

MA Art and Politics

Programme Specification

Awarding Institution:

University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)

Teaching Institution: Goldsmiths, University of London**Name of Final Award and Programme Title:** MA Art and Politics**Name of Interim Exit Award(s):** Postgraduate Diploma in Art and Politics**Duration of Programme:** 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time**UCAS Code(s):** Not applicable**HECoS Code(s):** (100491) Politics**QAA Benchmark Group:** Not applicable**FHEQ Level of Award:** Level 7**Programme accredited by:** Not applicable**Date Programme Specification last updated/approved:** December 2019**Home Department:** Politics and International Relations**Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:**

Not applicable

Programme overview

This programme specification summarises the MA degree programme for Art and Politics (MAAP) which will be offered by the Politics and International Relations Department at Goldsmiths, University of London. It identifies the learning outcomes and skills that a typical student should achieve and develop by engaging fully in the learning process on offer. Further details of the programme can be found on line at www.goldsmiths.ac.uk and in the Departmental Handbook for Postgraduate Politics and International Relations students.

At the heart of cultural politics today are a new range of issues: the global 'war on terror'; rising levels of ethnic and civic conflict; issues of human rights and 'humanitarian' intervention; concerns about environmental degradation, immigration and the spread of infectious diseases. In such a climate, questions about the 'autonomy', 'politicality' and the materiality of art are being posed with renewed vigour and urgency. Contemporary arts practices are increasingly claiming political origins and motivations and simultaneously, political parties are seeking endorsements from and the involvement of artists of all kinds. Meanwhile, the increasing desire to commemorate victims of war, terrorism and famine, has lead both to the formation of new partnerships across cultural and political lines but also to the embedding of deep and difficult rivalries. The creative industries and/or heritage

museums (such as the VandA) openly collaborate with think-tanks (such as Demos) in order to set out new strategies for the advancement of soft diplomacy and international cooperation between nations. Similarly, there have been significant new developments in international laws dealing with cultural property: for example, increased governmental interests in cultural artefacts and practices have led to heightened interests in aesthetico-political debates particularly with regard to issues of ownership, intellectual property rights, national identity and greater claims for self-determination. Contemporary activist practices are emerging that interrupt and re-invent the languages of both politics and art.

The MA Art and Politics provides students with the opportunity to explore these issues in a genuinely interdisciplinary setting, using a strong theoretical basis in order to better understand a range of empirical, aesthetic and conceptual issues. It opens up space for the acknowledgment of the ways that contemporary capitalism affects all our lives and reflects on the possibilities of struggling against it. The programme aims to promote independent critical and evaluative skills as well as an intellectual curiosity in the relationship between art and politics. It seeks to expand student's knowledge of the issues which traverse the disciplines of both Art and Political Science, and provide them with a deeper level of understanding into the many facets which lie behind contemporary international politics and artistic practices.

Programme entry requirements

Students should normally have successfully completed an undergraduate programme in a relevant subject and obtained a good grade in their final papers (usually an Upper Second Class Honours). However, the Politics and International Relations Department is committed to widening participation in its degree programmes, including taught postgraduate modules, and welcomes applications from those who have a substantial amount of relevant work experience, but who lack formal qualifications. In such cases entrance is by interview/portfolio or equivalent evidence of research interests as well as the submission of an essay on a topic determined by the department. Applicants who do not have the relevant first degree are encouraged to approach the department informally before submitting an application.

Aims of the programme

The educational aims of the programme are informed by Goldsmiths' declared focus on stimulating knowledge and self-discovery through creative, radical and intellectually rigorous thinking and practice; the UK Quality Code; the National Qualifications Framework; and the Goldsmiths Learning and Teaching Strategy.

The purpose of this distinctive MA programme is to provide students from a range of disciplines with opportunities to participate in the intellectual and creative challenges

opened up by the emerging sub- field of art and politics. Through its compulsory and optional modules, the programme provides a deep and varied engagement with 20th and 21st century thinkers, artists and activists at the cutting edge of an emerging new sub-discipline. It is an exciting as well as a comprehensive programme of study and students are encouraged to develop their political creativity and imagination and to deepen their engagements with existing interests. Taught by a range of scholars, artists and activists, the MA focuses on the practice and experience of its participants via individual and collaborative projects. In this respect, it offers unique opportunities for student involvement in negotiated group or projects settings.

