

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Communications & The Arts
Programme:	MA in Art History and Visual Culture
Level:	7
Course Title:	Art and Its Histories
Course Code:	AVC 7102
Student Engagement Hours:	200
Seminars:	39
Tutorials:	6
Independent / Guided Learning:	155
Semester:	FALL
Credits:	20 UK CATS credits 10 ECTS credits 4 US credits

Course Description:

Explores a range of theories and methods which situate art in its historical context, from the more traditional methods associated with formal analysis and connoisseurship (formalist, biographical, and iconographic) to more recent theoretical approaches (such as semiotics, feminism, psychoanalysis, deconstruction, Foucault). Students examine a variety of texts as strategies for determining and analyzing different theories and methods, and their application to visual examples with a focus on the twentieth century: situating the modern and postmodern precursors to art of the twenty-first century.

Pre-requisites: MA Art History and Visual Culture students only

Aims and Objectives:

- To introduce students to the history of thinking in art history
- To explore and engage critically with the theories and methods art historians have used to examine art
- To examine a variety of examples of Western art in context
- To analyse the representation of Western art in museums and galleries
- To develop visual literacy including formal analysis
- To engage critically with texts and objects

Programme Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme

outcomes: A1, B1, B2, B4, B5

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

- demonstrate a comprehensive and systematic knowledge of theories and methods required for examining art in an international setting, drawing on art and design history, and visual culture studies
- deploy sophisticated visual literacy including formal analysis
- show systematic, critical engagement with texts and objects
- show excellent writing skills including logical and structured narratives and arguments supported by relevant primary and secondary evidence
- demonstrate professional presentation skills including verbal visual analysis, communicated clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences

Indicative Content:

- history of thinking in art history
- theories and methods art historians have used to examine art
- a variety of examples of Western art in context
- representation of Western art in museums and galleries
- visual literacy including formal analysis
- critical engagement with texts and objects

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and are located at <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies>.

Teaching Methodology:**SEMINARS**

The course will consist of weekly postgraduate seminars, which will follow the structure set out within the course syllabus and will serve a number of functions: seminars provide a framework for

