

BA (Hons) Fine Art

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Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	School of Art
Main campus	Locksbrook Campus
Other sites of delivery	Sion Hill Campus
Other Schools involved in delivery	N/A
Name of award(s)	Fine Art
Qualification (final award)	BA (Hons)
Intermediate awards available	CertHE, DipHE, BA
Routes available	Single
Professional Placement Year	Optional
Duration of award	3 years full-time 4 years full-time (with Professional Placement Year)
Modes of delivery offered	Campus-based
Regulatory Scheme ^[1]	Undergraduate Academic Framework
Exemptions from regulations/framework ^[2]	Yes

Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation	N/A
Date of most recent PSRB approval (month and year)	N/A
Renewal of PSRB approval due (month and year)	N/A
UCAS code	W101 W102 (with Professional Placement Year)
Route code (SITS)	FASPS FASPS-SW (with Professional Placement Year)
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	Art and Design (February 2017)
Date of most recent approval	June 2018
Date specification last updated	June 2021

[1] This should also be read in conjunction with the University's Qualifications Framework

[2] See section on 'Exemptions'

Exemptions

The following exemptions are in place:

Programme /Pathway	Regulations /Framework	Brief description of variance	Approving body and date
BA (Hons) Fine Art	Undergraduate Academic Framework	Exemption requested to depart from Framework Paragraph 1.4	Academic Quality Standards Committee, 26 April 2018
BA (Hons) Fine Art	Undergraduate Academic Framework	Exemption requested to depart from Framework Paragraph 1.4	Academic Quality Standards Committee, 12 December 2018

Programme Overview

This studio-centred course offers you the opportunity to explore the disciplines of painting, sculpture, performance, installation, printmaking, lens based and digital media and the points at which they intersect.

The course introduces you to the fundamentals of the discipline of Fine Art, the debates that surround the subject and the relevant strategies and behaviours that form the basis for an inquisitive, experimental and reflective art practice. Through workshops, seminars, lectures and structured dialogue in the studios you will be exposed to a range of subject specific practical, theoretical and professional processes, methods and ideas. With a balance between taught sessions and self-directed enquiry, the curriculum reflects the bespoke nature of learning within the discipline of Fine Art encouraging you to identify and develop your own practice through material and conceptual investigation. Our Fine Art course is characterised by a profound synergy between academic and technical teaching and learning. In this community students and staff work together to understand and develop what contemporary art can or should be today.

Teaching in Fine Art takes the form of one-to-one tutorials in the studio, seminars, artist's talks, lectures, critiques, academic and technical workshops and study visits. With an approach that champions the embedded nature of theory within practice, the course will support you to develop an authoritative knowledge of the historical and contextual grounding to your practice. Central to the course is a comprehensive professional practice programme that will equip you with the confidence and skills to prepare you for work as a practicing artist, or within the creative sector. Through your active participation in external projects, exhibitions, presentations and initiatives, you will learn to be analytical, reflective and communicate your ideas verbally and visually. The structure of the course promotes curiosity, risk and innovation. Through your continued engagement you will progressively learn how to learn in this unique discipline, to develop your own position as an artist, and become an expert in your own field.

Programme Aims

1. To engage students in developing their own ambitious, inquisitive and reflective art practice as part of a learning community.
2. To provide strategies for students to develop their own theoretical, contextual and material research within the disciplines of Fine Art.
3. To stimulate an analytical, critical and ethical approach to learning through Fine Art practice
4. To develop the students' skills to observe, communicate, and visualise an understanding and evaluation of the discipline of Fine Art.
5. To equip students with the knowledge, confidence and skills to work collaboratively or independently as practising artists and/or within the creative sector.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

A - Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge

	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) On Achieving Level 6	On Achieving Level 5	On Achieving Level 4
A1	Demonstrate an authoritative art practice that applies an ambitious and inquisitive material enquiry to the development and presentation of artworks.	Demonstrate an art practice that uses an inquisitive practical and material enquiry to realise ideas, develop artworks and tests out ways to present this work to an audience.	Experiment with a range of methods, materials and processes in order to establish an inquisitive, practical and material enquiry that will inform the development of an independent or collaborative art practice.
A2	Synthesise and apply relevant contextual research (historical, ethical, social and cultural) to the development of artworks and the consideration of audience.	Identify, explore, process and apply relevant contextual research (historical, ethical, social and cultural) to the realisation of ideas, the development of artworks and to testing out of ways of presenting this work to an audience.	Identify, explore and process relevant contextual (historical, ethical, social and cultural) research and recognise how this contextual research informs the development of an independent or collaborative art practice.
A3	Through systematic research speculate, risk take and problem solve and apply this integrated understanding to the development of artworks and the presentation of this work.	Through material and conceptual research speculate and risk take and identify and evaluate the understanding established through these processes. Apply this learning to the development of art works and the presentation of this work to an audience.	Through material and conceptual research speculate and risk take. Identify learning established through these processes.
A4	Evidence independent learning through personal responsibility, management, planning, engagement and self-evaluation, as required for a professional Fine Art Practice.	Evidence independent learning through personal responsibility, planning and engagement for a Fine Art Practice.	Evidence learning through personal responsibility, engagement and self-evaluation in Fine Art.
A5	Demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of Fine Art professional development information, skills and resources and appropriate career development opportunities.	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of professional development information, skills and resources and appropriate career development opportunities in Fine Art.	Engage with professional development information, skills and resources for Fine Art practice.

A6	Ability to critically employ historical and theoretical perspectives, undertake critical evaluation of the creative process, to engage in contemporary debates in visual and material culture and wider society.	Ability to effectively employ historical and theoretical perspectives, reflect effectively on the creative process, and analyse contemporary issues in visual and material culture and wider society.	Ability to investigate selected historical and theoretical connections and reflect on the creative process.
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B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) On Achieving Level 6	On Achieving Level 5	On Achieving Level 4
B1	Reflect, analyse and decision make informed by an authoritative subject knowledge and understanding. Effectively apply these skills of evaluation in a range of contexts that support a sustained and focused art practice	Reflect, analyse and decision make informed by an expanded and relevant subject knowledge and understanding. Apply these skills of evaluation in a range of contexts that support an (independent or collaborative) art practice.	Reflect, analyse and evaluate methods, processes and outcomes using a knowledge and understanding of the subject.
B2	Communicate ideas authoritatively in a written and/or verbal form demonstrating a systematic detailed and synthesised understanding of Fine Art practices and debates.	Communicate ideas in a written and/or verbal form demonstrating an articulate, critical understanding of Fine Art practices and debates.	Communicate ideas in a written and/or verbal form demonstrating an underlying knowledge of key concepts and principles within Fine Art practices and debates.

C Skills for Life and Work

	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) On Achieving Level 6	On Achieving Level 5	On Achieving Level 4
C1	Autonomous learning[3] (including time management) that shows the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility and enables decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts.	Autonomous learning (including time management) as would be necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making such that significant responsibility within organisations could be assumed.	Autonomous learning (including time management) as would be necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility.

C2	Team working skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace with an ability both to work in and lead teams effectively.	Team work as would be necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making for effective work with others such that significant responsibility within organisations could be assumed.	Team work as would be necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility for effective work with others.
C3	Communication skills that ensure information, ideas, problems and solutions are communicated effectively and clearly to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.	Communication skills commensurate with the effective communication of information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences in which key techniques of the discipline are deployed effectively.	Communication skills that demonstrate an ability to communicate outcomes accurately and reliably and with structured and coherent arguments.
C4	IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate core competences and are commensurate with an ability to work at the interface of creativity and new technologies.	IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate the development of existing skills and the acquisition of new competences.	IT skills and digital literacy that provide a platform from which further training can be undertaken to enable development of new skills within a structured and managed environment.

[3] i.e. the ability to review, direct and manage one's own workload

Programme Content

This programme comprises the following modules

Key:

Core = C

Required = R

Required* = R*

Optional = O

Not available for this status = N/A

If a particular status is greyed out, it is not offered for this programme.

Subject offered as single and/or combined award

BA (Hons) Fine Art				Status			
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Major	Joint	Minor
4	FAR4000-20	Introduction to Fine Art: Fundamentals	20	C			
4	FAR4001-40	Studio Practice: Strategies and Behaviours	40	C			
4	HAC4000-20	Introduction to Visual and Material Culture: Art and Photography	20	C			
4	FAR4002-40	Studio Practice: Investigation and Exploration	40	C			
5	FAR5100-20	Exploring Fine Art: Territories	20	O			
5	FAR5000-40	Studio Practice: Frameworks and Enquiries	40	C			
5	HAC5103-20	Fine Art: Contemporary Issues and Practice	20	C			
5	FAR5001-40	Studio Practice: Encounters and Audiences	40	C			
5	PPY5100-120	Professional Placement Year	120	O			
6	HAC6100-20	Visual and Material Culture: Final Study	20	C			
6	FAR6000-20	Studio Practice: In Context (20)	20	R*			
6	FAR6001-40	Studio Practice: In Context (40)	40	R*			
6	FAR6002-60	Studio Practice: Exhibition	60	C			

You will be required to take either of the R* modules at Level 6

Assessment Methods

A range of summative assessment tasks will be used to test the Intended Learning Outcomes in each module. These are indicated in the attached assessment map, which shows which tasks are used in which modules.