Projects may range from constructed, event-based interventions in a public context, to archive-based research and/or working in collaboration with a group or institution. All projects have a material outcome, which can be published, performed, constructed, installed or demonstrated in an appropriate context. In these ways, MAAP combines comprehensive knowledge with group and individual project- work and emphasises both directed learning and varied research practices. Students are encouraged to develop their own ideas with the support and advice of staff, within a learning environment of critical debate and practice.

This MA is designed to provide students with the tools necessary to navigate the critical relationship between Art and Politics and to do so to a level appropriate to progression to doctoral level, employment in cultural policy-related research or in research management in both national and international organisations. The programme also provides opportunities to explore a range of topics in the fields of art, politics, cultural studies, sociology, visual cultures, anthropology etc. through a variety of optional modules.

What you will be expected to achieve

Students who successfully complete the Postgraduate Diploma in Art and Politics will have demonstrated achievement of the following outcomes.

Note: Where ‘Compulsory Optional Module’ is stated, students select from a pool of optional modules including the Group Project, the Individual Project and Countermapping.

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	The interconnectedness of culture, politics and society in the 20th and 21st centuries	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Dissertation
A2	A range of creative and political practices which test the boundaries of both ‘Art’ and ‘Politics’	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A3	A range of major works in art theory, international politics, cultural politics, political theory, aesthetics and visual culture	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event
A4	The relationship between theory and practice as it relates to the study of the art and politics. An understanding of 'context' and how this bears on the reading, understanding and outcome of practical project work	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module
A5	Through material outcomes and evidence, a broad reflexive and critical approach to research and in relation to the project element, an ability to take responsibility for this in the context of its public presentation	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module
A6	The techniques and strategies employed in the making, curating and exhibition of 'work' and how these can be thought about in a variety of public contexts	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Demonstrate a high-level understanding of the core theoretical tools in the emerging subfield of Art and Politics	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event
B2	Critically examine and apply a range of ideas, theories and practices, found in artistic, non-academic and academic sources, to contemporary international aesthetic-political events, practices and processes	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module
B3	Produce written work of a standard that fully meets the expectations of assessors and examiners and satisfies the requirement that written work is presented, organised and referenced in ways that accord with established academic criteria and standards in the discipline of politics	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B4	Systematically and creatively engage in debates relating to art and politics and relate these to contemporary issues in original and imaginative ways	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event
B5	Critically engage theories and methodologies relevant to art and politics and generate intellectual engagement with these through a choice of options	Art and Politics 1: Theory, History, Event; Compulsory practice-based module
B6	Critically and creatively present project work to public audiences	Compulsory practice-based module
B7	Offer reasoned and informed introductions to their projects, in terms of concept, strategy, imagined outcome(s) and audience(s)	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module
B8	Make good use of a wide range of academic, artistic and other agents and expertise in presenting, developing and implementing projects	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module
B9	Produce project-work that satisfies the requirement that work is constructed, organised, or curated in ways that accord with criteria, standards and limits set out within the choice, development and context of students' own research projects and that this is of a standard that meets the expectations of assessors and examiners	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Conceptualise and articulate contemporary theoretical and empirical debates and practices that occur in relation to notions of culture and politics	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module
C2	Creatively apply critical skills to the theory and practice of art and politics	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module
C3	Through material outcomes and evidence, develop a broad reflexive and critical approach to research and in	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	relation to the project element, an ability to take responsibility for this in the context of its public presentation	
C4	Demonstrate an understanding of 'context' and how this bears on the reading, understanding and outcome of activist and project work	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Effectively communicate, explain and debate in a wide range of contexts and with a broad range of interlocutors (from both the fields of art and politics), including designing and producing clear and well-structured written work on specific themes/topics or events	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; elective options; Compulsory practice-based module
D2	Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in effective independent work with the attendant skills of work organisation, time planning, independent decision making and keeping to deadlines under often complex and unpredictable circumstances	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; elective options; Compulsory practice-based module
D3	Work productively in a group, organising and allocating responsibilities and providing mutual support	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module; elective options
D4	The ability to communicate ideas and information through a variety of non-discursive means and with a variety of audiences	Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event; Compulsory practice-based module

