MRes Art

Programme specification

1. Programme details

Item	Information
a) Programme name (incl. pathways):	MRes Art
b) Programme code(s)	TBC
c) Programme credit value(s)	180 CATS 90 ECTS
d) Programme author(s)	Joseph Noonan-Ganley
e) Entry requirements	BA or above in Art or Art History/Theory or a related subject area with a minimum second-class standard. Or those with a track record of closely related professional practice demonstrating equivalent levels of expertise. This could take any form. We will assess any documentation or samples of your work, which could include exhibited, performed or published material or work that has been shared in other ways. In exceptional circumstances we will consider a body of work that hasn't been exhibited or published.
f) Academic year effective from	2027-28

2. Programme Aims & Overview

Aims

The Master of Research in Art is a studio-based programme for artists, writers and practitioners working across all media who wish to develop the research dimensions of their practice. The programme aims to prepare you to undertake sustained, practice-led art research, supporting the development of material, spatial, performative and experimental approaches to enquiry.

The programme challenges conventional divisions between artistic disciplines, fostering dialogue and exchange across media and encouraging you to take artistic and intellectual risks. Through engagement with contemporary and historical art research practices, you will develop critical awareness of the distinctive methodologies of artistic research and learn to situate your own practice within relevant debates and discourses. Among other subjects the research methods seminars introduce examples of art research practices that engage interdisciplinary methods.

You will be supported to develop innovative approaches to questioning, experimentation and knowledge production through your work. The programme also aims to equip you with the skills required to articulate and

communicate your research through proposal writing, funding applications and preparation for doctoral study, providing pathways into research careers, further academic study and engagement with major arts and research funding bodies.

Overview

The Master of Research in Art is a distinctive and interdisciplinary programme grounded in the School of Art's tradition of student-centred studio pedagogy. Designed for practitioners working in all media and genres, it provides an environment in which artistic research is explored through making, writing, experimentation and critical reflection. If you are a writer, you will be allocated studio space alongside practitioners from other disciplines, reflecting the programme's commitment to challenging boundaries between artistic forms, and exploring process in practice. Writing is considered a practice-based medium and is tested through studio work, collective forums and exhibition presentations alongside other artistic mediums (painting, sculpture etc).

Teaching is delivered through tutorials, collective forums, lectures and workshops. You will develop a substantial body of contemporary art research, supported by textual exposition and research proposal writing. Throughout the programme, you will be encouraged to work inventively with materials, processes, contexts and modes of presentation, while critically engaging with the wider field of contemporary artistic research.

The curriculum introduces you to the distinctive characteristics of artistic research, which works through materials, objects, actions and encounters rather than relying solely on conventional question-and-answer models of enquiry. You will explore experimental modes of investigation and knowledge production, developing new methods, techniques and insights through the process of practice itself. Exhibitions are staged throughout the course and are a vehicle for testing of art research in any medium – sculpture, writing, performance etc.

Alongside the development of your research project, you will learn proposal-writing and funding application skills relevant to doctoral study and external funding opportunities. The programme familiarises you with the research frameworks and terminology used by organisations including Arts Council England, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Wellcome Trust, the British Academy and the Leverhulme Trust.

This programme differs from a Master of Fine Art in the class of degree (research) and the focus of the curriculum (research practice).

3. External reference

Item	Information
a) FHEQ Level of Award:	7
b) UCAS Code(s):	N/A
c) HECoS Code(s):	100059
d) QAA Benchmark group:	Art & Design

4. Awards

Item	Information
a) Awarding institution:	Goldsmiths, University of London
b) Teaching institution:	Goldsmiths, University of London
c) Home School:	Art **If other, name here:** N/A
d) School(s) also involved in teaching of the programme:	1. None 2. None 3. None **If other, name here:** N/A
e) Entry awards:	☐ Foundation Cert ☐ CertHE ☐ DipHE ☐ PGCert ☐ PGDip
f) Interim exit awards:	☐ Foundation Cert ☐ CertHE ☐ DipHE ☒ PGCert ☒ PGDip
g) Final awards:	Master of Research in Art PGDip Art Research Practice PGCert Art Research Practice

5. Delivery

Item	Information	
a) Language of study:	English	
b) Valid intake points in year:	☐ January ☒ Sept/Oct ☐ Other If other, specify: N/A	
c) Mode of study:	On Campus Indicate the overall balance of teaching modes in the rows below. Row d) shows total hours of directed learning, with e) and f) showing how this is broken down in in-person vs. online learning, in hours and percentages.	
d) Total hours directed learning/year	**405**	
e) In-person hours	405	100%
f) Online hours	0	0%
g) Pace of study:	☐ Full time ☐ Part time	
h) Duration of programme	Full time: 12 ☐years ☒months Part time: 24 ☐years ☒months	
i) External accreditation:	N/A	
j) Apprenticeship Standard:	N/A	

6. Programme Learning Outcomes

Also, see the curriculum map at the end of document.

