

Warnborough College Ireland Master of Fine Arts Modules

Program Director: Dr Jill Kiefer
Credits per module: 8 ECTS credits

REQUIRED MODULES LISTING

8 ECTS Credits each

ART 701 STUDIO METHODS, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES FOR PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

This module will refamiliarize students with safe and productive studio work habits. The proper handling of tools and materials for a wide range of media will be discussed. Students will learn all proper safety precautions and will be introduced to the latest in safety equipment. Safe and environmentally sound storage and disposal methods will be discussed, for wet and dry media and materials. Students will also learn the basics of using a variety of new tools and technologies, and alternative materials and mediums. Organization of the studio space, efficient work habits, and the setup and maintenance of an effective professional studio environment will all be covered in this essential module.

ART 702 CRITICAL TERMINOLOGY FOR PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

This module will review the terminology used to discuss art and the evolution of that vocabulary. In addition to defining essential terms, this module will teach students how to properly apply and use them, in various communication modes. In the fast-paced, global environment, it is important for professionals to be articulate about their knowledge, their art, and the work of other artists. This module will include exercises in verbal and written communication on an array of topics in art. This course is a requirement for all MFA graduate students.

ART 703 THE BUSINESS OF BEING AN ARTIST

This module will familiarize students with the many avenues a professional artist can pursue, and will address the responsibilities, advantages, and potential disadvantages in a number of arts related career positions. Areas explored will include fine arts, graphic and design arts, advertising, marketing and promotion, education, arts administration, and travel and tourism, among others. Preparation for careers in specific areas will be discussed, along with additional credentials that might be required, realistic salary expectations, and career path advancement trends. Other topics addressed will include entrepreneurial ventures, niche markets, gallery representation, tailored portfolios, the *curriculum vitae*, and agent or agency representation.

ART 704 TOPICS IN CRITICAL ANALYSIS

This module will familiarize students with the process of critical analysis. Students will be assigned a series of readings, which will then be discussed in terms of their strengths, weaknesses, and overall value. The purpose of this module is to prepare future professional artists for the kind of scrutiny their work might either enjoy or suffer! Critical analyses can be productive or counter-productive, depending upon the motives underlying those analyses, the astuteness of the writer(s), and/or the orientation from which the analyses are constructed. While constructive criticism of the criticism will be encouraged, the primary goal

is not to criticize the critics. Rather, it is to use the body of work addressed to help students understand what their roles, rights and responsibilities are, in the broader context of their public. Individual artistic expression is a right that most of us enjoy. Once an artist places his or her work in a setting where others are asked to view it, however, those viewers then have a right to evaluate the work, from their perspectives. This module will put the role of the artist and viewer into a perspective that is essential for the professional artist to comprehend.

ART 705 BUILDING A PROFESSIONAL PORTFOLIO

This module will guide students through the process of building a portfolio (or portfolios) of their work that is representative of their visions, talents, approaches, skills, and styles. In addition to learning the appropriate methods for formal presentation, students will examine the creative and aesthetic aspects of building a portfolio. Because the portfolio is the artist's resume and will often make the difference between acceptance and non-acceptance, this course is essential to all MFA students. Students will leave this module with the ability to assemble, select, organize, mount and display their art, for professional purposes, in a variety of ways. This module is required for all MFA students.

ARTS 506 WESTERN CULTURAL HISTORY FOR MFA STUDENTS

The first half of this module will survey the great monuments of art and architecture, from its beginnings in caves through the arts of Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece and Rome, Byzantium, the Islamic world, and medieval western Europe. This module will attempt to familiarize students with the ways in which painting, sculpture, and architecture are related to mythology, religion, politics, literature, and daily life. Emphasis will be placed on identifying artistic influences, and the ways in which they are articulated. We will then survey the great monuments of art and architecture, from the Italian Renaissance to the present day. This module is a visual introduction to some of the most well-known artworks and movements in the history of Western art, and the influences which have been passed down to the present day. A primary goal will be for students to identify artists and movements that have influenced their own work.

