



MA DESIGN: CERAMICS, FURNITURE, JEWELLERY



Top: Ye byeol sim
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MA Design: Ceramics, Furniture, Jewellery

Awarding Body	University of the Arts London
College	Central Saint Martins
School	S School
Programme	CSM Product, Ceramic and Industrial Design (L032)
Course AOS Code	CSMMADESX02
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	3D Design and Product Design
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 • The quality of the design research focus • 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 (International English Language Testing System) 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>
<p>Selection Criteria</p>	<p>The application, indicative design research focus and the portfolio will be assessed in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analytical and critical skills in combination with your ability to apply these to the project focus. • The quality of the design work submitted in support of the application and the 'match' between this and the MA Design (Ceramics, Furniture, Jewellery) Course aims. • Open and flexible in your attitude to exploration, ideation and new contexts and challenges. • The suitability, appropriateness and deliverability of the project in relation to the professional contexts. • Awareness of the historical, cultural and social implications of your project focus (including sustainability and ethicality). • The resource implications of the project focus and the ability of the applicant and the course to support the practical realisation of the project.

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	22%
Total Scheduled Learning Split	22%

Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	To deepen and develop your understanding of your design and discipline practice within a framework defined by the demands of your project focus, appropriate specialist and interdisciplinary professional practice and a thorough understanding of your target marketplace.
Aim	To enable you to deepen your understanding of, and focus your creative identity within personal and collaborative contexts.
Aim	To develop your subject specific research, analytical skills and critically reflective judgements to evaluate and examine design thinking for contemporary and future practice.
Outcome	Understanding and engagement with key theories, contextual, and critical discourses at the forefront of your discipline. (AC: Knowledge)
Outcome	Ability to systematically implement and evaluate a range of research techniques and methodologies in your practice; demonstrating the abilities to develop and implement innovative actions that further sustainability at the project level and further afield. (AC: Process)
Outcome	High level skills of self-direction, experimentation and informed decision making; demonstrating integrated problem-solving to develop viable, inclusive, and equitable design responses that promote sustainable development. (AC: Enquiry)
Outcome	Ability to generate, effectively communicate and present creative solutions within defined constraints to both specialist and non-specialist audiences. (AC: Communication)
Outcome	Ability to effectively locate yourself within the discipline and profession. Demonstrating the ability to understand and evaluate multiple futures – to create one's own visions for the future; to apply the precautionary principle; to assess the consequences of actions; and to deal with risks and changes by evaluating the potential impact of your practice on or beyond the discipline. (AC: Process)
Outcome	Ability to learn from others to understand, relate to and be sensitive to others (empathic leadership) and to facilitate collaborative and participatory problem solving. (AC: Realisation)

	Distinctive Features
1	Multiple disciplines framed within one ethos. MA Design principally considers three areas of practice – ceramics, furniture or jewellery – each with rich traditions of material creativity and innovation. Opportunities emerge within and between disciplines, encouraging hybrid practices to disrupt assumptions.
2	Personal and responsive. Ideas that seemed unimaginable at the outset iterate through design-led investigations as concepts are exposed to alternative futures. This adventurous space offers insights and great opportunities, developing models into working prototypes through practical iteration and reiteration.
3	Design is transformational, of individuals, enterprises, publics, services and the practice of design itself. MA Design explores entrepreneurial models and sustainable approaches, developing innovative, creative, attuned and articulate practitioners. Through rigorous, reflective and speculative processes, we define ethical and resilient futures.
4	Agile practices. Within the Product, Ceramic and Industrial Design program, we celebrate diverse cultural perspectives, differing knowledges and remain continually curious. We are pro-active in seeking contributors to enrich the diversity of debate from design industries, theories and communities.
5	Global Networks. MA Design embraces social, cultural, material, economic and technological innovation. Understanding specialist knowledges empowers generative research and practice insights. Positioning your ideas and artefacts in the wider world, design transformations actively support diverse communities and entrepreneurial innovations.

Course Detail

MA Design: Ceramics, Furniture, Jewellery will develop your creative abilities, imagination and expertise. Framed within one course, we use design to explore these evolving disciplines, embracing ideas of practice beyond traditional definitions. This creates a range of hybrid practices disrupting assumptions around design, craft and production.

Your creative focus will evolve through a structured process of research, design ideation, exploration, development and evaluation. Encouraging you to expand skills intellectually, contextually and practically, extending and exploiting design strategies from your own and other disciplines. To question and test ideas through teamwork, collaborations and group critiques.

