



MA FINE ART DIGITAL





MA Fine Art: Digital

Awarding Body	University of the Arts London
College	Central Saint Martins
School	C School
Programme	CSM Art (L027)
Course AOS Code	CSMMAVAFX02
FHEQ Level	Level 7 Masters
Course Credits	180
Mode	Extended Full Time
Method	Low Residency
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	The standard entry requirements for this course are as follows: • An honours degree • Or an equivalent EU/international qualification. AP(E)L – Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning

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: Related academic or work experience • The quality of the personal statement • A strong academic or other professional reference **Or** a combination of these factors. Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case. **English language requirements** 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). We select applicants according to potential and current Selection Criteria ability in the following areas: Demonstrable competencies in your existing practice • The ability and capacity for self-reflection Ambition and research interest Aspiration for a higher level of practice Quality of work

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	14%
Total Scheduled Learning Split	14%

Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	To offer a dynamic online learning environment which enables you to develop your creative practice within a community of practitioners and alongside your existing commitments.
Aim	To provide a culture of both independent and collaborative learning in an academic environment and network actively promoting critical evaluation and reflection.
Aim	To develop high level transferable and professional skills of relevance to expanding agendas for employment, vocation or further research and PhD studies.
Outcome	An independent and individually driven high quality creative practice that engages in or challenges the contemporary field of Fine Art.
Outcome	An advanced, critically informed understanding of your practice and its value as or relationship with research.
Outcome	A highly developed and appropriate synthesis of practical, research, evaluative and reflective skills.
Outcome	Effective communication, in visual and written form, of creative concepts, complex knowledge and critical perspectives, that relate to both contemporary and historical contexts relevant to your practice.
Outcome	An ability to reflect on and engage with the social and ethical responsibilities of the creative practitioner.

Distinctive Features

- Flexible online interactive learning: This established online postgraduate course has a long history of successes with students and alumni from across the world. This MA was one of the first fully online Fine Art postgraduate courses developed in the UK and continues to build on that depth of experience.
- **Extended full-time**: The course structure gives time for risk-taking and reflection in your practice as well as balancing other life and work commitments. The structure and timescale allow for a particular pace of development.
- Learning in Context: The course foregrounds your individual practice and study in relation to your personal circumstances and location. You define and develop your own project to combine your skills, experience and interests, focusing on issues that are relevant to a particular group or audience, and context or site.
- Practice research: The aim is to integrate theory and practice, ensuring that you develop your potential in relation to a clear question, context and methodology. With a research-oriented, interdisciplinary and socially engaged ethos, we focus on innovation and developing deeply a reflective art practice.
- International Community: The course draws from the exchange of diverse perspectives and experiences relating to art making and cultural production of contemporary importance.

Course Detail

MA Fine Art Digital at Central Saint Martins supports a broad range of experimental art practices. It will test and challenge your work, bringing it into a contemporary critical context. Our research-based teaching strategies actively seek to extend your experience and skills. We work responsively to your changing needs as individuals. We also encourage collaborative projects in relation to your work.

Students on MA Fine Art Digital work in many media – including painting, sculpture, print, installation, time-based and digital. Students will critically explore and engage with social, racial, and environmental issues, while negotiating complex cultural and artistic perspectives in the development and creation of their work. Here, art-making is a testing ground for ideas and media. Artists who study with us are open to change – not just in expanding their practices – but also in creating new positions. Our focus is on bringing your work to the critical scrutiny of the academic setting. Through these interactions, you will develop your individual research into a confident, sustained practice.

What to expect

- A supportive but challenging space for investigating your creative practice: a track record of innovative teaching and flexible structure designed for widely accessible learning, allows students to engage from incredibly diverse settings. This offers the enriching experience of collectively exploring what art is in a digital environment. Whatever media you are investigating, the opportunities afforded by the online space are broad and exciting.
- **Diverse approaches to creative practice**: supported by strong critical engagement with contemporary technologies of making and dissemination. Weekly group sessions act as forums for cross-course and transdisciplinary exchange and collaboration.
- A research-intensive study programme: to develop your skills and knowledge of research methods in art-related fields: Your learning will extend across our postgraduate Art programme, offering input from the College's research community. We aim to provide you with a range of opportunities and learning experiences, giving you a broad skill set to go out into professional life.
- A strong emphasis on sustainability and social justice principles: our online course structure and use of open source tools and platforms offer democratic, equitable conditions for students from different backgrounds to study in a low carbon format, prioritising digital rights, privacy, and ethical practices.