In addition to the above learning outcomes, students who successfully complete the MA Art and Politics will also have demonstrated the achievement of the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Methods, concepts and terminologies	Dissertation

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	employed in the study of Art Theory, Visual Culture, Cultural Studies, International Politics and the interpretation of political art / actions in the contemporary world	
A2	Ideologies and theories that have most powerfully shaped and influenced contemporary international political art theory, practices and debates	Dissertation

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	An ability to make sophisticated and discriminating use of the language and concepts found in contemporary international politics and in contemporary art, critical theory and visual culture	Dissertation
B2	An ability to formulate and present views, in a coherent and persuasive fashion, about the relationship between art, politics and broader cultural events	Dissertation
B3	An ability to accurately present and critically evaluate rival views of the 'proper' relationship between art and politics	Dissertation
B4	An ability to undertake independent research – utilising electronic and conventional library resources as well as materials from primary and secondary sources – into the relationship between art, politics, issues and processes	Dissertation

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	The techniques and strategies employed in the making, curating and exhibition of 'work' and how these can be thought about in a variety of public contexts	Dissertation

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	The experience of using research strategies to a level appropriate to progression to doctoral level or in research management	Dissertation
D2	The ability to appraise critically existing studies, evaluate their usefulness, and be able to apply this learning both in critical and practical research projects	Dissertation
D3	The ability to undertake independent research projects through dissertations and project work	Dissertation
D4	The capacity to utilise their experience of using research and practical strategies to a level appropriate to progression to doctoral level	Dissertation
D5	Effectively communicate, explain and debate in a wide range of contexts and with a broad range of interlocutors (from both the fields of art and politics), including designing and producing clear and well- structured written or project work on specific themes/topics or events	Dissertation

How you will learn

The department is strongly committed to the use of seminars in delivering its curriculum at post- graduate level, and in engaging its students in the learning process. All modules provide students with an opportunity to participate in discussions designed to explore and reinforce the knowledge they have gained through reading and making presentations. Seminars use a range of methods including lectures, student presentations, group work, workshops and debates.

The MAAP programme also provides dedicated members of staff who co-ordinate regular weekly (or more frequent) group tutorials for the practical and critical progression of projects. Workshops are designed to complement the regular use of lectures or seminars in that they provide a critical, reflexive environment in which students discuss all aspects of their project work and within this environment.

Individual feedback tutorials are also provided where necessary to discuss and critique individual and project development. These supplement and consolidate knowledge and understanding listed in the learning outcomes.

In recognition of the trans-disciplinary nature of this programme, MAAP students are expected to make regular visits to relevant cultural and other events across London. This ensures that students keep abreast of new artistic practices and strategies and have access to art practitioners and academics. This experience also creates new opportunities for reflection and critical evaluation in related, but different intellectual and critical settings.

Through specialist optional modules, MAAP students are able to access classes which develop critical, creative, practical and reflexive skills in a manner which compliments compulsory elements of the MAAP programme: this includes for example, optional courses which allow students to test ideas, proposals and propositions in relation to environments, outcomes and audiences.

The compulsory project-based element of the MAAP programme sets it apart from many other MA programmes and is designed to develop the students critical, creative, practical and reflexive skills in a manner which compliments and critiques the other elements of the MAAP programme. Project work enables students to test ideas, proposals and propositions in relation to outcomes and audiences. It demonstrates and consolidates commitment to and development of a particular project and necessitates a 'practical' or 'pragmatic' result, wherein a public or audience can encounter it.

Students have high levels of interaction with staff - not only during regular office hours, lectures, seminars and workshops but also in addition to timetabled teaching, MAAP students are able to obtain additional support from academic staff (live, by Skype and on email), through additional project-specific workshops. In some practice-based modules, additional expertise is made available where necessary through Visiting Tutors. Also, some modules employ workshops to help inculcate knowledge and understanding and provide an environment in which students can demonstrate and discuss the requisite subject specific learning outcomes. Workshops provide an environment which is conducive for the learning and teaching of transferable skills, focusing particularly on the preparation for, and feedback from, assessed summative and unassessed formative work.