Students will be supported in their development towards summative assessment by appropriate formative exercises.

Please note: if you choose an optional module from outside this programme, you may be required to undertake a summative assessment task that does not appear in the assessment grid here in order to pass that module.

Work Experience and Placement Opportunities

The course will provide you with a range of opportunities to participate in external projects, such as events, exhibitions, open studios, placements and publications. These opportunities contribute to the future development of your practice and facilitate your skills development in preparation for a broad range of employment possibilities within the creative industries.

In addition to the course external projects, you will have the opportunity to consider undertaking the Professional Placement Year (module PPY5100). This is coordinated and supported by the Careers and Enterprise team, and you will be also be assigned a Professional Placement Year tutor.

In advance of starting a Professional Placement Year, the module preparation provides you with the opportunity to create a Development Plan, to identify, apply for, and secure the professional experience, normally comprising of 1-3 placements.

During the Professional Placement Year, you would commit to working for the external organisation/s for a period of 9-13 months, between the second and third year of your course.

At the start of your final year, you return to university and submit a Placement Report detailing your development on placement. By successfully completing the module, you are entitled to the addition of "with Professional Placement Year" to your degree title, evidencing your work and outcomes in respect of your placement, and demonstrating your ability to secure and sustain graduate-level employment.

Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates...	In Fine Art we enable this...
1	Will be employable: equipped with the skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace, able to work in and lead teams	By providing a community that promotes self-motivation and independent drive; reflective and applied critical thinking; effective time management, communication and organisation skills; with collaborative opportunities for exhibitions, residencies and commissions.
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change	By having a curriculum that enables students to apply their creative and technical skills to diverse art related opportunities and to see complexity, diversity and change as positive aspects of a creative contemporary culture.
3	Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners	By encouraging experimentation and taking creative risks; thinking and problem solving through making; collaborating across disciplines; working across materials and contexts.
4	Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology	By developing students' skills in specialist digital software for presentations, planning, creating and making; utilising and driving digital platforms to promote, converse and explore art practices
5	Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of the their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas	By offering study abroad opportunities; international field trips; studying alongside overseas students; encouraging student participation in international research projects and visits to major biennials and exhibitions.
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers	By ensuring that creative practice and confident attitudes to experimentation are expectations of all students; encouraging and delivering innovation and managing creative risk, having practice-based courses that all have 'thinking through making' at their heart
7	Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy	By embedding theory with practice into studio teaching and developing written analytical skills; visual and written opportunities for discussion and presentation; Historical and Critical Studies as a key component.
8	Will be ethically aware: prepared for citizenship in a local, national and global context	By exploring wider ethical issues that have impact across contemporary fine art practice; exercising responsibility and consideration of others; taking part in international opportunities and projects; embedding sustainability and ethics into all projects.

Modifications

Module-level modifications

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
FAR4 002- 40	Studio Practice: Investigation and Exploration	Change to summative assessment components	ART SQMC 20th Nov 2019	2020/21
FAR4 000- 20	Introduction to Fine Art: Fundamentals	Change to formative assessment components	Approved by Curriculum Committee on 16/06/2021	2021/22
FAR4 001- 40	Studio Practice: Strategies and Behaviours	Change to formative and summative assessment components	Approved by Curriculum Committee on 16/06/2021	2021/22
FAR4 002- 40	Studio Practice: Investigation and Exploration	Change to formative and summative assessment components	Approved by Curriculum Committee on 16/06/2021	2021/22
FAR5 000- 40	Studio Practice: Frameworks and Enquiries	Change to formative and summative assessment components	Approved by Curriculum Committee on 16/06/2021	2021/22
FAR5 001- 40	Studio Practice: Encounters and Audiences	Change to formative and summative assessment components	Approved by Curriculum Committee on 16/06/2021	2021/22
FAR6 000- 20	Studio Practice: In Context (20)	Change to formative and summative assessment components	Approved by Curriculum Committee on 16/06/2021	2021/22
FAR6 001- 40	Studio Practice: In Context (40)	Change to formative and summative assessment components	Approved by Curriculum Committee on 16/06/2021	2021/22
FAR6 002- 60	Studio Practice: Exhibition	Change to formative and summative assessment components	Approved by Curriculum Committee on 16/06/2021	2021/22

