

Module code: MOD011469	Version: 1 Date Amended: 26/Apr/2026
-------------------------------	--

1. Module Title
Critical and Contextual Studies 3: Working in the Creative Industries

2a. Module Leader
Julia Johnson

2b. School
Cambridge School of Art

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

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

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 be supported to locate a work placement for at least 70 hours. You can undertake more than one placement role to achieve that. ARU's Employability and Placement team will help you to locate your placement. After completing your placement, you will reflect on and critically analyse your experience through this module.

This module gives you a unique opportunity to examine how your creative practice responds to the social, cultural, political and sustainable themes related to industry. Encountering a critical space between work experience, reflection and final assessment presentation, this module will help you to establish a professional network and gain a sense of your personal values to support your progression into the creative industries upon graduation.

The module will encourage independent learning, project management, teamwork and complex problem solving, providing opportunities to apply those skills to real-world experiences, thereby increasing your sense of purpose and agency. Lectures, seminars and tutorials will support you to explore your social and cultural interests and responsibilities as a creative practitioner, alongside analysis of the creative industry market. You will develop overarching social/ cultural aims, transferable skills, use reflective models and engage with writing practice, editing and refining your work for assessment presentation that meets professional, workplace standards.

Alongside contributing to module sessions and briefings, additional module support will be provided by the Anglia Ruskin's Placement and Employability Services and the Anglia Ruskin Enterprise Academy (AREA). You will also have access to a range of online employability information via the Careers and Employability Portal and AREA network.

6b. Outline Content

- Module Briefing: Skills Analysis and Placement/Freelance Preparation (application process, registration and risk assessments).
- Identify, negotiate and secure a work placement with an employer(s)
- Keep a record of the application process and evidence (CV, correspondence, portfolio, etc.) and record your work activity and knowledge gained, transferable, employability and specialist skills development.
- Market analysis related to the creative industry
- Ethical practice and responsibility in the creative industry
- Reflective writing and editing workshops.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

- Industry databases including WGSN; Mintel;
- Newspaper online services from Gale
- Gale Business: Insights
- JStor
- Adobe Creative Suite

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 critical analysis of the creative industry market in terms of its response to social, cultural, political or environmental themes.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Identify and research individual aims for undertaking work placement to support a critical enquiry related to the creative industry.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Undertake a work placement or freelance work in the creative industry
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Evaluate and communicate the outcomes of work experience in terms of skills, knowledge, career plans and aspirations
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Create a coherent and well-developed body of research that demonstrates independent enquiry, reflective practice, and critical engagement with relevant artistic, cultural, and theoretical contexts.

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	4	1-5	4 x lectures of 1.5 hours each
Other teacher managed learning	8	1-5	3 x 2 hour workshops 2 hours (30 mins each) Supervisions
Student managed learning	288	1-5	Identifying, application and securing placements, risk assessments, undertaking placement, preparation of assessment
TOTAL:	300		

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	1-5	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Identifying, application and securing placements, risk assessments, undertaking placement, preparation of assessment equivalent 4000-5000 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]