

MA Fine Art (And Pathways)

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Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	Bath School of Art, Film and Media
Main campus	Locksbrook Campus
Other sites of delivery	N/A
Other Schools involved in delivery	Design
Name of award(s)	MA Fine Art MA Fine Art (Ceramics) MA Fine Art (Curatorial Practice) MA Fine Art (Photography) MA Fine Art (Media) MA Fine Art (Painting)
Qualification (final award)	MA
Intermediate awards available	PgCert, PgDip
Routes available	Single
Duration of award	1 year full time/ 2 years part-time
Sandwich period	No

Modes of delivery offered	Campus-based
Regulatory Scheme ^[1]	Taught Postgraduate Framework
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation	N/A
Date of most recent PSRB approval (month and year)	N/A
Renewal of PSRB approval due (month and year)	N/A
UCAS code	N/A
Route code (SITS)	FAMA/ FACERAMMA / FACPRMA / FAPHMA / FAMEMA / FAPAMA
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	Art and Design (December 2019) Master's Degree Characteristics Statement (February 2020)
Date of most recent approval	June 2023
Date specification last updated	May 2021

^[1] This should also be read in conjunction with the University's Qualifications Framework

Programme Overview

The MA Fine Art programme is structured to allow you to develop specialist skills and knowledge in a broad context. You are encouraged to understand your subject-specific skills in relation to a range of related fields and contexts. Whichever pathway you take, you'll make and study alongside peers working in different disciplines, allowing you to contextualise your work in relation to current debates in the visual arts. You'll also be part of a wider postgraduate community that includes peers in MA Design. The Art and Design programmes share research and theory modules; practice modules are specific to each programme (Art or Design) and the Masters Project module is specific to each pathway. The programme includes a broad range of contemporary art practices and is designed to fully support the development of individual creative potential in an ever-changing Fine Art environment.

The programme promotes material-led, collaborative and cross disciplinary approaches to making, based on experimentation, risk-taking and personal innovation. Through participation in and critical engagement with the practices of art- and exhibition-making, we encourage you to develop creative and relevant responses to contemporary art production that can generate new knowledge and meanings. With a focus on research and professional practice, the programme gives you the tools necessary to sustain a career in cultural production.

Practice and theory are integrated through a curriculum that interweaves production and research. We support you to identify common assumptions surrounding art production and to develop transformational strategies that will allow you to progress within the field. Through research, critical scrutiny and rigorous studio practice the programme supports students to identify and develop an independent language in Fine Art. We encourage our students to exercise responsibility and consideration toward others and to embed sustainability and ethics into your projects.

You are taught through one-to-one tutorials, academic and practical workshops, reading groups, seminars and lectures. A strong emphasis is placed on student-centred learning in the form of group critiques (Crits) and collaborative projects that support mutual and individual development.

Programme Aims

- To provide a cross disciplinary programme of specialist study, based on student-centred learning and delivered through individual tutorials, group tutorials, group critiques, lectures, seminars, workshops, guest speaker programmes, and live projects.
- To be informed by current issues and developments in practice, scholarship and research in the field of Art.
- To facilitate the identification and development of an individual position as an artist, or curator, through a programme of study that provides the opportunity to interact and work with other students and staff across the Schools of Art and Design and that promotes a cross disciplinary approach to practice.
- To foster a culture of inclusivity, experimentation, innovative thinking, risk-taking and creative problem solving in approaches to both theory and practice.
- To encourage peer learning and team working, in order to build collaborative, interpersonal, organisational, management and communication skills.
- To build collaborative relationships and partnerships with regional art institutions and appropriate external agencies to enhance your work-based learning and to allow you to develop professional practice skills, including the understanding and application of professional responsibility, integrity and ethics in the field.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

(NB These ILOs are at level 7 of the FHEQ)

A Subject-Specific Skills and Knowledge

A1 Demonstrate a critical and imaginative approach to production and display strategies, informed by an awareness of practice-based research in the Fine Art field.

A2 Identify modes of production suitable to individual and/or collaborative strategies for practice that demonstrate a critical awareness of current problems and new insights in contemporary art.

A3 Demonstrate the ability to learn independently and to be self-directed in making sound and creative judgments on complex issues in your discipline.

A4 Demonstrate a reflexive approach to learning through the ability to document, analyse and critically evaluate individual production methods in the context of current professional practice.

A5 Demonstrate comprehensive and systematic knowledge of concepts, materials and processes appropriate to your specialist Fine Art discipline and the technical skills appropriate for chosen modes of production.

A6 Demonstrate the ability to exhibit, present and communicate artwork and concepts skilfully and with authority to specialist and non-specialist audiences, using critical reflection and originality in the application of knowledge gained.

A7 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of professional skills and knowledge, ethical and sound professional practices within your specialist Fine Art discipline.

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

B1 Demonstrate a creative and experimental approach to the generation of ideas, methods and processes in response to identified needs and opportunities.