ART 707 NON-WESTERN CULTURAL ART HISTORY FOR MFA STUDENTS

This module will focus on the history and interpretation of the primary artistic traditions of China and Japan, and on Spanish, Latino, Native American, Pre-Columbian, and African and Oceanic artistic traditions. Special emphasis will be placed on how these cultures are articulated in significant works, and how the art has influenced later artists and movements. Painting, sculpture, and architecture will be examined, along with fine arts forms unique to the respective cultures examined.

ART 708 HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY FOR MFA STUDENTS

This module will provide students with a broad history of photography, following its developments from its inception to the present day. The technical evolution of photography will be examined, along with the applications of photography to subjects once addressed only in the fine arts. Emphasis will be placed on the aesthetic components of photography, and the approaches used to realize them. The eventual acceptance of photography as a valid fine arts form will also be discussed. Photographs of many of the world's greatest photographers will be studied, including such artists as Edward Weston, Arthur Stieglitz, W. Eugene Smith, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Dorothea Lange, Ansel Adams, Margaret Bourke-White, Dianne Arbus and many others. Photography in the

digital age will also be closely examined, along with the impact evolving technologies have had on this fine arts form.

ELECTIVES LISTING

8 ECTS Credits each.

ART 709 ADVANCED TWO-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN

In this module, students will complete four projects designed to incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with two-dimensional design. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the four projects completed. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 710 ADVANCED THREE-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN

In this module, students will complete two projects designed to incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with three-dimensional design. Wet and/or dry media, assemblage, and construction are acceptable. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the two projects completed. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 711 ADVANCED MIXED AND ALTERNATIVE MEDIA

In this module, students will complete three projects (2D or 3D) designed to incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with mixed and/or alternative media. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the three projects completed. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 712 ADVANCED DRAWING

In this module, students will complete four projects designed to incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with drawing. A wide range of drawing media will be accepted. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the four projects completed. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 713 ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

In this module, students will complete one project design, which will incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with industrial design. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and

flexibility in the execution of their work. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the design submitted. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 714 ADVANCED DIGITAL ART OR PHOTOGRAPHY

In this module, students will complete two projects designed to incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with digital art or photography. One project will be an original work, digitally enhanced. The other will be a work of art digitally produced. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the two projects completed. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 715 ADVANCED DRY PASTELS

In this module, students will complete three projects designed to incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with dry pastels (in stick and/or pan form). The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the three projects completed. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 716 ADVANCED LIFE DRAWING

In this module, students will explore the environment in which they place their figures. Students will complete two projects designed to incorporate the principles, techniques, and skills associated with life drawing. The figures will need to be placed in an environment that complements the overall work. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the two projects completed. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria. Students will be able to work in either black and white or color. Students who cannot work with a live model may work from anatomical models, figurative sculpture, and photographs.

ART 717 ADVANCED WATERCOLOUR AND GOUACHE

In this module, students will complete three projects designed to incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with watercolor and/or gouache. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. Students will be evaluated on the basis of the three projects completed. They will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 718 ADVANCED TEXTILE AND FIBRE ART (4 credits)

In this module, students will complete two projects, which will incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with textile and fibre art. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the two projects submitted. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 719 ADVANCED OILS

In this module, students will complete one major project, which will incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with oils, including oil paints, oil pigment sticks, and/or oil pastels. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the project submitted. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 720 ADVANCED ACRYLICS

In this module, students will complete two projects, which will incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with acrylic painting. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the two projects submitted. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 721 ADVANCED PEN & INK

In this module, students will complete two projects, which will incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with pen & ink. One project will be executed in black and white, on paper. The other will employ colour washes and will be completed on a non-paper surface. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the two projects submitted. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.

ART 722 ADVANCED PRINTMAKING

In this module, students will complete one project (a print series of 5) which will incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with printmaking. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the project submitted. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria. Students who do not have access to printmaking equipment will be able to execute their project manually, with results of equal (if not better) quality.

ART 723 ADVANCED GRAPHIC DESIGN ART

In this module, students will complete one project, comprised of a number of elements, which will incorporate the principles, materials, techniques, and skills associated with graphic design. The themes and guidelines of the projects will be defined by the Mentor, with student input. Students will be given great latitude and flexibility in the execution of their works. In this module, students will be evaluated on the basis of the project submitted. Students will be informed at the onset of the evaluation criteria.