For UG exit awards, Learning Outcomes must be achieved in the level indicated below:

- CertHE = Level 4
- DipHE = Level 5

Learning outcomes are grouped in categories of:

- **Declarative learning** - knowledge, thinking & facts (D1-3)
- **Functional learning** - application of knowledge, thinking & facts (F1-3)
- **Professional and transferable skills and behaviours** (P1-3)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

	Learning Outcome	Level	Graduate Attribute
D1	Develop knowledge of the critical concerns of your art research practice.	7	Responsible agency
D2	Compose an understanding of your work's critical relationship to historical and contemporary art research practices.	7	Diversity of perspective
D3	Create your own original methods applicable to identified art research contexts.	7	Political in the personal
F1	Apply feedback to critically evaluate your art research and the art research of your peers.	7	Collaboration
F2	Adjust the methods and materials of your art research in response to feedback and critical evaluation.	7	Responsible agency
F3	Form relations between your art research methods and situate these links critically.	7	Diversity of perspective
P1	Act autonomously, taking creative risks with your processes, materials and staging strategies.	7	Diversity of perspective
P2	Generate self-initiated aims and work requiring complex planning, organisation and production.	7	Responsible agency
P3	Demonstrate discursive inventiveness in applying existing knowledge to new contexts.	7	Responsible agency

7. Programme Structure

For Undergraduate programmes (UG), each level must amount to at least **120 CATS** (60 ECTS).

Postgraduate (PGT) programmes must amount to at least 180 CATS (90ECTS), with exception to interim exit awards.

Programmes are staged in **Phases**, where each Phase relates to an exit award.

Compulsory modules must be taken by all students.

Option modules – you must choose one or more of the options available to this programme at this level and point. The option modules available from this list may vary from year to year, depending on student numbers and staff availability. Selection takes place during your studies, not before.

Programme structure notes (where relevant):

The description of intended work submitted as part of your application will be evolved into a full-scale long-term research proposal throughout the programme, through the Art Research Proposal Writing element.

Your own art research practice is the focus of the programme and it is through this that the other writing components are taught. Therefore, all parts of the programme are taught through each other, where testing, feedback and developments are reciprocally rewarding for the practice and written elements.

Studio space is central to the programme, and allocated to all students, where there are no divisions between forms of artistic work. Through making processes in the studios and APAs you will generate work that forms your project. This is tested in Collective Forums (crits and in termly exhibition presentations.

The programme is continuously assessed through a combination of Formative (focus on feedback and development, no grades), and Summative (graded and feedback). Some formative assessments are formally structured with published submission point, and others are less formal tasks that may be given by the tutor.

You will receive continual feedback from tutors and peers across all elements of the programme and through the use of shared facilities. Additionally, you receive written feedback at key assessment points.

Progression for PT year 2 is dependent on students passing all elements of PT year 1.

In the event of you needing to exit the programme before completion, you will be eligible for either a Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert – 60 CATS), or a Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip – 120 CATS).

To qualify for a PGCert Art, your Formative assessments in Term 1 will be graded and treated as summative assessments. For a PGDip your Formative assessments from Terms 1 will be graded and treated as summative alongside the Term 2 summative assessments.

Phase 1

Module Name	Code	Credit	Level	Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Master of Research in Art	TBC	180	7	Compulsory	Multi	Y1&Y2	N/A

8. Learning, Teaching & Assessment

Learning & Teaching methods

Teaching will be via a range of formats to be as relevant as possible to the topic and learning outcomes. This may be through workshops, practical labs, lectures and seminars. It may have a mix of in-person and online activities, designed to give you the best learning experience and to make the

most out of your learning experience. You are expected to attend all of your timetabled learning activities.