Course Units

MA Fine Art Digital supports the development of your thinking and practice. Teaching includes personal tutorials, group critiques, seminars and lectures. Teaching is delivered online in a flexible and adaptable model.

Alongside the regular online sessions there will be the opportunity to engage with some intensive in-person learning activities. Each year there will be a mandatory 1 week short residency of making and study workshops based in London during the Spring term. In addition, students will also have the opportunity to take part in the final year Showcase.

Unit 1: Research, Development and Practice

In Unit 1, you will develop a study statement which gives direction to your practice. You will start and maintain a reflective blog that documents and evaluates your practice-based research. This will form the framework for how you will develop your work in Unit 2.

Unit 2: Knowledge and Communication

The emphasis of Unit 2 is a combination of ambitious practical work and a deepening awareness of the context of your work within a community of practice. This is evidenced in the ongoing use of your reflective blog and active involvement in group discussions. You will also write a research paper which contextualises your practice. Collectively, this forms the foundation for your work in Unit 3.

Unit 3: Reflection and Presentation

During Unit 3, your focus will be on resolving your work in relation to your study statement with a wider contextual understanding. You will present your research as part of a symposium and your practical work in a public exhibition. Consideration will be given to your future practice and personal and professional development.

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 Fine Art Digital is offered as low residency with majority of teaching online with some in-person intensive weeks across the two years. The course is delivered 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.

The online mode works successfully across the world's time zones by carefully timing synchronous weekly group sessions in the afternoon UK time. This allows North and South American students to connect in the morning, European, African and Middle Eastern students through the afternoon and Central to East Asia in early to late evenings. Other activities are asynchronous and can fit around your own commitments.

Students will need an internet connection and computer or mobile device to engage with online learning. Working from their own homes or studios, students will be able to access all synchronous and asynchronous materials online. We emphasise options that are as open and cross platform as possible, using both the University's virtual learning environment and supporting students in building their own, personal learning environments.

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:

- Study statement
- Inductions and Workshops
- Technical Moodle
- Weekly online group sessions
- In-person intensive making and study residential weeks
- Reflective journal/blog
- Personal and peer group tutorials
- Guest speaker programme and seminars
- Participation in debates and discussions
- Research workshops
- Formative assessment and tutor feedback
- Independent learning
- Public engagement

Assessment Methods

- Reflective journal/blog
- Study statement
- Research and preparatory work
- Documentation of work
- Presentations
- Written work
- Realisation of individual programme of practice

Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

QAA Descriptors for Education Qualification, Level 7 Master's Degree:

"Master's degrees are awarded to students who have demonstrated a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice."

"Holders of the qualification will be able to demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level."

 <u>UNESCO's Policy Briefing</u> "Education for Sustainable Development and the SDGs" from 2018.

"Education practice should be framed around using progressive pedagogies and cooperative learning approaches with specific focus on student-centred learning, critical reflection and problem solving."

Art and Design Benchmarking Statement, 2019

"The practice of art and design is a creative endeavour that speculates upon and challenges its own nature and purpose and that demands high levels of self-motivation, intellectual curiosity, speculative enquiry, imagination, and divergent thinking skills. Students learn to recognise the interactive relationship: between materials, media and processes; between ideas and issues; and between producer, mediator and audience. Similarly, art and design practice demands the ability to position the individual's practice within an appropriate contextual framework."

- The Learning and Teaching policies of the University of the Arts London
- College policies and initiatives
- Experience of contemporary fine art practice
- Experience of online learning practice
- External professional organisations
- UAL Framework for Embedding the Principles for Climate, Racial and Social Justice

Course Diagram

MA Fine Art Digital – PLEASE NOTE DUE TO VACATION DATES, SPECIFIC DELIVERY WEEKS MAY CHANGE. S=summative assessment

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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