



Module Specification

Photographic Foundations

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Photographic Foundations

Module code: UALAVB-15-1

Level: Level 4

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

Delivery locations: Not in use for Modules

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 introduces students to ways of looking at photography and other creative practices so that they are armed with an analytical and critical vocabulary as well as a visual one.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Above all, the module aims to enable students to begin to think about situating their own practice in a critical framework by engaging with significant developments in lens based media from the 19th century to now. By exploring critical debates in photographic discourse, students are offered ways to consider how meaning is generated and negotiated through modes of production, dissemination and consumption of photography and to situate the practice in broader cultural frameworks.

Outline syllabus: Key concepts will be introduced, through exploring a range of photographic platforms and practices. Students will consider notions of authorship, visual grammar, process, representation, ownership, ethics, identity, tangibility and taste through engagement with present day and historical contexts. Discussions around the value and social purpose of photographic genres, and their related languages and expectations, will enable students to consider the creative aspirations for their own work.

Key questions will be:

How do we conceptualize photographic practice?

How are photographs 'read' in contemporary contexts?

What expectations does the medium engender in contemporary culture?

How can/does photography maintain value in a climate of ubiquity?

What value do genre distinctions have in a fragmented interdisciplinary photographic landscape?

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A lecture series outlines the module's historical, theoretical and critical content, supported by set reading and / or audio-visual resources. Workshops are devoted to particular research tasks that relate the lecture materials to photographic discourse. Students are required to work independently on research tasks, including preparatory reading and case study preparation, as well as in small tutorial groups for the presentation and discussion of research findings. Attendance at seminars will be monitored, and there will be a requirement to class

discussion and mini-presentations.

The programme of lectures and workshops will be accompanied by supporting study skills materials designed to support research, assignment preparation and writing-up final work. All course materials (timetables, all work briefs, reading lists, and teaching and learning materials for the module) will be available on Blackboard.

Students will be introduced to the Library through a series of workshops that introduce the facilities and research skills in using the library database, finding and extracting visual and textual information, and using the slide and video library. Additionally, students will be introduced to resources to support a range of research methodologies, including the Research Observatory and other UWE online resources, including Blackboard.

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

MO1 Define and discuss key critical theories and issues underlying photographic practices and their relationship to broader cultural debates

MO2 Recall and explain aspects of the historical development of photographic practices and contexts of production, dissemination and consumption of lens-based imagery

MO3 Use a range of research methods relevant to creative practices and industries

MO4 Use the library to find a range appropriate sources

MO5 Collate and critically evaluate texts and materials

MO6 Judge their own practice in relation to critical theories, issues, practices and debates

MO7 structure and present research findings and arguments, through written work and appropriate audio-visual materials

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/ualavb-15-1.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ualavb-15-1.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The portfolio of written and practice assignments enables the student to demonstrate achievement across all the learning outcomes of the module. This assessment type has been chosen to enable students to combine a range of outputs supported by the teaching and learning in the module, to support the development of academic analysis and critique and writing as well as to enable flexibility of presentation formats. 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 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. 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 as well as to support ongoing and continuous improvement in their individual creative practice and development as practitioner-researchers.

Formative assessment:

Students present of student-led research tasks in small and large groups and receive formative feedback through peer-to-peer discussion in response to the materials presented. All students will be expected to contribute to the critical evaluation of

fellow students' work. Other work developed through individual study will receive formative feedback from tutors (verbal and/or in writing). These happen at regular points through the module to provide student with a clear understanding of their progress and advice about how this can be improved.

Summative assessment:

Students produce a portfolio of written and practice outputs, full guidance for which will be included in the module handbook. Outputs may include, for example: a learning log, completed research tasks, a poster presentation and a written assignment.

Assessment criteria (as related to learning outcomes):

Understanding Key Concepts: clarity of objectives, understanding and addressing the question;

Articulating Opinions: structure and coherence of discussion and /or argument;

Critical Thinking: critical evaluation and/or analysis;

Research and Investigation: research breadth, depth, relevance, use of;

Writing and presentation: articulation, accuracy, referencing, bibliography.

Assessment components:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Written and practice portfolio (equivalent to 2500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Written and practice portfolio (equivalent to 2500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Photography [Bower] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Photography [Bower] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Photography {Foundation}[Bower] BA (Hons) 2022-23