



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD008361	Version: 2 Date Amended: 06/Jul/2022
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1. Module Title
Essential Skills (Architecture)

2a. Module Leader
Marcel Cadaval Pereira

2b. School
School of Engineering and the Built Environment

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Science and Engineering

3a. Level
4

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

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) Architecture		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

Essential Skills is a core module you will attend in your first trimester at ARU.

The module focuses on developing your visual and verbal observational, representational and communication techniques through the introduction of various genres of fine art and architectural theory.

The 'Essential Skills' gained on this module include the key skills you need to be successful at Higher Education and specifically on an Architecture course where consistent development of work is crucial for your success. You will be introduced to the requirements and expectations of higher education, and you will develop good time management skills, adopt a professional attitude, and take firm responsibility for your work.

You will be set a series of small tasks to complete which guide you in developing your creative assignments while providing plenty of opportunities for formative feedback.

By the end of the module, you should be confident in using analogue and basic digital media techniques in a conceptual and creative way, exploring links between architecture and fine arts. You will be introduced to architectural theoretical concepts, academic research, academic integrity and writing at HE, skills that you will continue to develop in your second trimester and throughout your course.

6b. Outline Content

- Observational drawings ranging from still life and life drawing to architectural drawings.
- Modelling techniques inspired by the fine arts.
- Analogue and digital representational methods
- Research skills for higher education and professional development
- Introduction to academic writing
- Time management skills for design courses

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Studio space, Life models, model making studio, Computer Lab, Specialist Software

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	Acquire basic knowledge of the creative application of the fine arts to architecture in terms of conceptualisation, abstraction and representation.
2	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Develop the ability to use a variety of media to express and communicate conceptual designs in relationship to the wider built environment and human body proportions through creating 2D or 3D visualisations
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts within the response to briefs, demonstrating a reflective and critical appreciation of architectural culture
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Develop research skills, skills of self-criticism and an understanding of academic writing needed for higher education and professional practice.

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	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	36	1-4	Mix of studio, modelmaking and IT workshops
Student managed learning	114	1-4	Students will be expected to develop their skills by developing work / assignments in their own time.
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-3	80 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
Coursework Portfolio - 2400 words equivalent					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	4	20 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
Report - 600 words equivalent					

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]