Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD011579	**Version:** 1 **Date Amended:** 26/Apr/2026

1. Module Title
Archive: Creative Futures

2a. Module Leader
Kerstin Hacker

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

The Archive: Creative Futures module invites you to work directly with archives holding visual historic materials, and critically engage with the archive through creative practice. These archival documents cover photographs, illustrations, fine art, graphic design, fashion and many other visual expressions. Additional to the visual material you will have access to contextually relevant material such as magazines, publications and even personal notes.
The module will guide you in untangling the often challenging and problematic material via a decolonial context. You will develop critical and creative research tools that allow you to challenge historic societal prejudices often contained within the materials. You will explore how the material can be considered, challenged and ethically (re)used through (re)invention and (re)contextualisation
As creative practitioners you will engage with the content of the archive in a non-traditional way, developing creative responses that celebrate the diversity of human experience. Through lectures, archive visits, seminars and workshops we will seek access points to activate the material through your contemporary creative practice.
No prior knowledge of historic colonial narratives is needed, the module will provide a space in which these complex themes can be discussed and engaged with. You will be guided in developing individual and collaborative positionalities, producing ethical responses and meaningful creative outcomes.
Throughout the module, you will prepare your outcomes for potential publication by bringing together ideas, challenges, successes and epiphanies and reintroducing your responses into the archive to continue the circular archival process.

6b. Outline Content

- Talks exploring archives and decolonial practices, research methods, ethical approaches to creative making, subjects, outputs and impact
- Workshops exploring methods of unlearning and engaging with challenging material
- Developing and exploring creative responses to archival material
- Collaborative and independent learning and making
- Working with CSA Partner organisations to develop professional relationships and experience
- Archive visits and problem solving of practical issues
- 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 and archival materials
- 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	Contextualise visual archival resources through historic, theoretical and practical engagement
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate through creative practice an ability to contribute to the decolonial discourse
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	12	1-4	1 hour/week: introduction to key concepts
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-4	2 hours/week: workshops and discussion
Student managed learning	114	1-4	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 3000 words equivalence					

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]