

Module code: MOD007339	Version: 1 Date Amended: 24/Jan/2020
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1. Module Title
Photography: Practice and Context

2a. Module Leader
Kerstin Hacker

2b. School
Cambridge School of Art

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
4

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
60

4b. Study Hours
600

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BA Hons Photography		

6a. Module Description

The module employs a unique approach to its integration of theory and practice through lectures and practical workshops, providing learners with holistic opportunities to appreciate the significant relationship between the two approaches through practical, experimental application and research-practice opportunities. The module offers technology-enhanced learning and teaching delivery in both analogue and digital production and post-production techniques.

In Trimester 1, the module will introduce you to the practical and theoretical skills required to develop critical photographic projects. You will explore use of light, composition, creative camera controls, film and darkroom printing whilst simultaneously developing your practice and an understanding of photographic visual language, research and theory. You will also have the opportunity to experiment with a range of alternative outcomes through appropriate methods of risk-taking. An introduction to Lightroom will give you the tools to catalogue your images and discuss the use of metadata.

Students are also introduced to historical and contemporary photographic theory, including an introduction to the wider fields that interconnect with the subject such as cultural studies, sociology, anthropology, psychology, and politics. Students gain insight into photography's relationship to theories of representation, identity and culture whilst also developing their academic reading and writing practice. This provides students with a critical understanding of the subject and the implementation of practice as research, enabling students to make informed conceptual and aesthetic decisions in response to photographic briefs and live assignments.

The 24-hour project will provide students with the development of employment skills via a real-world scenario where students respond to a photographic brief within a tight time-frame. The students' submissions for this mini-project are uploaded by students online via canvas, and tutor feedback is also received by students via canvas. Students are provided with opportunities during the semester to feedback on the programme and how they would like it to develop. Module evaluation forms also inform future development of the programme.

In trimester 2, the module will further develop your photographic skill set and an awareness of how your own photography can contribute to and critically reflect upon a range of genres in photography. You will explore the relationship of photographic influences to your own practice.

You will explore single and multiple studio flash lighting in a range of genres including still life, fashion and portraiture. You will also discuss the appropriate use of different camera formats.

Practical workshops will introduce you to the creative use of analogue colour printing and scanning negatives and produce colour analogue and digital prints from negatives.

Research and writing workshops will introduce you to a range of photographic genres and will discuss how contextual research influences current practice. You will produce a critical response to a photographer's work by analysing their practice and responding creatively to your findings. You will enhance your presentation skills by creating a contextual and creative response to photographic practitioner and present it in an internal student research conference.

Throughout the module, lectures, technical presentations and workshops will develop your practice, while group discussions and one to one tutorial will give you chance to identify individual strength and weaknesses and help you enhance your individual learning. Your final submission will contain the development and research log, final prints, evidence of contextual research. You will continue to add weekly entries to your development and research workbook, which will evidence your learning throughout the module.

Inclusivity is embedded into sessions via presentations of a range of diverse photographers who represent diverse subjects and communities in their work. It is also considered in the context of orientalist theories and the expanded international curriculum that informs new modes of delivering critical and contextual analysis of photography.

Student needs are also considered within sessions, using a range of methods to engage various learning styles. One to one tutorials also provide students with opportunities to obtain individual support.

6b. Outline Content

In trimester 1:

- Creative Camera control
- Light appreciation
- Photographic research skills
- Critical and analytical writing skills
- Introduction to b/w analogue printing techniques

In trimester 2:

- Colour analogue and digital prints
- Medium format camera
- Artificial lighting
- Reacting to other photographers work
- Current trends in photography

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

In trimester 1:

- B/W darkroom
- Mac Computer Suite
- Media Loans

In trimester 2:

- Apple Mac Computer Suite with colour corrected screens and industry standard software
- Colour Photographic Suites
- Film Processing Lab
- Photographic specialist equipment
- Photographic Studio

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Employ appropriate creative digital and analogue SLR camera skills and post-produce them appropriately and demonstrate a deepening understanding of different cameras and photographic processes
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Evaluate available light in others' work and creatively capture it in their own and analyse photographic genres/practitioners and interpret them using photographic techniques and processes
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Work with limited autonomy and within defined guidelines, demonstrating an awareness of issues within contemporary photographic practice
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Generate ideas through evaluating and critically analysing photographic and contextual research and develop the ability to self-evaluate and critique their own work
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Research and evaluate the appropriateness of photographic sources and analyse research material, own practice and experiences
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Develop independent thought and appropriate risk taking and evaluate and articulate findings in written and oral form in a clear and concise manner

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	144	1-6	Lecture/ workshops 6 hr x 24 weeks
Other teacher managed learning	72	1-6	Scheduled access to facilities with technical support. Scheduled guided learning 3 hr x 24 weeks
Student managed learning	84	1-6	Working on projects Use of open access computer suites, photographic studios and facilities. Off-site location working. Research in libraries, museums and galleries.
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-6	70 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Practical workbook will contain evidence of developmental work, oral presentation during crits, and final prints					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	3-6	20 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Contextual assignment (2,500 words) Written work will consist of a patchwork text and/or annotated bibliography					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
012	Practical	2,5,6	10 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Contextual research/a practical outcome (10-minute presentation and submission of powerpoint presentation)					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above

(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]