oral and visual presentations and short and extended text/writing assignments, journal record |
| **D. Graduate Skills**On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:1. Apply skills and knowledge flexibly and imaginatively to varying context, both as an individual and collaboratively as part of a team2. Explore and plan personal and career directions3. Apply initiative and to learn through self-critical awareness4. Deploy a range of communication and interpersonal skills relevant to different contexts and situations5. Employ a range of technical skills, including IT and numeracy related to professional fine art practice | **Teaching / Learning Methods:**Students acquire graduate skills through:Professional practice lectures and seminarsIndividual tutorials and seminarsGroup tutorials and critiques (peer group learning)Written self evaluationParticipation in exhibitions both within the University and at outside venuesSelf-directed learning (inc. studio practice, gallery visits, library and archive research)Workshop/studio practiceSet and negotiated project/placement work**Assessment method**Students’ graduate skills are assessed by coursework.Visual and/or audio artefacts are presented in exhibited and documented form. Text and writing assignments. |

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| **12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)** |
| **12. 1 Overall structure of the programme** |
| **See page 22/23** |

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| **12.2 Levels and modules** **Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University is changing the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This is to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.** |
| Level 4 (1) |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL  | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Students must take all of the following:FNA1060(60 Credits)FNA1030 (30 Credits)FNA1930 (30 Credits) | There are no optional modules at Level 1 | Successful completion of Level 1 Modules |
| Level 5 (2) |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL  | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Students must take all of the following:FNA2060 (60 Credits)FNA2930 (30 Credits) | Students must also choose at least one from the following:FNA2030 (30 Credits)FNA2830 (30 Credits)FNA2230 (30 Credits)FNA2330 (30 Credits) | Successful Completion of Level 2 modules |
| Level 6 (3) |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL  | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Students must take all of the following:FNA3930 | Students must also choose a combination of the following up to a total of 90 credits, made up of 1 x 60 credit module and 1 x 30 credit module:FNA3030 (30 credits)FNA3120 (30 Credits)FNA3060 (60 credits)FNA3260 (60 credits)FNA3360 (60 credits) | Successful completion of Level 3 modules |

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| ***12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)*** |
| ***Module level*** | ***Module code*** |
|  | *Not applicable* |
|  | *Not applicable* |

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| **13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules** |
| **See Curriculum Map attached** |

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| **14. Information about assessment regulations** |
| Please refer to the Middlesex University Guide and Regulations: <<http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations/>>Automatic or Self-deferral is not permited on any modules within the Fine Art Programme. Students wishing to defer must consult with the Assessment and Achievement Officer for Art & Design, and also inform their Level Coordinator and the Programme Leader. |

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| **15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)** |
| Placement opportunities are offered though modules FNA2230 and FNA3360. Voluntary community placements are a central and obligatory part of these two modules. There is a wide range of placements available in a variety of settings: schools, day-centres, hospitals, referrals units, prisons, youth and community centres. It is also possible for students to propose and develop their own community contact.Placements are arranged through discussion and negotiation, initially with the tutor and with the relevant agency. Both the needs of the student and the client group are taken into account and a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities are required. Students undertaking a 30 credit module will usually be committing themselves to one half-day placement activity each week for approximately 9 weeks. However, a more condensed involvement or residency can be considered. The production of a journal that documents the placement constitutes the major component of assessment.Students receive regular individual tutorials and reviews. Prior to the start of the placement, the student is required to complete a proposal with a progress report submitted at the midway point of the placement. The peer group meet to discuss their projects and also consider issues relevant to the practice through the professional awareness lectures and seminar programme. A site visit is made where appropriate.All students are provided with a placement pack which contains important information relating to Health and Safety issues and an explanatory letter of introduction for the host agency/organisation. All students have to complete Health and Safety forms 21 and 22 required by the University before they can commence their placement. A placement officer in available to provide guidance. Police (CRB) checks are often required for students working with children and vulnerable people. |

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| **16. Future careers (if applicable)** |
| It is, of course, rare for a graduate to immediately walk into a full time job as a ‘Fine Artist’, but our graduates do not expect that. It is common for Fine artists to maintain their practice and vocation in a range of other fields whilst continuing to grow as an artist. Graduates of the Programme have not only reached a nationally recognised level of professionalism and self awareness as an artist, they have also garnered a range of transferable sills that are highly valued in the world of work. The Programme supports graduates’s future career prospects in a number of ways: * Presentations by visiting professionals / artists who also combine their practice with other forms of work.
* Advice from staff who are also practising artists.
* Professional practice is emphasised throughout the programme in order to prepare students for differing career options.
* Exhibitions in the fine art project spaces and the final degree show are student managed, which allows for a management and curatorial experience that is career focussed.
* Level one students formulate a career plan, and are encouraged to revise this throughout their time on the programme.
* The development of visual, verbal, written, cognitive and presentation skills all contribute to the programme aim of producing articulate and informed graduates who have knowledge and understanding of fine art and its related fields.
* The broad range of general skills acquired through fine art study combined with the depth of specific knowledge are valuable in different workplaces, and in the wider cultural environment.
* Students undertaking public and community based projects engage a range of skills that allow for career developments in the areas of community arts, education, art therapy and social work.

University Careers service is available to advise and help with identifying and preparing for a wide range of specific and related career opportunities |

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| **17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)** |
| * Dedicated studio space and programme specific project spaces.
* Subject specialist technical staff and extensive workshops.
* All teaching staff are research active which informs their teaching.
* Extensive specialist LRS facilities and resources.

All students are allocated a personal tutor who acts as an academic advisor and who provides pastoral care. |

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| **18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)** | W100 |
| **19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)** | Art & Design / History of Art & Design |

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| **20. Reference points*** Relevant University Regulations <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations/>
* QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Art and Design/History of Art and Architecture
* The Framework for Higher Education in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
* Student, Staff, External Examiners and Graduates feedback and comments
* Learning and Teaching Policy and Strategy
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Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.