Each full-time member of the academic staff offers at least two guaranteed office hours per week during term time. Support for independent study is constantly being developed and improved, and students now benefit from the wide range of facilities available in the Rutherford Information Services Building (RISB). The RISB provides access to and advice on the use of a wide range of library and electronic resources. Students have access to the British Library's social science holdings, and the libraries at the London School of Economics and Senate House which together hold an extensive collection of books and journals in the field of International Relations. The department enjoys corporate membership

of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House). This allows students the chance to benefit from the many events hosted by Chatham House as well as use its library which holds an excellent stock of subject specific material. In addition, a wide range of audio-visual materials are available to all postgraduate students within the RISB collection as well as Media training and editing facilities are available as and when students need them during their project-based work. Students can work by appointment with studio staff at the Media Research Laboratories.

How you will be assessed

In order to be eligible for the award of the degree students must achieve a pass in each of the components that make up the degree programme.

Compulsory module 1: Art and Politics 1: Theory, History, Event (30 CATS).

Compulsory module 2: Compulsory practice-based module. Students select from a pool of practice-based modules including the Designing Politics (Group Projects), the Material Encounters (Individual project) and Countermapping*.

Option(s) (60 CATS): Of these, at least 30 CATS must be completed within the Politics and International Relations Department from a list provided by the Department at the beginning of the academic year. The other 30 CATS can be derived EITHER from the list provided by the Department at the beginning of the academic year OR from other modules from other departments in the college approved by the Department of Politics and International Relations but cannot amount to more than 30 CATS from outside the Department.

Dissertation (60 CATS)

* As the Countermapping module offers students a choice to submit either a written or a practice-based assignment, MAAP students will be required to undertake the practice-based assignment.

Outcomes are assessed – both summatively and formatively – through coursework, presentations, written papers, group project work and the dissertation. Student skills in writing are strongly promoted across the programme by the requirement to submit written work in the form of assessed coursework.

Art and Politics 1: Theory, History, Event:

Assessment: One in-depth 4,000-5,000 word essay, delivered at the end of the Autumn term.

OR

One practice-based piece of work and accompanying piece of writing (of 2000 words) that documents, contextualises and critically frames their practical work.

Compulsory practice-based module:

Assessment: Projects have a student-centred material focus, complementing the theoretical emphasis of compulsory and optional modules, and seek to raise awareness of particular issues and draw attention to their position in the public arena. They may be written, broadcast, performed, curated, made, or involve any other kind of appropriately documented submission.

Project work is monitored and co-ordinated by three project module staff who oversee students' individual needs while ensuring that there is continuity of support and that there are opportunities to build upon both individual and collective strengths and weaknesses. It may also be supplemented, where necessary, with additional input from specialist visiting tutors.

Dissertation:

Assessment: Students submit either a 10,000-word dissertation OR a Dissertation by Practice on a topic or project of their choice, which is conducted under the supervision of a member of staff. The criteria for assessing written work are set out clearly in the programme handbook and underline the importance attached by staff to clear expression, informed argument and a rigorous, analytical approach or practice-based methodology suitable to the study of art and politics.

The Dissertation by Practice Option is a multi-modal project, based on a research topic of choice (subject to approval). It is an option for MA Art and Politics students which provides them with an opportunity to undertake an independent piece of research by means other than a 10,000-word written assignment. The Dissertation by Practice option facilitates students who may already have considerable skills in the Art and Politics subject domain, to undertake a practice-based dissertation project, and to do so on an equal footing with those conducting a written dissertation. In particular, it allows students to take advantage of 'doing-thinking' approaches that are otherwise actively encouraged in the MA Art and Politics compulsory practice-based modules or in student's own practices. It enables those invested in practice-based methodologies to undertake an independent research project in ways that combine theory and practice and that incorporate a much larger variety of research-based methodologies. Work for the Dissertation by Practice will be supervised by a member of staff with particular expertise or interest in practice-based research and in the research field chosen for study.

The particular form or mode of inquiry is not prescribed in advance but is negotiated in consultation with an appropriate Dissertation by Practice Supervisor, as befits a multi-dimensional research project.

Dissertation by Practice Documentation and an accompanying contextual statement must be submitted in time for the Dissertation module deadline, in order to be available for the External Examiner and Second Marker.

