



## Module Definition Form (MDF)

<b>Module code: MOD009415</b>	<b>Version: 1 Date Amended: 14/Jul/2023</b>
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<b>1. Module Title</b>
Critical Histories of Art

<b>2a. Module Leader</b>
Elizabeth Johnson

<b>2b. School</b>
Cambridge School of Art

<b>2c. Faculty</b>
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

<b>3a. Level</b>
4

<b>3b. Module Type</b>
Standard (fine graded)

<b>4a. Credits</b>
15

<b>4b. Study Hours</b>
150

<b>5. Restrictions</b>			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
<b>Courses to which this module is restricted:</b>	BA (Hons) Fine Art		

## LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

### 6a. Module Description

This module examines the critical histories of modern and contemporary art in the West, and beyond, from the nineteenth century to the present day. Through lectures and field trips, you will learn about some of the key historical people and ideas that have shaped the landscape of modern and contemporary art in which you are working as practitioners today. You will have the opportunity to gain confidence discussing ideas that are central to critical debates on art and its histories. You will explore movements such as modernism, postmodernism and appropriation. You will also have the chance to consider how art has been influenced by technological advances, from photography to recent digital technologies.

By introducing you to a critical history of art, this module provides an essential historical and cultural framework through which you can begin to place your own studio practice. Seminars will create opportunities for you to conduct visual analyses of artworks in order to explore how form, content and material all work together to create an artwork's effects. In this module there will be an emphasis on developing competency in core academic skills that will prepare you for critical and contextual studies in art and design at higher levels. This module will build your confidence in key transferable skills that are necessary in higher education and professional practice.

### 6b. Outline Content

- Modernism in the West
- Global Modernisms
- Art in the age of mechanical reproduction
- Postmodernism
- Appropriation
- Globalisation
- Digital

### 6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

### 6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

## 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	Describe key artworks, movements, ideas and themes from modern and contemporary art in the West and beyond.
2	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Analyse artworks produced in a range of media, from different historical periods.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Investigate the critical histories that shape contemporary art practice through a variety of sources, including resources from the library, exhibitions, galleries and online collections.

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 (%)
<b>Portfolio of coursework coursework with evidence of research, analysis and reflection (equivalent to 3,000 words)</b>					

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]