COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE
RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	Art, Design and Media
FHEQ **Level:**	5
Course Title:	Research and Writing Methods
Course Code:	ADM 5297
Course Leader:	Dennis de Caires
Student Engagement Hours:	120

Lectures	10
Seminars	32
Study Visits	3
	_____
	45

Independent / Guided learning:	75
Semester:	Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits
	6 ECTS credits
	3 US credits

Course Description:
This course prepares students to conduct significant, original research in the Art, Design and Media disciplines. Emphasis is placed on critical engagement with researched sources in conjunction with appropriate presentation and citation of sources used. A range of research processes are presented and discussed and opportunity provided to actively engage with these throughout the projects. Students are provided with input and feedback at all stages of their research and writing, both from the tutor and their peers.

Prerequisites:
ARW 4195 or equivalent.

Aims and Objectives:
Students are guided in identifying and articulating a practice-based research problem, explaining how it relates to wider cultural and theoretical issues. In addition, students are guided in identifying, reading and assimilating core theoretical texts that relate to their work as practitioners. Students are also asked to identify and evaluate research resources

outside the institution and which meet their individual needs. These will include exhibitions, archives, museum collections, conferences, interviews and subject-specific libraries. Students are introduced to the purposes and processes of the review (film, exhibition, book or otherwise). Exhibition visits and group critique sessions are also included and considered an integral part of the course.

Programme Outcomes :
B3, B4, B7, C1, C5

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at: http://myrichmond.richmond.ac.uk/departments/artsandsciences

Learning Outcomes:
- The learner is able to critically review a number of temporary exhibitions in the field of art, design or media.
- The learner is able to a write concise statement that contextualises and summarises their concerns as a practitioner.
- The learner is able to read and comment critically on theoretical texts relating to the field of art, design and media.
- The learner is able to produce a research paper that demonstrates clear evidence of the gathering, evaluation and selection of material on a theoretical issue relating to individual practice.

Indicative Content:
The student produces an online blog in which they:
- Critically evaluate reading texts assigned to the group
- Critically evaluate texts which are self selected
- Review exhibitions visited by the group and individually
- Describe their practice and theoretical concerns

The student reads and, under exam conditions, responds to questions relating to a critical text from the field of art theory.

The student prepares a portfolio in which they identify an issue relating to their own concerns as an artist, and in an essay of no more than 2000 words articulate the main problematics and how it has been theorised.

Assessment:
This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved by Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

Teaching Methodology:
The choice of the practice-based research project is student driven with students and lecturer meeting regularly to discuss the development of their ideas and imagery aspects of the project. The teaching method is based upon regular critiques and seminars involving interactive discussion and co-operative assessment. All students are expected

to be fully prepared to discuss assigned topics in an informed manner. This seminar-style aspect of the class requires a high proportion of student participation. Throughout the course, draft work is supervised and graded in a process of continuous assessment.

Bibliography:

IndicativeText(s):
Smithson, Robert. 1965. Donald Judd. In *Robert Smithson, The Collected Writings*. Ed. Jack Flam. University of California Press

O' Doherty, Brian. 1988. *Inside The White Cube. The Ideology of the Gallery Space.* Lapis Press

Benjamin. Walter. 1995. The Author as Producer. *Reflections. Essays, Aphorisms, Autobiographical Writings.* Random House

Journals

Web Sites

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry