



Module Specification

Photography in Context

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Photography in Context

Module code: UALAVC-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

Department: ACE Dept of Creative & Cultural Industries

Partner institutions: None

Field: Lens and Moving Image

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module is designed to expand and challenge accepted notions regarding contemporary photographic practice, and encourage students to consider new ways of thinking about their own practice in context of wider debates and issues.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: Students are introduced to a series of histories, intellectual frameworks and practices (including moving image, multimedia and other lens based and digital creative processes). These are organised into themes which the student can choose to expand further in their research towards assignment.

Themes that may be explored include: Interdisciplinary, Ethical Practices, Collaborative Photographic Practice, Beyond the Frame, De-centered Self, The Body, Photographic Rhetoric and Authorship, Photographic Tool and Exploring Identity, Beyond the Indexical, Moving Stills, and Documentary Fictions. A series of lectures provides grounding in relevant literature, historical precedents, contemporary debates and possibilities for future research. The range of themes, and related lecture programme, aims to reflect the diversity of student interests and aspirations, and specifically introduce ideas relating to interdisciplinary and inter-textual knowledge and practice.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Students are encouraged to reflect on their own practices and interests (and those of others) in relation to the areas of study introduced in the lecture series, building upon them with their own self-directed research. They will then choose a number of themes to develop into a discursive written essay (or equivalent). As part of this module students will be encouraged and supported to disseminate certain aspects of their written in an appropriate public domain, (for example, on their own website, the course website, or wider external platform).

Students are attached to tutor groups during which they are encouraged to explore the position of their own practices (and those of others) in relation to the debates introduced in the lecture series. Seminars are also used to practice research skills, often in small groups. Workshops cover advice about essay preparation (research, writing and interpreting essay questions) and strand content and literature. Students also receive support with their individual essay topic via small group tutorials, before which they are asked to submit research proposals. Towards the end of this module

they are also briefed as to the Level 3 programme of critical study.

All students are encouraged to use online support materials (on Blackboard). Each theme has an online presence including lecture outlines, audio recordings, PowerPoints of lectures, digitised preparatory readings, and topical news items. There are also online support materials about the assignment, reading strategies, timetable, advice on written work, referencing and bibliographies.

Distance learning students (that is, those on outgoing Erasmus exchange) are expected to attend taught sessions whilst on-site. They are given additional learning materials which support them to specifically relate their exchange experience to their assignment, and a reading guide to assist with this. Email tutorial support is provided for these students.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

- MO1** Explain a range of contemporary cultural, historical and industrial photographic contexts within wider related creative practice
- MO2** Analyse and critically evaluate contemporary photographic practices in the context of the related fields of art, media and design
- MO3** Discuss critical debates and issues in contemporary photographic practice in relation to its relationship to wider society, creative industries and arts contexts
- MO4** Reflect on the relationship between the student's photographic (and related) practice to contemporary debates, methodologies and ethical considerations
- MO5** Develop an argument or analysis supported by appropriate research
- MO6** Identify and use appropriate online and print research material
- MO7** Select and use methods and approaches to research and explore photographic (and related) subjects from which final under-graduate year projects can emerge

MO8 Structure and present research findings and arguments, through written work and appropriate audio-visual materials, using appropriate scholarly conventions of presentation and dissemination of ideas and research

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ualavc-15-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ualavc-15-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The written portfolio enables the student to demonstrate achievement across all the learning outcomes of the module. This assessment type has been chosen as most appropriate to developing students' research, analysis and critique ability and academic writing skills as well as to enable flexibility of presentation formats. 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.

Clear expectations regarding academic probity, guidance about what constitutes plagiarism and advice about correct referencing will be supplied in the module handbook and developed by UWE Library Service and UWE Study Support sessions.

Formative assessment:

Students are expected to actively engage in peer-to-peer discussion, student-led research tasks and small and large group discussion in response to the materials

presented and developed through individual study. Participation in these learning experiences (face to face and/or virtually) is core to the ethos of, and formative assessment strategy for the module. Other work developed through individual study, such as research proposals, receive formative feedback from tutors in small group tutorials.

Summative assessment:

Students produce a written portfolio in a form most appropriate to communicating their ideas and argument (for example, a written essay, illustrated written essay, a film essay), which is supported by references and a bibliography.

Assessment criteria (as related to learning outcomes):

Understanding Key Concepts and broader related debates: clarity of objectives, understanding and addressing the question and broader cross discipline ideas;

Articulating informed Opinions and the Ability to Critically Question: structure and coherence of discussion and /or argument, and forming and negotiating research questions;

Critical Thinking and Analysis: critical evaluation and/or analysis of visual and written texts;

Research, Investigation and applying appropriate methodology: research breadth, depth, relevance, use of appropriate methods of investigation;

Writing, presentation and dissemination: articulation, accuracy, referencing, bibliography, and engaging with an appropriate public platform.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Written portfolio (equivalent 3000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Written portfolio (equivalent 3000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Photography [Bower] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Photography [Sep][PT][Bower][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Photography {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Bower][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22