In addition to summative forms of assessment, students benefit from formative assessment in the shape of feedback and discussion that is designed to facilitate improvement of their subject specific skills through a critical and constructive appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of their written work, their contributions to seminar discussions; project-based work and accompanying workshops as well as oral presentations. Student powers of self-expression, along with their willingness and ability to participate in open discussions, are developed throughout the degree programme. Members of the academic staff offer specific guidance for students designed to assist and encourage them to develop their range of skills. Tutors are available to support postgraduates and serve as an important source of individual guidance to students about such matters as time management, information management, use of bibliographical resources and the development of analytical and communication skills.

Specifically, knowledge and understanding and subject specific skills are assessed in coursework essays, presentations and the dissertation insofar as the demonstration of these learning outcomes provides evidence that students have acquired the requisite knowledge to be awarded the degree. Cognitive skills are also assessed by the dissertation and the module essays with particular attention in essays and the dissertation. Transferable skills are assessed through all forms of assessment on the module. These pertain especially to the coursework essays and the dissertation, though practice-based modules often offer additional and unique transferable skills. Oral communication skills are assessed formatively via seminar presentations and discussions.

Marking criteria

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
80-100%	Distinction (Outstanding/ Exceptional)	Represents the overall achievement of the learning outcomes and the skills below to an exceptional level.
70-79%	Distinction	Represents the overall achievement of the learning outcomes and the skills below to an excellent level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and logical argument with appropriate linkages • Analytical use of key concepts in exposition • Appropriate location in relevant literature

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relation of theoretical and empirical material • Location of subject within a wider framework of debate • Good use of theory in structuring hypotheses • Skilled application of selected research techniques • Thorough organisation and planning • Location and use of source materials • Implementation of strategies for collecting information • Clarity of expression and appropriate use of language • Accuracy in spelling, grammar and punctuation • Consistency and thoroughness in referencing and bibliography
60-69%	Merit	<p>Represents the overall achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes to a good level. There will be very good use of many or most of features outlined above. However some aspects will be less fully realised. The work will not be as strongly original, distinctive or individual as a 70%+ grade answer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall structure of the argument is clear and coherent • Evaluative use of key concepts • Location of argument within relevant literature • Awareness of relation between theory and empirical data • Knowledge of position of subject matter in wider debates • Use of theoretical material in structuring hypotheses • Application of selected research techniques • Effective organisation and planning • Accessing relevant sources • Competent implementation of strategies for collecting information • Clarity of expression • Appropriate spelling, grammar and punctuation • Consistent use of referencing and bibliography
50-59%	Pass	<p>Represents the overall achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes to a threshold level. There will be good use of some of the features of a 70%+ grade answer. However, some elements will be only partially realised. The work will not contain any serious omissions or irrelevancies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the argument will be clearly structured • Understanding and recognition of key concepts • Recognition of most of the relevant literature

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited, though fairly sound, use of theory and empirical data • Some understanding of wider debates surrounding the subject • Limited use of theory in structuring hypotheses • Satisfactory use of chosen research methods • Reasonable organisation and planning • Accessing some relevant sources • Limited use of strategies for collecting information • Reasonably clear expression • Mostly correct spelling, grammar and punctuation • Referencing and bibliography broadly in line with guidelines
30-49%	Fail	<p>Represents an overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes. There may be errors, omissions or irrelevancies and significant elements of the learning outcomes and skills will be unmet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unclear structure and logical progression • Limited understanding of key concepts • Limited recognition of relevant literature • Uneven use of theoretical and empirical materials • Little understanding of wider debates surrounding the area • Uneven application of theory in structuring hypotheses • Uneven application of selected methods • Limited organisation and planning • Limited accessing of relevant sources • Lack of clarity in expression • Mistakes in spelling, grammar and punctuation which impede clarity • Referencing and bibliography only partially accurate
10-29%	Bad fail	<p>Represents a significant overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes. Students will show minimal or no evidence of knowledge or understanding of key themes and issues. The work will suffer from one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure and logic are weak and muddled • Very limited understanding of key concepts • Little recognition of relevant literature • Little use of theoretical and empirical material • Very little understanding of the subject in the context of wider debates • Very limited application of theory in structuring hypotheses

