



Level 6 Module Descriptions

Concepts and Planning

This module offers you a period of creative enquiry to define an area of your personal interest in photography, in preparation for your final degree project. A body of visual research, experimental practice and study of practical feasibility culminates in the formal presentation of the 'Individual Proposal' document and a logbook.

During this module you will be required to compile a formal 'Individual Proposal' document for your Degree Major Project. This document gives you the opportunity to reflect on your own interests, goals and directions in photography. Through support materials, your visual research and forum discussions, you will revisit some of the debates around contemporary photography aesthetics in order to underpin the development of an informed personal aesthetic. This is to support you in the critical analysis of your project proposal, its realisation and its integration of theory and creative practice. You are required to keep evidence of your practice-led research and idea development in a logbook that supports the integration of practice and theory.

Professional Portfolio

In this module, you will conduct targeted research into the best practice examples of professional portfolios within your chosen photography specialist areas. You will present and discuss these examples through forum participation, case histories and portfolio review with fellow students and tutors. You will also seek to create your own individual style of portfolio presentation and produce high quality samples of work that display your conceptual and technical skills in order to form a memorable and coherent body of work.

On completion of this module you will have produced a body of photographic work that demonstrates versatility and your ability to present your work effectively to professional audiences and prospective commissioners. This will be new work that compliments, but is distinct from, work undertaken for your Degree Major Project.

Your research and development will provide you with opportunities to explore a wide range of modes of exhibition, and distribution of contemporary and professional photography imagery. Portfolio imagery will be created with a range of distribution opportunities in mind, for example websites, online galleries and image banks, as well as hard copy display or exhibition pieces.

Enterprise and Employability

The creative industries employment sector has seen a huge growth in the number of graduates leaving university with the appropriate qualifications. Consequently, it is to be expected that employment may not happen instantly upon graduation. Therefore, a solid, realistic and progressive strategy underpinning an approach to employment is essential. This module addresses creative enterprise, entrepreneurship and its development, with an emphasis on preparing you for photography, photo media freelance work and business practice within the creative industries.

You will consider a range of entrepreneurial business models, as well as approaches to setting up a photography business. In doing so, you will study the contribution made by business plans and creative enterprise advice agencies. To further prepare you for work

in the creative industries, you will reflect on aspects of special relevance to contemporary photography freelance work, with respect to marketing, self promotion, networking, sales and collaborative working, as well as the broader social, economic and technological contexts.

Degree Major Project

This module is an opportunity to pursue a self-directed programme of media practice that demonstrates creative and expressive ambition, experiment and achievement. It represents the culmination of study for each student and requires independent management of practical, conceptual and professional issues.

The outcomes for this module will include your professionally focused photography practice (which normally forms the basis of the final year portfolio of work), detailed and critically engaged research, and a written evaluation of the relationship between your practice and identified professional contexts.

In this module, you have the opportunity to display your advanced knowledge and understanding of photography. You will engage in a period of sustained creative activity, offering a primary platform upon which to demonstrate your abilities and potential to a professional audience.

Critical and Cultural Studies

As an informed creative practitioner, you are encouraged to engage critically with your discipline, its history, ideas by which it is informed and how it is likely to evolve in the future. This module will enable you to conduct an in-depth study of an aspect of visual culture of your choice, with the emphasis on the analysis of appropriate social, cultural, economic, technical, historical and aesthetic issues relevant to your chosen topic and creative work.

In this module, you will be able to bring your own interests into your work. Your independent research will be supported through discussion with your tutor, your peers in the forums and course materials. You will also develop skills in research, organisation and planning, critical analysis and presentation. There will also be a focus on practising correct, conventional academic writing skills.

The assessed element of this module consists of a 6,000 word essay or technical report