STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

UWE Bristol | University of the West of England

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Introduction to Professional Practice		
Module Code	UAAARD-15-1	Level	Level 4
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education	Field	Art
Department	Art & Design		
Module type:	Project		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
Overview: This module enables students to begin to establish their understanding of their area of practice in relation to the professional context and the broad field of creative practice at a local, national and international level.   **Educational Aims:** The module explores the importance of research and professional practice for students in support of their area of practice, and ambitions. It is designed to enable students to become aware of diverse working practices to be used in their studies and further established and developed at Level 2 and Level 3.   **Outline Syllabus:** The material and activities introduced in the module will enable students to locate and develop a range of knowledge and skills required to support the development of their practice and expand their contextual understanding of their subject. It will introduce students to issues of professionalism within their subject and develop awareness of key transferable skills and how they might be used in a wider context.   Students will be asked to look at different areas of practice and roles in relation to their subject area, and the diverse range of career paths and professional opportunities that their area of study can lead to.

Awareness of professional attitudes and approaches will be introduced throughout the module, and students will be expected to apply these in their work. Topics will include: consideration of health and safety, intellectual property, time management and organisation, preparation, communication and presentation.

Students will begin to identify opportunities for work placements and will produce promotional materials and CVs to enable them to apply for work experience opportunities and / or complete live briefs and apply for relevant professional experience.

Work Experience/Work Based Learning

During the course of the module, students may engage with work experience. This could be made up of a placement or number of shorter placements or working on live briefs, or a group exhibition in a relevant area as set by the module leader.

Students will:

Research and critically analyse chosen aspects of contemporary professional practice and apply this knowledge to the evaluation of their own strengths and career aspirations

Recognise, explore and articulate the links between their work-based learning with their academic programme (and vice versa)

Explore, identify and build on their skills, personal development and interests.
Develop a variety of transferable 'employability' skills and abilities such as time management, self presentation and reflection, research skills

This will be evidenced in a document that will include:

A reflective report on engagement undertaken (500 words)

Notes on research undertaken to support the report

Relevant images

Teaching and Learning Methods: Lectures, workshop exercises and seminars will introduce students to a range of research sources (including such things as: library resources / on-line resources and databases / exhibitions / events / study visits / case studies / publications) to demonstrate a diversity of approaches to research and professional practice within their area of creative practice.

Case studies will be presented as starting points for investigation. These will include examples from staff, professional practitioners and recent and past graduates. Some of these may contribute as visiting speakers.

Students are supported to develop understanding and methods of effective research. Library exercises and workshops involving the UWE Library introduce students to the use of book-stock, journals, catalogue systems, on-line data-bases and collections. Effective approaches to net searches and verifying information from different sources, collecting material through visits, interviews, etc. will be discussed and explored through the practical activities.

UWE Careers is introduced at this stage, in relation to recruitment fairs, individual support, etc. These and other initiatives are available within and across subject areas. Students are expected to make full use of these opportunities, and evidence engagement in their assessment submissions.

Group tutorials are used to monitor and support progress. In presenting their research findings students are encouraged to engage in discussion and debate.

A range of activities within and across programmes support discussion and interaction in relation to wider aspects of creative practice, professional attitudes and learning skills. Activities supported by the Careers Development Unit include information about placement and career

development opportunities, volunteering etc. that students can participate in during their studies.

The Professional Practice and Work Experience File is introduced in this module. The file will consist of evidence of the assignments, lectures, discussions and activities included in the module which students are required to respond to. It provides a place for students to collate and reflect on the material and ideas they are finding and being introduced to through the module. The Professional Practice and Work Experience File may be submitted as an online presence (i.e. blog or website).

The Professional Practice and Work Experience File will support the production of a visual presentation (as summative critique) to a small group of peers and staff. The visual presentation presents the students' findings and learning from the module – summarizing key outcomes. The visual presentation also identifies additional questions/areas for further exploration relevant to the individual students' professional ambitions.

Scheduled learning includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and workshops; fieldwork; external visits; work based learning; supervised time in studio/workshop.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion, etc.

Placement learning: may include a practice placement, other placement, year abroad.

Students can expect a total of 36 hours scheduled contact time for this module within the context of their other learning and teaching activities. This includes tutorials, lectures, seminars, site visits / field trips, studio-based sessions, workshops, field work, work-based learning or project supervision.

Contact time may also take a synchronous virtual form rather than face-to-face, through the use of email discussion groups, virtual learning environments (VLEs) and other technology-aided means. It can also take place in a work-based setting.

Part 3: Assessment

Assessment strategies within the programme that this module contributes to reflect the Faculty of Art, Creative Industries and Education's philosophy which considers assessment to be part of the learning process.

Formative and summative assessments are designed to provide the opportunity for students to understand and reflect upon their achievements and to support the monitoring of progress by tutors and students. Assessment methods used are varied, are relevant in demonstrating achievement to both academic and industry stakeholders, and form a coherent programme of assessment which is designed to offer students the maximum opportunity to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and experience that they have gained through the course of study, as well as to support ongoing and continuous improvement in their individual creative practice and development as practitioner-researchers.

The principle of 'learning through making' is core to learning strategies in the Department of Creative Industries – these learning activities are then expanded into and through an exploration of contemporary practice in relevant and related subject areas.

At assessment, therefore, students are expected to present evidence of work which demonstrates engagement with the minimum number of learning hours for the module (contact and independent study hours).

Forms of assessment used as part of the overall programme include:

Presentation and participation in studio-critique

Poster presentation

Group and individual visual presentations

Group and individual verbal presentations

Written Assignments – forms of writing relevant to the creative industries, including academic/essay and industry focused/report writing

Group critiques

Peer and self-assessment

Evaluative and reflective outcomes, including visual, verbal and written

Formative and summative assessment activities that involve students participating in the evaluation of presented work (their own and others') take place throughout the programme. Participation in and attendance at these sessions forms part of the assessed content of the module as a result of this.

Feedback (verbal and/or in writing) at regular points throughout the module provides students with a clear understanding of their progress and advice about how this can be improved.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Portfolio - Component A	✓	100 %	Professional Practice File
Resit Components	**Final Assessment**	**Element weighting**	**Description**
Portfolio - Component A	✓	100 %	Professional Practice File

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:

Module Learning Outcomes	Reference
Identify appropriate investigative methods to research sources for professional practice and employment	MO1
Begin to recognise the scope and range of roles associated with employment/research/enterprise	MO2
Test and use appropriate methods of presentation and documentation in Fine Art	MO3
Manage time and recognise the importance of professional attitudes in the workplace	MO4
Use a range of learning resources and communicate ideas visually, verbally and in writing	MO5

Contact Hours	**Independent Study Hours:**	
	Independent study/self-guided study	114
	Total Independent Study Hours:	114

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	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	36
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	36
	Hours to be allocated	150
	Allocated Hours	150
Reading List	*The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:* https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uaaard-15-1.html	

Part 5: Contributes Towards
This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: Art and Writing [Sep][FT][Bower][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21 Art and Visual Culture [Sep][FT][Bower][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21 Fine Art [Sep][FT][Alexander][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21 Fine Art [Sep][FT][Bower][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21 Art and Visual Culture [Sep][PT][Bower][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20 Fine Art [Sep][PT][Bower][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20 Fine Art {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Bower][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20 Art and Visual Culture {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Bower][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20