

Module code: MOD009414	Version: 1 Date Amended: 14/Jul/2023
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1. Module Title
Ways of Seeing

2a. Module Leader
Elizabeth Johnson

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
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) Fine Art		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description		
<p>This module explores how critical theory can open up new 'ways of seeing' art and show how it shapes the ways in which we think about contemporary art today. You will be introduced to some of the influential conceptual frameworks that are often used to analyse artworks and exhibitions, such as theories of feminism, Marxism, psychoanalysis, decolonisation and philosophy. Through a series of lectures and seminars, you will explore how these ideas and approaches can help to connect artistic practice to broader questions of economics, politics, gender, ethics and sustainability.</p> <p>Seminars will create opportunities for you to build confidence speaking about art using a critical vocabulary. They will also provide an important forum for you to use critical theories to discuss and analyse the artworks that inspire you. In this module there is an emphasis on thinking about the critical position of your own developing studio practice. This module will prepare you to speak and write about your own work in relation to wider histories and theories of art.</p>		
6b. Outline Content		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The analysis of form, symbol and sign• Marxism• Feminism• Colonialism and decolonisation• Institutional Critique• Gender and queer theory• Environment		
6c. Key Texts/Literature		
<p>The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/</p>		
6d. Specialist Learning Resources		
<p>None</p>		
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	Demonstrate knowledge of key theoretical approaches that inform critical evaluations of art.
2	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Evaluate artworks in a range of media, from different historical periods, in relation to critical theories and debates.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Identify appropriate critical contexts through which to discuss your studio 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	12	1,2	Weekly one hour
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-3	Weekly two hour seminars
Student managed learning	114	3	Seminar preparation, reading and research, assignment work
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	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Portfolio of coursework coursework with evidence of research, analysis and reflection (equivalent to 3,000 words)					

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]