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor application of selected research methods • Disorganised research and lack of planning • Little accessing of relevant sources • Unclear expression which distorts argument • Many mistakes in spelling, grammar and punctuation • Little accuracy in referencing and bibliography
1-9%	Very bad fail	<p>A submission that does not address the specified learning outcomes (shall be deemed a non valid attempt and the unit must be re-sat). The work will suffer in some degree from most or all of the characteristics below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure and logic are very unclear • Little or no understanding of key concepts • Very poor or no recognition of relevant literature • Very poor or no use of theoretical and empirical material • No recognition of subject in the light of wider debates • Poor application of theory in structuring hypotheses • Very poor application of selected research methods • Very poor organisation and planning • Very poor or no accessing of relevant literature • Very unclear expression which distorts argument • Very poor spelling, grammar and punctuation • No referencing or bibliography
0%	Non submission or plagiarised	A categorical mark representing either the failure to submit an assessment or a mark assigned for a plagiarised assessment.

How the programme is structured

Duration of Programme of study

Full-time: one calendar year or Part-time: two calendar years

Progression Requirements:

Part-time students take compulsory module ‘Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event,’ (30 CATS) in the first year. Normally, a further 30 (elective) CATs are undertaken in the first year. In their second year, part-time students take a further (normally) 60 (elective) CATs and the dissertation (60 CATS). The dissertation must be completed and submitted by the end of August in the year of completion.

Part-time students must pass modules to the value of 60 credits (including one compulsory module) in order to progress to the second year of the programme.

All students* must pass modules to the value of 90 credits (including both compulsory modules) in order to progress to the dissertation.

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Art and Politics 1: Theory and History	PO71016A	30	7	Compulsory	1
Compulsory practice-based module from a pool of options including Counter-Mapping: The Politics of Space*; Designing Politics (Group Project) or Material Encounters (Individual Project)		15 OR 30	7	Compulsory	1-2
Dissertation	P071020B	60	7	Compulsory	3
Optional modules to a value of either 60 or 75 CATS, at least 30 CATS of which should be from within the Department of Politics and International Relations		60 OR 75	7	Optional	1-2

* As the Countermapping module offers students a choice to submit either a written or a practice-based assignment, MAAP students will be required to undertake the practice-based assignment.

Academic support

Support for learning and wellbeing is provided in a number of ways by departments and College support services who work collaboratively to ensure students get the right help to reach their best potential both academically and personally.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor (one in each department for joint programmes) who has overall responsibility for their individual progress and welfare. Personal Tutors meet with their student at least twice a year either face-to-face, as part of a group and/or electronically. The first meeting normally takes place within the first few weeks of the autumn term. Personal Tutors are also available to students throughout the year of study. These meetings aim to discuss progress on modules, discussion of the academic discipline and reports from previous years if available (for continuing students). This provides an

opportunity for progress, attendance and assessment marks to be reviewed and an informed discussion to take place about how to strengthen individual learning and success.

All students are also allocated a Senior Tutor to enable them to speak to an experienced academic member of staff about any issues which are negatively impacting their academic study and which are beyond the normal scope of issues handled by Programme Convenors and Personal Tutors.

Students are provided with information about learning resources, the [Library](#) and information available on [Learn.gold \(VLE\)](#) so that they have access to department/programme handbooks, programme information and support related information and guidance.

Taught sessions and lectures provide overviews of themes, which students are encouraged to complement with intensive reading for presentation and discussion with peers at seminars. Assessments build on lectures and seminars so students are expected to attend all taught sessions to build knowledge and their own understanding of their chosen discipline.

All assessed work is accompanied by some form of feedback to ensure that students' work is on the right track. It may come in a variety of forms ranging from written comments on a marked essay to oral and written feedback on developing projects and practice as they attend workshops.

Students may be referred to specialist student services by department staff or they may access support services independently. Information about support services is provided on the [Goldsmiths website](#) and for new students through new starter information and induction/Welcome Week. Any support recommendations that are made are agreed with the student and communicated to the department so that adjustments to learning and teaching are able to be implemented at a department level and students can be reassured that arrangements are in place. Opportunities are provided for students to review their support arrangements should their circumstances change. The [Disability](#) and [Wellbeing](#) Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

The [Careers Service](#) provides central support for skills enhancement, running [The Gold Award](#) scheme and other co-curricular activities that are accredited via the Higher Education Achievement Report ([HEAR](#)).

The [Academic Skills Centre](#) works with academic departments offering bespoke academic literacy sessions. It also provides a programme of academic skills workshops and one-to-one provision for students throughout the year.

