Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD011464	**Version:** 1 **Date Amended:** 28/Apr/2026

1. Module Title
Reality Checkpoint - Socially Engaged Practice and the Public Realm

2a. Module Leader
Rosanna Greaves

2b. School
Cambridge School of Art

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

3a. Level
5

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:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

In this module, you will explore Cambridge and make creative responses to its histories, spaces and communities in the public sphere through socially-engaged community art and design practice.

Cambridge is a unique and complex city, from its beautiful and historic architecture, academic prestige, expanding science and tech hubs, and flat fenland landscape. Often seen as a city of two halves between 'Town and Gown', it is also a place of socio-economic inequality and diverse community groups.

You will respond to the city through a variety of creative specialisms, which can include photography, drawing, painting, sculpture, performance, design practice, and digital media. Themes such as architecture, culture, gender, sustainability, sexuality, age, disability, education and the environment will be explored within the city's context through your media and discipline of choice. Ethical consideration will be integral to your creative enquiry.

Through a series of workshops, seminars, on-site activities and lectures, you will be supported to work with partner organisations across the city, and your creative responses will come together at the end of the module to be presented within a public space.

6b. Outline Content

- Talks exploring socially engaged practitioners or creatives working in public space, their research methods, ethical consideration, subjects, outputs and impact
- Workshops exploring forms of developing a work in response to a location and or context.
- Developing and exploring creative responses to real life scenarios and site-specific working methods
- Collaborative and independent learning and making
- Working with CSA Partner organisations to develop professional relationships and experience
- Project and group management for design and curation of a public presentation
- Tutorials on the development of projects
- Group critiques

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

3D workshops

Access to CSA partner organisations

Adobe Creative Suite

Mac Suites

Media Services

Print Room

Futures Lab

Photography Hub

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	Develop a critical understanding of ideas of public space and socially engaged practice. Evidencing research and contributing to discussions in written oral and creative forms.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate and critically explore experimental and innovative approaches to developing a creative response to place, context and community.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	.Work effectively in negotiating issues in relation to external institutions, public spaces and as a member of a team
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Produce a final creative outcome that is ready for external presentation and successfully communicates theoretical and practical insights to a public audience and engagement.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	**Occurrence**	**Period**	**Location**	**Mode of Delivery**
2026/7	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	2	1-4	2 x 1 hr lectures
Other teacher managed learning	34	1-4	Workshops, discussion, site visits, reviews, tutorials, and briefings
Student managed learning	114	1-4	Student self-directed learning, including seminar preparation, reading and research, development and production of creative outcomes and assignment work
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Portfolio of outcomes (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]