Programme-level modifications

Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect

Attached as appendices:

1. Programme structure diagram
2. Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes
3. Assessment map
4. Module descriptors

Appendix 1: Programme Structure Diagram - BA (Hons) Fine Art

Yr1 Level 4	
Semester 1	Semester 2
FAR 4000-20 Introduction to Fine Art: Fundamentals (20)	HAC 4000-20 Introduction to Visual and Material Culture: Art and Photography (20)
FAR 4001-40 Studio Practice: Strategies and Behaviours (40)	FAR 4002-40 Studio Practice: Investigation and Exploration (40)

Yr2 Level 5	
Semester 1	Semester 2
FAR 5100-20 Exploring Fine Art: Territories (20) (OPTIONAL)	FAR 5001-40 Studio Practice: Encounters and Audiences (40)
FAR 5000-40 Studio Practice: Frameworks and Enquiries (40)	HAC 5103-20 Fine Art: Contemporary Issues and Practice (20)

PPY5100-120 Work Placement (120) (OPTIONAL)

Yr3 Level 6	
Semester 1	Semester 2
HAC 6100-20 Visual and Material Culture: Final Study (20)	FAR 6002-60 Studio Practice: Exhibition (60)
FAR 6000-20 Studio Practice: In Context (20) (REQUIRED *)	
FAR 6001-40 Studio Practice: In Context (40) (REQUIRED *)	

Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C, R, R*, O) [4]	Intended Learning Outcomes												
				Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge						Cognitive & Intellectual Skills		Skills for Life and Work				
				A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	C1	C2	C3	C4	
4	FAR4000-20	Introduction to Fine Art: Fundamentals	C				x						x	x		x
4	FAR4001-40	Studio Practice: Strategies and Behaviours	C	x	x	x	x			x			x		x	x
4	HAC4000-20	Introduction to Visual and Material Culture: Art and Photography	C						x							
4	FAR4002-40	Studio Practice: Investigation and Exploration	C	x		x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
5	FAR5100-20	Exploring Fine Art: Territories	O								x		x	x	x	x
5	FAR5000-40	Studio Practice: Frameworks and Enquiries	C	x	x	x				x	x	x				
5	HAC5103-20	Fine Art: Contemporary Issues and Practice	C						x							
5	FAR5001-40	Studio Practice: Encounters and Audiences	C	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
5	PPY5100-120	Professional Placement Year	O										x	x	x	x
6	HAC6100-20	Visual and Material Culture: Final Study	C						x							
6	FAR6000-20	Studio Practice: In Context (20)	R*	x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6	FAR6001-40	Studio Practice: In Context (40)	R*	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6	FAR6002-60	Studio Practice: Exhibition	C	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x

[4] C = Core; R = Required; Required* = R*, O = Optional

Appendix 3: Map of Summative Assessment Tasks by Module

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C, R, R*, O)[5]	Assessment method																				
				Coursework								Practical					Written Examination							
				Webside	Exhibition	Research Folder	Dissemination	Portfolio	Essay	Developmental work	Art Works	Report	Performance	Project	Practical skills	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)				
4	FAR4000-20	Introduction to Fine Art: Fundamentals	C											x										
4	FAR4001-40	Studio Practice: Strategies and Behaviours	C			x				x	x						x							
4	HAC4000-20	Introduction to Visual and Material Culture: Art and Photography	C					x	x															
4	FAR4002-40	Studio Practice: Investigation and Exploration	C	x						x	x				x		x							
5	FAR5100-20	Exploring Fine Art: Territories	O											x										
5	FAR5000-40	Studio Practice: Frameworks and Enquiries	C			x				x	x						x							
5	HAC5103-20	Fine Art: Contemporary Issues and Practice	C					x	x															
5	FAR5001-40	Studio Practice: Encounters and Audiences	C			x				x	x	x			x		x							
5	PPY5100-120	Professional Placement Year	O					x		x														
6	HAC6100-20	Visual and Material Culture: Final Study	C							x														
6	FAR6000-20	Studio Practice: In Context (20)	O			x				x	x						x							
6	FAR6001-40	Studio Practice: In Context (40)	O			x				x	x						x							

6	FAR60 02-60	Studio Practice: Exhibition	C	x	x	x				x	x					x			
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[5] C = Core; R = Required; Required* = R*, O = Optional