Links with employers, placement opportunities and career prospects

The programme is especially attractive to those who have a passionate interest in both art and politics. Arts and Politics alumni have found employment in museum and gallery curating, project management, journalism, law, non-governmental organisations, biennials, higher education, media (broadcast, digital and traditional) public relations, as well as disparate positions in a range of other institutions, associations and outlets. MAAP graduates have had disproportionate success in procuring doctoral funding and fellowships.

In addition to this, project work offered by MAAP optional modules affords many valuable opportunities for liaison with a wide range of professionals: for example, projects have involved collaboration with organisations and institutions such as London Eye, Museum of London, Palace of Westminster, Millwall FC, Wormwood Scrubs and a variety of synagogues, restaurants, NGOs and art-collectives (amongst others). Students also benefit from direct engagement with artists, activists, architects, curators, dramaturges and performing arts professionals.

The requirements of a Goldsmiths degree

All taught postgraduate degrees have a minimum total value of 180 credits and involve one calendar year of full-time study. Some programmes may extend over more than one calendar year and, when this is the case, they have a higher total credit value. Programmes are composed of individual modules, each of which has its own credit value. Part-time students normally take modules to the value of 90 credits each year. If a programme has a part-time pathway, the structure will be set out in the section “How the programme is structured” above. Normally, all modules are at level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications.

More detailed information about the structure and requirements of a Goldsmiths degree is provided in the [Goldsmiths Qualifications and Credit Framework](#).

Modules

Modules are defined as:

- “Optional” – which can be chosen from a group of modules
- “Compulsory” – which must be taken as part of the degree

Progression

Some programmes may require students to pass specific modules prior to completion of the dissertation/major project (or equivalent). Additionally, where a programme of study extends beyond one calendar year, students may be required to pass specific modules in their first year of study before progressing to the second year. Where this is the case, these requirements will be set out in this Programme Specification.

Award of the degree

In order to graduate, students must successfully complete all modules specified for the programme, as set out within the section “How the programme is structured” above.

Classification

Final degree classification is calculated on the basis of a student’s mean average mark (based on credit value) across all modules on the programme.

Masters degrees are awarded with the following classifications:

Distinction – 70%+

Merit – 60-69%

Pass – 50-59%

More detail on the [calculation of the final classification](#) is on our website.

Interim exit awards

Some programmes incorporate interim exit points of Postgraduate Certificate and/or Postgraduate Diploma, which may be awarded on the successful completion of modules to the minimum value of 60 credits or 120 credits respectively. The awards are made without classification.

When these awards are incorporated within the programme, the relevant learning outcomes and module requirements will be set out within the “What you will be expected to achieve” section above.

The above information is intended as a guide, with more detailed information available in the [Goldsmiths Academic Manual](#).

Programme-specific rules and facts

General programme costs

In addition to your tuition fees, you will be responsible for meeting standard costs associated with your study. Find out more information at gold.ac.uk/programme-costs.

Specific programme costs

In addition to these standard costs, you will also be expected to meet some costs which are specifically related to your programme, which are set out below:

In some modules there are occasional local field trips to support your studies and the cost of these are no more than the price of a Zone 1-4 London travel card. These modules are: Counter-Mapping: The Politics of Space; **Material Encounters: Individual Project**; Designing Politics: Group Project. If you choose to study either the individual or group project module, you will be supported with a small budget for your project. This budget will be decided based on an assessment of the project's needs, and if you decide to go beyond this budget you will need to fund this yourself.

How teaching quality will be monitored

Goldsmiths employs a number of methods to ensure and enhance the quality of learning and teaching on its programmes.

Programmes and modules are formally approved against national standards and are monitored throughout the year, such as in departmental committees, a variety of student feedback mechanisms and through the completion of module evaluation questionnaires. Every programme has at least one External Examiner who reviews comments annually on the standards of awards and student achievement. External Examiner(s) attend Boards of Examiners meetings and submit an annual written report.

Modules, programmes and/or departments are also subject to annual and periodic review internally, as well as periodic external scrutiny.

Quality assurance processes aim to ensure Goldsmiths' academic provision remains current, that the procedures to maintain the standards of the awards are working effectively and the quality of the learning opportunities and information provided to students and applicants is appropriate.

Detailed information on all these procedures are published on the [Quality Office web pages](#).