We embody design as a process and a practice of transformation. We view design as research in and for practice, as modes of thinking, as ways of communicating to diverse audiences.

The sustainability and ethicality of production is an urgent challenge to each of our disciplines. We are interested how this challenge shapes all forms of manufacturing – from master craftsmanship, artisanship and the hand-made to factory production and contemporary technologies. In single artefacts, mass-market delivery and all stages in-between.

The nature of production and consumption constantly changes, in the face of complex social, economic, environmental challenges and technological innovation. What could or should be the role of the ceramic, furniture or jewellery designer in the twenty first century? By engagement, reflection, negotiation and evolution, we challenge you to shape the future.

Re-framing a discipline or industry, places emphasis on strategic awareness within design and requires a set of responsive, generative and critical skills to complement your creative process and material knowledge.

We encourage you to question who you are as a designer. How will you shape your discipline? Will you design for a market-led focus, collaboratively with industry partners, regeneratively for a community of practice or identify ways forward as a thought and practice leader?

Course Units

MA Design: Ceramics, Furniture, Jewellery begins with your project focus. Discussed on entry, this initial vision develops into a plan of action. The three units of the course guide the development of your research and design direction, from research and design investigation through trialling and experimentation, to your final high-level resolution.

Design Research is a wide-ranging activity which includes visual, social, cultural, economic, material and technological information interrogated and explored through the design process itself.

Developing a strategic awareness of your professional potential by reviewing international trade events, seminars, production facilities, materials sourcing, technological advances, sustainable and ethical debates, exhibitions and social and retail environments both digital and tangible. This process is supported by lectures, seminars, peer presentations and tutorials and your explorations in studio practice.

Critical thinking is central to the course ethos and practice. You will be encouraged to draw on the full range of your experience, resources and abilities.

Unit 1: Exploring the Landscapes

The essence of Unit 1 is the introduction to a whole new world of possibilities.

Designing from day one, Unit 1 explores and interrogates a diverse range of design and research methods, skills and techniques relevant to designers of ceramics, jewellery or furniture.

Unit 1 orientates your practice and yourself within the course and develops your contextual, critical and research skills at the onset of your postgraduate experience. It will integrate you directly into the course postgraduate community and will include a period of introduction to the course, the College and University resources and London's design cultures.

Unit 2: Dreaming Big

Building your confidence and pushing the boundaries of your ambition.

Unit 2 is divided into two sections, Speculative Futures in the summer term Year 1, Materials Matters in the autumn of Year 2. Unit 2 focuses on reflectivity, contextualisation and positioning in response to the design research directions developed in Unit 1.

This unit incorporates personal and professional development, entrepreneurship and innovation. Exploring, interrogating and reflecting on the diverse range of

production and delivery methods for contemporary materials and digital practice. Engaging with emerging sustainability and ethical standards in global production.

Unit 3: Moving on Up!

Unit 3 brings your project focus to a practical and critically reflective conclusion, evidencing how you have specified, managed, implemented, and evaluated a Self-Directed Design Project. Producing high level practice outcomes and evidence of understanding the value generated in your design process and outputs, in diverse and variable contexts.

Evaluating the project through a critical lens allows you to plan your next steps beyond CSM. The final stages of the course encourage further personal and professional development. This structure is devised to support your, digital communication, networking, evaluation, resolution and career development to enable you to confidently present, perform and embody your new professional persona.

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 Design: Ceramics, Furniture, Jewellery 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.

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 mark for the final unit only.

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:

- Project brief
- Peer learning
- Research through design and making (see full list in Unit teaching and learning methods)
- Professional panels and mentors
- Studio practice

Assessment Methods

- Critiques
- Feedback tutorials
- Individual design work (2D, 3D, 4D)
- Group design work (2D, 3D, 4D)
- Pin-up and onscreen presentations
- Performances
- Action agreement documents
- Portfolio submission
- A written critical review
- Viva voce interview

Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- The Learning and Teaching Policies of University of the Arts London
- College Policies and Initiatives
- HE Level Descriptors
- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Learning Objectives
- External consultation with design professionals and organisations
- UAL Framework for Embedding the Principles for Climate, Racial and Social Justice

Course Diagram

MA Design: Ceramics, Jewellery, Furniture – 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: Exploring the Landscapes (60 credits)																				S	Unit 2: Dreaming Big (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 2 continued										S	Unit 3: Moving on Up! (60 credits)																			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