

MA ART AND SCIENCE



MA Art and Science

Awarding Body	University of the Arts London
College	Central Saint Martins
School	C School
Programme	CSM Art (L027)
Course AOS Code	CSMMAASCX01
FHEQ Level	Level 7 Masters
Course Credits	180
Mode	Extended Full Time
Method	Face to Face
Duration of Course	2 years
Teaching Weeks	60 weeks
Valid From	2025/26
Collaboration	N/A
UAL Subject Classification	Fine Art
PSRB	N/A
Work placement offered	N/A
Course Entry Requirements	<p>The standard entry requirements for this course are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An honours degree <p>Or</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an equivalent EU/international qualification. <p>AP(E)L – Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning</p> <p>Exceptionally applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements may still be considered. The course team will consider each application that demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related academic or work experience • The quality of the personal statement • A strong academic or other professional reference <p>Or a combination of these factors.</p> <p>Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case.</p> <p>English language requirements</p> <p>IELTS level 6.5 or above, with at least 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking (please check our main English language requirements webpage).</p>
Selection Criteria	<p>We select applicants according to potential and current ability in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quality of your practice • Ability to devise and develop a self-directed programme of study • The ability to develop and contextualise work in written form • The ability to analyse and evaluate in both visual and oral terms • Eagerness to contribute to the learning environment at postgraduate level. <p>What we are looking for</p> <p>We are seeking imaginative, curious, resourceful individuals who are committed to exploring the interrelationships between art and science and developing practice within a fine art context.</p>

Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

Year 1

Awards	Credits
Postgraduate Certificate (Exit Only)	60

Year 2

Awards	Credits
Postgraduate Diploma (Exit Only)	120
Master of Arts	180

Scheduled Learning Split by Level

Level 7	12%
Total Scheduled Learning Split	12%

Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	Develop your creative abilities to instigate and produce work that is innovative, critical and explores the boundaries and contexts of contemporary art and science.
Aim	Enable you to evaluate and position your work within a contemporary critical framework, and in relation to climate, social and racial justice.
Aim	Prepare you for ongoing professional practice or for progress to research degree registration.
Aim	Provide you with a challenging, supportive and inclusive educational environment for the production of art and related research.
Outcome	Initiate, manage and realise a purposeful and feasible programme of original creative practice.
Outcome	Develop research and practices that engage in and/or critically examine the field of art and science.
Outcome	Articulate an in-depth critical understanding of theories, contextual issues and debates relevant to your practice.
Outcome	Demonstrate a highly developed and appropriate synthesis of practical, research, evaluative and reflective skills.
Outcome	Communicate creative concepts, complex knowledge and critical thinking effectively through visual and written forms.

	Distinctive Features
1	A dynamic environment: Art & Science is part of the Postgraduate Art Programme which also includes MA Fine Art, MA Fine Art: Digital, MA Contemporary Photography, MRes Art: Exhibition Studies, MRes Art: Moving Image, and MRes Art: Theory and Philosophy. This creates a dynamic context for the exploration of interdisciplinary practice and discourse within contemporary culture.
2	Personal and professional development: The extended full time mode provides flexibility for students to manage time, to engage with extended professional and study opportunities provided by your personal context and the programme community, and to devote time for personal and professional development.
3	A rich space for innovation: A pioneering art course that responds to a fast-emerging territory for interdisciplinary and collaborative art practice. The course interrogates the creative relationships between art and science and explores methods and concepts that can lead to innovative outcomes in practice and research.
4	Critical approaches: MA Art and Science is distinguished by its support for: enquiry and exploration into art and science approaches; how scientific ideas may inform and provoke the making of art, and how practices in art and science can intersect; interdisciplinary making; interrogation of the relationship between the studio, the laboratory and the field; cultivating critical thinking in art and science practices in a time of extreme environmental and social change.

Course Detail

MA Art and Science explores the creative relationships at the intersection of art and science in their broadest forms, examined through an evolving interdisciplinary practice. On this course you will investigate new approaches to making and presenting work and explore the different contexts where practice takes place, triangulating between the studio, the laboratory, and the field.

The course questions established forms of knowledge construction and considers interdisciplinarity, co-creation, and knowledge-sharing as inextricable to the imagining of possible futures. It brings together a diverse cohort of students from different disciplinary and cultural backgrounds, foregrounding an integrative approach driven by curiosity, enquiry and research.

On MA Art and Science, you will consider ways to understand, represent and reinterpret the world through your practice. You will question how the immeasurable can be defined; the invisible envisaged; the senses extended, and perceptions tested. The course structure encourages you to investigate and interrogate contemporary and historical systems of knowledge from both art and science contexts.

The relationship between art and science expands the boundaries of understanding and invention and challenges our view of the world. In the current context of multiple complex global challenges, the MA Art and Science foregrounds ethical, philosophical, and practical questions, inviting innovative contributions that embrace the sciences in the broadest sense and explore what it means to be human in a time of extreme change and uncertainty.

What to expect

Critical and creative investigation: The curriculum emphasises these skills and supports the development of hybrid methodologies and critical thinking through making.