B2 Demonstrate a practical knowledge of established techniques of advanced research and enquiry in the field and how these are used to create and interpret knowledge

B3 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in the application of knowledge and in identifying and solving problems to manage and complete independent project/s.

B4 Demonstrate the analytical and language skills required for critical and ethical evaluation of your own work, as well as that of peers and professionals in the field.

B5 Demonstrate the ability to investigate and synthesise complex relations between theory and practice, both systematically and creatively.

B6 Demonstrate commitment to and understanding of current issues and debates in contemporary art, with particular attention to sustainability, diversity and inclusivity.

C Skills for Life and Work

C1 Autonomous learning (including time management) that demonstrates the exercise of initiative, personal responsibility and decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations and the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development

C2 Team working skills necessary to succeed in the global workplace, with an ability both to work in and lead teams effectively, as well as the ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

C3 Communication skills that show the ability to communicate clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences, knowledge at, or informed by, the forefront of the academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice, and the conclusions drawn from dealing with complex issues systematically.

C4 IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate the ability to develop new skills to a high level and to approach complex issues systematically and creatively.

Intermediate awards

PgCert Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A2, A3

B1, B2, B3

C1, C3

PgDip Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A2, A3, A4

B1, B2, B3, B4, B5

C1, C3, C4

Programme Content

This programme comprises the following modules

Key:

Core = C

Required = R

Required* = R*

Optional = O

Not available for this status = N/A

If a particular status is greyed out, it is not offered for this programme.

Subject offered with pathways

MA Fine Art				Status					
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Fine Art	Ceramics	Curatorial Practice	Photography	M e d i a	P a i n t i n g
7	AAD7100-15	Research Methods	15	C	C	C	C	C	C
7	AAD7102-15	Theory and Professional Context	15	C	C	C	C	C	C
7	FAR7100-30	Practice 1 (Fine Art)	30	C	C	C	C	C	C

7	AAD7101-15	Research Practice	15	C	C	C	C	C	C
7	AAD7103-15	Theory and Professional Practices	15	C	C	C	C	C	C
7	FAR7101-30	Practice 2 (Fine Art)	30	C	C	C	C	C	C
7	FAR7102-60	Masters Project (Fine Art)	60	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	FAR7103-60	Masters Project (Ceramics)	60	N/A	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	FAR7104-60	Masters Project (Curatorial Practice)	60	N/A	N/A	R	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	FAR7105-60	Masters Project (Photography)	60	N/A	N/A	N/A	R	N/A	N/A
7	FAR7106-60	Masters Project (Media)	60	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	FAR7107-60	Masters Project (Painting)	60	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Assessment methods

A range of summative assessment tasks will be used to test the Intended Learning Outcomes in each module. These are indicated in the attached assessment map which shows which tasks are used in which modules.

Students will be supported in their development towards summative assessment by appropriate formative exercises.

Please note: if you choose an optional module from outside this programme, you may be required to undertake a summative assessment task that does not appear in the assessment grid here in order to pass that module.

Work experience and placement opportunities

Students have the opportunity to gain professional practice experience through live briefs, off-site exhibitions, residencies, placements, commissions and competitions. In previous years we have worked with the Holburne Museum in Bath, giving students the opportunity to gain extended access to the collection, to work with museum professionals and to organise and install an exhibition in the museum. Students are supported to enter competitions and to apply for residencies and have been selected for competitions, such as Bloomberg New Contemporaries, and have been awarded national and international artist residencies.

The School is strongly committed to supporting students' transition from the world of learning to the world of work. Throughout the programme of study there are many formal and informal opportunities to develop skills that will enhance future employability. Students are supported to set up their own placements, when appropriate and recently have worked with Ibstock Brick Cattybrook and leading ceramic artist, Jacob van der Beugel. We have created opportunities with external organisations, such as the Association of Commonwealth Universities, the National Trust and Hauser and Wirth Gallery, Somerset. The alumni exchange residency with CalArts, LA, gives graduates the opportunity to develop their practice and establish international links with artists and institutions, both nationally and internationally.

Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates...	In MA Fine Art (And Pathways), this means...
1	Will be employable: equipped with the skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace, able to work in and lead teams	Embedding professional practice into modules on the course, encouraging effective communication and collaboration at all points.
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change	Having a curriculum that enables students to apply their creative and technical skills to diverse, art-related opportunities and to see complexity, diversity and change as positive aspects of a creative contemporary culture.
3	Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners	Encouraging experimentation and taking creative risks; thinking and problem-solving through making; collaborating across disciplines and fields; working across materials and contexts.