Specifically, this programme will be taught in the following ways:

- One-to-one tutorials
- Group tutorials
- Supervision from student-selected visiting tutors
- Collective Forums
- Art Practice Tutors and Art Practice Areas
- Studios
- Research Methods Seminars
- Lectures

Assessment modes and approaches

You will be assessed in a range ways throughout your course including continual assessment which reflects your participation in each scheduled activity as well as your ongoing self-directed studio practice. These will be both Formative (for feedback and development), and Summative (required to pass and progress to the next level). Summative assessments are compulsory.

Feedback is a crucial part of your learning and development in this programme. You will receive feedback both on your Formative (work in progress) tasks/assessments, and your Summative (graded) assessments. This feedback will help the assessment to be a part of your learning, not just a test. It may be verbal, written or video based. Verbal feedback is given by staff, students and visiting tutors across tutorials, studio conversations, collective forums, seminars and workshops. Please engage with this feedback to improve your future work.

Specifically, this programme will be assessed in the following ways:

Full Time (one year)

	Art Research Practice	Art Research Methods	Art Research Proposal Writing
Weighting	75%	15%	10%
Term 1	Formative (0% weighting) Exhibition presentation of methods/processes of practice	Formative (0% weighting) Research text	Formative (0% weighting) Draft summary
Term 2	**Summative** (20% weighting) Public exhibition presentation	**Summative** (15% weighting) Research text	**Summative** (10% weighting) Research proposal

Term 3	**Summative** (55% weighting) Final exhibition presentation art research practice		

Part Time (two years)

	Art Research Practice	Art Research Methods	Art Research Proposal Writing
Weighting	75%	15%	10%
Year 1 **Term 1**			Formative (0% weighting) Draft summary
Year 1 **Term 2**	Formative (0% weighting) Exhibition presentation of methods/processes of practice	Formative (0% weighting) Research text	
Year 1 **Term 3**	**Summative** (20% weighting) Public exhibition presentation		
Year 2 **Term 1**			
Year 2 **Term 2**		**Summative** (15% weighting) Research text	**Summative** (10% weighting) Research proposal
Year 2 **Term 3**	**Summative** (55% weighting) Final exhibition presentation art research practice		

Assessment diet (number of assessments for compulsory modules)

Mode	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Total
Coursework	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exam	0	0	0	0	0	0
Live	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portfolio (multi-modal)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Practical / multimedia	0	0	0	0	3	3
Written	0	0	0	0	4	4
TOTAL:	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**7**	**7**
Of which…	**Individual:**	**7**	**Group:**	**0**		

9. Other information

Item	Information
a) Assessment regulations	https://www.gold.ac.uk/gam/taught-programmes/assessment/
b) Placement opportunities	N/A
c) Programme-specific requirements	You will be expected to be on campus in the Art studios for full days throughout the course of study.
d) Programme specific costs and resources	Students are expected to fund the purchase of any art materials and items needed for their exhibition work.
e) Employability and potential career opportunities	This programme provides students with the skills and experience to develop a research project evidenced through art making and writing. Through the perspective of research, graduates will be able to demonstrate the importance and significance of their work in the discipline of contemporary art, and learn how to write research proposals, funding applications and PhD applications. Graduates will have access to the alumni website and exhibitions hub, supporting practice and projects beyond graduation. They will be equipped to establish their professional art practices through their newly acquired research skills, as well as secure funding in a variety of highly competitive academic and non-academic fields. Transferable skills acquired on the programme facilitate diverse employment opportunities for our graduates, for example: • Arts council bursaries and project awards • Residencies and open calls • Artist commissions & exhibition fees • PhD programmes, scholarships and grants • Primary investigator, partner and collaborator roles on research grants • Sale of artwork via national and private collections • Research assistants (e.g. for art research projects, interdisciplinary projects and major artists) • Research fellowships • Researcher activities associated with lecturing roles in universities • Publishing and writing in journalism and criticism contexts • Cultural policy makers • Establishing, working in and directing public and private arts organisations • Research consultancy for government, local councils, and private companies • Post-doctoral fellowships

10. Academic support

There is a range of support available to you to give you the best possible chance of success in this programme.

Please see your tutors and student portal/VLE for details of what's available and how to access this support.

11. Curriculum map

Programme Learning Outcomes assessed by each module:

Module name	Code	Type	D1	D2	D3	F1	F2	F3	P1	P2	P3
Master of Research in Art	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