Experimentation, practical processes, research, reflection, analysis, and peer exchange: These approaches will support you to develop an independent, sustainable, and resilient practice that is positioned in relation to contemporary discourse and futures thinking.

A focus on modes of exhibition and presentation: through events such as the Open Studio and postgraduate Interim Show.

Industry experience and opportunities

You will explore how research and production can have implications for discovery and invention across disciplinary fields, and will be encouraged to connect with artists, scientists, institutions and organisations, and develop a professional network that supports your practice.

MA Art and Science is situated within the Art programme at Central Saint Martins alongside MA Fine Art, MA Fine Art: Digital and MA Contemporary Photography; Practices and Philosophies. Shared Guest Lectures and opportunities to show and present your work offer occasions for cross-course engagement

Cost of study

You will need to cover the cost for materials used in making your work, cost of study, therefore, is contingent on the nature of your practice. We promote a sustainable use of resources and success on the course is not dependent on expensive materials.

Course Units

MA Art and Science supports the development of your practice, through production and ongoing critical evaluation. The course is structured around 4 Assessed Units which are supported by a series of teaching events, including personal tutorials, seminars, workshops, group crits and external events. The units explore key ideas and critical issues and involve a range of specialist staff.

Project-work is introduced during Unit 1 to support the development of your independent practice, by helping you to structure and manage your work and to articulate your concerns as they change and develop. Year 1 is more intensively taught and includes introductions to key workshops. Year 2 continues with a combination of taught and more independent study as you further develop and realise your research and practice.

Unit 1: Enquiry Through Interdisciplinary Practice

In this unit, through a series of projects and experimentation, you will explore emerging discourses in art and science, complemented by practical workshops and introduction to cultural venues and collections relevant to art and science. Teaching is delivered through discursive seminars, lectures, workshops and group and individual projects. These provide a critical context for your research and practice and address different approaches to research methods and to making.

Unit 2: The Collaborative Unit

This unit provides opportunities for cross-course creative and collaborative practices in relation to global challenges. The unit explores a range of thematic, experimental, and applied approaches to cross-disciplinary research, enquiry, and knowledge exchange. The aim is to establish a framework for co-operation and social responsibility across the College in relation to our shared values.

Unit 3: Independent Project: Developing Interdisciplinary Practice

Unit 3 explores the relationship between research and practice. You will conduct a focused investigation into a self-identified area of enquiry, leading to a research paper, the development of practical artwork and a proposed study plan for Unit 4.

In this unit you will build a body of knowledge to support your area of enquiry and outline a critical context in which to situate your practice. Intentions will be articulated for the future direction of a body of resolved work.

Progress is supported through tutorials, critiques, seminars, external visits, and student-directed group discussions. You will have a personal academic tutor who will guide the progress of your focused research. Sessions are designed to support experimentation and reflection, helping to set the agenda for your work in Unit 4.

Unit 4: Independent Project: Realising Interdisciplinary Practice

In the final unit, you will be supported in the production of a body of self-directed work building on developments from previous units. You will engage audiences through diverse means of public dissemination and presentation. Seminars relating to continuing professional practice will offer guidance for your future development post graduation. Tutorials will enable you to review progress toward achieving your goals. This unit asks you to consider different forms of dissemination for your work and includes the possibility of collaborating with students or others to prepare and curate your work for presentation and a public audience in the Showcase.

Teaching Events

Personal Tutorials are a chance for you to share your ongoing developments and plans, and receive direct feedback from the tutor.

Group Crits are an important opportunity for you to share and critique your developing work with peers and tutors and to test the work physically in the studio.

Lecture and Seminar Programmes take place throughout the course and help contextualise and broaden your practice and its contextual references.

Postgraduate lectures offer the opportunity for all members of the MA-level Art programme to meet for debate and engage with contemporary issues that are

shared by all disciplines. Additionally, Art programme-wide lectures are delivered by guest artists.

Open Studios are an opportunity for students to share their work-in-progress in the studios with other courses and an external public. The Open Studio is a small publicly facing event, focusing on the development of your work, and developing self-organisational skills.

Workshops and technical inductions help introduce you to the core creative workshop facilities available in college, including The Grow Lab: a Containment Level 1 biology laboratory focused on sterile work, microbiology and microscopy relating to art and design. Alongside inductions arranged by the course, you are encouraged to independently engage with technical spaces where additional support is often available at a local level.

Independent and collective working. An important emphasis of the course is self-organisation and co-operative working. As you develop more independence over the course, you will also have opportunities to engage with a variety of projects or practices that involve a level of co-operation and collective working.

Exhibitions and public facing events. There are a number of publicly facing exhibitions and events during the two years. These opportunities bring together students from across the Central Saint Martin's postgraduate Art programme and include the Interim Show (Year 1), Editions (Year 2), and the Showcase (Year 2). These events depend on students' collective participation.