4	Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology	Immersing students in software-driven ways of planning and creating; developing students' skills in specialist digital presentation and making processes; utilising and driving digital platforms to promote, communicate and explore an art practice.
5	Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of the their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas	Offering study abroad opportunities; international field trips; studying alongside overseas students; encouraging student participation in international research projects and visits to major biennials and exhibitions.
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers	Ensuring that creative practice and confident attitudes to experimentation are expectations of all students; encouraging and delivering innovation and managing creative risk; having practice-based courses that all have 'thinking through making' at their heart.
7	Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy	By embedding theory and research in practice within studio teaching and developing analytical thinking and writing skills; visual, oral and written opportunities for discussion and presentation.

8	Will be ethically aware: prepared for citizenship in a local, national and global context	Exploring wider ethical issues that have impact at all levels; exercising responsibility and consideration of others; taking part in international opportunities and projects; embedding sustainability and ethics into projects.
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Modifications

Module-level modifications

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
AAD7100-15	Research Methods	change to assessment	approved at SQMC 15/03/23	2023/24
AAD7105-15	Research Practice	change to assessment	approved at SQMC 15/03/23	2023/24

Programme-level modifications

Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect

Attached as appendices:

1. Programme structure diagram
2. Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes
3. Assessment map
4. Module descriptors

Appendix 1: Programme Structure Diagram

Full time

TRIMESTER 1	TRIMESTER 2	TRIMESTER 3
PG CERT (60 CREDITS)	PG DIP (120 CREDITS)	MASTERS (180 CREDITS)
AAD7100-15 Research Methods	AAD7101-15 Research Practice	FAR7102-60 Masters Project (Fine Art)
AAD7102-15 Theory and Professional Context	AAD7103-15 Theory and Professional Practices	FAR7103-60 Masters Project (Ceramics)
FAR7100-30 Practice 1 (Fine Art)	FAR7101-30 Practice 2 (Fine Art)	FAR7104-60 Masters Project (Curatorial Practice)
		FAR7105-60 Masters Project (Photography)
		FAR7106-60 Masters Project (Media)
		FAR7107-60 Masters Project (Painting)

Part-time

	TRIMESTER 1	TRIMESTER 2	TRIMESTER 3
		PG CERT	
YEAR 1	AAD7100-15 Research Methods	AAD7101-15 Research Practice	FAR7102-60 Masters Project (Fine Art)

	FAR7100-30 Practice 1 (Fine Art)		FAR7103-60 Masters Project (Ceramics) FAR7104-60 Masters Project (Curatorial Practice) FAR7105-60 Masters Project (Photography) FAR7106-60 Masters Project (Media) FAR7107-60 Masters Project (Painting)
	TRIMESTER 1	TRIMESTER 2	TRIMESTER 3
YEAR 2		PG DIP	Masters
	AAD7102-15 Theory and Professional Context	AAD7103-15 Theory and Professional Practices	FAR7102-60 Masters Project (Fine Art)
	FAR7101-30 Practice 2 (Fine Art)		FAR7103-60 Masters Project (Ceramics) FAR7104-60 Masters Project (Curatorial Practice) FAR7105-60 Masters Project (Photography) FAR7106-60 Masters Project (Media) FAR7107-60 Masters Project (Painting)

Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C, R, O) *	Intended Learning Outcomes															
				Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge							Cognitive and Intellectual Skills						Skills for Life and Work		
				A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3
7	AAD7100-15	Research Methods	C	X	X						X	X				X		X	
7	AAD7102-15	Theory and Professional Context	C		X	X						X	X			X		X	
7	FAR7100-30	Practice 1 (Fine Art)	C	X	X	X				X	X				X		X		
7	AAD7101-15	Research Practice	C	X	X		X			X	X	X			X		X	X	
7	AAD7103-15	Theory and Professional Practices	C		X		X				X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
7	FAR7101-30	Practice 2 (Fine Art)	C	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
7	FAR7102-60	Masters Project (Fine Art)	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7	FAR7103-60	Masters Project (Fine Art: Ceramics)	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7	FAR7104-60	Masters Project (Fine Art: Curatorial Practice)	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7	FAR7105-60	Masters Project (Fine Art: Photography)	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

[2] C = Core; R= Required; O = Optional

Appendix 3: Map of Summative Assessment Tasks by Module

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O) [3]	Assessment method			
				Coursework		Practical	
				Research Document	Professional Context Folder	Exhibition or Alternative Submission	A/V Presentation
7	AAD7100-15	Research Methods	C	100%			
7	AAD7102-15	Theory and Professional Context	C				
7	FAR7100-30	Practice 1 (Fine Art)	C		100%		
						90%	10%
7	AAD7101-15	Research Practice	C	100%	100%	90%	10%
7	AAD7103-15	Theory and Professional Practices	C				
7	FAR7101-30	Practice 2 (Fine Art)	C				
7	FAR7102-60	Masters project (Fine Art)	R				
7	FAR7103-60	Masters project (Fine Art: Ceramics)	R			90%	10%
7	FAR7104-60	Masters project (Fine Art: Curatorial Practice)	R			90%	10%

7	FAR7105-60	Masters project (Photography)	R			90%	10%
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[3] C = Core; R = Required; O = Optional