- **Interim Show** provides you with opportunities for sharing practice and experience with the broader post-graduate community across the art programme. It creates an opportunity to test your ideas outside of the studio context and consider audience engagement with your developing work.
- **Editions** is an annually changing public-facing event which gives you direct experience of commercial enterprise. Based on the format of an edition, each student will produce a number of prints which will be for sale. All second-year students contribute to the preparation and running of the event. Proceeds contribute to further student Showcase activities.
- **Showcase** takes place at the end of the course and is an opportunity to show your work publicly. The exact format and location is determined each year.

Optional opportunities: Throughout the course there may be elective and/or mandatory projects that arise, providing you with additional opportunities to expand and develop your practice. Previous examples have included international projects, external exhibitions and publications, interdisciplinary partnerships, and site-specific events in both real and virtual environments.

Students are also encouraged to independently engage with opportunities for further collaborations, project work, exhibitions, and research outside of the course, programme, or college, but must however inform their tutor and Course Leader and ensure it does not affect their ability to engage with the course.

Library Access: You have access to all 8 UAL libraries, each with unique and distinct collections. Check [opening hours for each campus library](#) online.

[ASK online library chat](#) is the best way to get help from the library and learning zone quickly. Any queries that can't be immediately answered by the wider library team will be forwarded on to your course librarian.

Need help getting started with research? The [Fine Art](#) and [Bio/Art Design](#) subject guides can direct you to relevant print and e-resources.

Your librarian can support you in your research and purchase books for your course. [Contact your librarian here](#).

For information on materials research, as well as tours, tutorials and consultations of the Materials and Products Collections, please consult our dedicated [subject guide](#).

Important note concerning academic progression through your course:

If you are required to retake a unit you will need to cease further study on the course until you have passed the unit concerned. Once you have successfully passed this unit, you will be able to proceed onto the next unit. Retaking a unit might require you to take time out of study, which could affect other things such as student loans or the visa status for international students.

CSM Academic Support is delivered by a team of academics and practitioners working alongside your course to help you progress and achieve your maximum potential as a student. Academic Support can help you to develop your skills in different areas, including critical thinking, research and writing, time management, presentations and working independently and collaboratively. These may be offered as part of your timetabled classes or as bookable tutorials and workshops.

Mode of study

MA Art and Science is offered in extended full-time mode which runs for 60 weeks over two academic years. You will be expected to commit 30 hours per week to study, which includes teaching time and independent study.

Year 1 is more intensively taught, including introductions to technical workshops.

Year 2 continues with a combination of taught and increased independent study time as you develop and realise your research and practice.

The course has been designed in this way to enable you to pursue studies, while also undertaking part-time employment, internships, or care responsibilities.

Credit and award requirements

The course is credit-rated at 180 credits.

On successfully completing the course, you will gain a Master of Arts (MA degree).

Under the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, an MA is Level 7. All units must be passed in order to achieve the MA but the classification of the award is derived from the marks for the third and fourth units.

If you are unable to continue on the course, a Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert) will normally be offered following the successful completion of 60 credits, or a Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip) following the successful completion of 120 credits.

Learning and Teaching Methods

The learning and teaching methods devised for this course include:

- Studio meetings, briefings, and discussions
- Inductions and technical workshops
- Lectures and guest speakers
- Collaborative and collective work
- Personal and group tutorials
- Crits and peer evaluations
- Seminars, presentations and sharing events
- Blended delivery; most sessions are on-campus with some seminars and meetings taking place on-line
- Independent study
- Recommended reading and viewing
- Independent project proposals
- Reflective critical evaluation
- Elective and mandatory workshops and projects
- Formative and summative feedback

Assessment Methods

Formative and Summative Assessments holistically assess a number of different formats, including:

- Research and preparatory work
- Outputs from group project work
- Physical work and its documentation
- Verbal and visual presentations
- Written work
- Independent project proposal
- Participation in activities and debate
- Reflective self-evaluation
- Realisation of individual programme of practice

Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- The Learning and Teaching policies of the University of the Arts London
- College policies and initiatives
- UAL Framework for Embedding the Principles for Climate, Racial and Social Justice
- Teaching and Learning Curriculum Design toolkits and advisory methods
- HE Level Descriptors
- Staff team expertise
- Experience of contemporary art & science practice
- College Quality, Teaching and Learning expertise
- External professional organisations

Course Diagram

MA Art and Science – PLEASE NOTE DUE TO VACATION DATES, SPECIFIC DELIVERY WEEKS MAY CHANGE.

S = Summative Assessment

LEVEL 7 - Year 1																														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Unit 1: Enquiry Through Interdisciplinary Practice (40 credits)									S		S		Unit 2: The Collaborative Unit (20 credits)						S	Unit 3: Independent Project: Developing Interdisciplinary Practice (60 credits)										
LEVEL 7 - Year 2																														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Unit 3 continued				S		S				Unit 4: Independent Project: Realising Interdisciplinary Practice (60 credits)														S		S				

The University will use all reasonable endeavours to provide the Course and the services described in this Output. There may be occasions whereby the University needs to add, remove or alter content in relation to your Course as may be appropriate for example the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body, or in response to student feedback, or to comply with applicable law or due to circumstances beyond its control. The University aim to inform you of any changes as soon as is reasonably practicable