

FoCI Aims and Learning Outcomes

This page contains a summary of Learning Outcomes for the FoCI component of the BAHons course overall followed by break-down of specific Learning Outcomes for each year of study.

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

All submitted work is assessed in relation to set learning outcomes for each Year as described in the programme descriptors provided for the Schools of Fine Art and Design. They are summarised here as follows, with particular reference to FoCI criteria:

Knowledge and understanding: Students should be able to demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of art and design history, critical theory and cultural contexts including critical debates and their place in contemporary culture. This should be complemented by an awareness of the historical specificity of art and design criticism which can be applied to the study of objects, practices, social histories, critical frameworks and theoretical perspectives. Students should also be able to demonstrate an increasing knowledge and understanding of appropriate research methods used in the acquisition, analysis and synthesis of source materials for critical writing.

Practice: applied knowledge and understanding: Students should demonstrate an ability to work productively with available resources and to apply basic and increasingly sophisticated methods of analysing art and design objects, practices, social histories, critical frameworks and theoretical perspectives through critical writing and discussion. This should be supported by an ability to interrogate written texts, summarise complex discussion and use a correct referencing system to distinguish and cite the various voices represented.

Generic cognitive skills: Students should demonstrate an ability to generate discussion, ideas and argument in response to written and oral assignments, and to engage with critical judgment made by others.

Communication, ICT, numeracy and literacy: Students should be able to share and convey information using visual, oral or textual presentation methods, as appropriate, and be able to apply basic practical skills in research methods for critical writing, including the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT).

Autonomy, accountability and working with others: Students should be able to exercise increasing initiative and effective time management as they progress through their degree programme. This should be complemented by an ability to work effectively under tutor guidance, in peer groups or as individuals, appreciating the different roles and responsibilities of each participant. This should include an awareness of the significance of ethical issues in fine art practice and design.

YEAR 1

Aims:

1. Introduce students to historical, theoretical and critical studies as contexts for the study of fine art and design.
2. Introduce students to basic information gathering methods relevant to historical, theoretical and critical studies, including the use of information and communication technology (ICT).
3. Support students' development of written, oral and visual communication skills.
4. Introduce students to the importance of self-motivation and effective time management.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this unit students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of some of the key historical periods and developments that inform contemporary practice and theory.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the principle methods of analysing art and design objects.
3. Work productively with available resources.
4. Demonstrate some ability to collate and interpret information using methods relevant to historical, theoretical and critical studies, including the use of ICT.
5. Demonstrate some initiative within the context of directed and independent learning.
6. Convey ideas in a coherent manner and communicate effectively in different contexts – textually, orally and visually.

YEAR 2

Aims:

The aims of Year 1 remain as core and are developed in Year 2.

1. Introduce students to historical, theoretical and critical studies in the context of their chosen fine art or design specialism and in relation to a broad cultural context, focusing on the explication of key theoretical debates surrounding the place of fine art or design in contemporary culture.
2. Develop students' use of information gathering methods and interpretation skills, including the use of ICT.
3. Enhance students' communication skills – written, oral and visual.
4. Encourage students to define and develop their individual interests and perspectives through participation in one discipline-specific and one elective course.
5. Encourage self-motivation and effective time management.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this unit students should have/be able to:

1. Acquired a basic understanding of the critical debates and concepts associated with their specialism and its place in contemporary culture.
2. Demonstrate the ability to participate in discussion and debate which relates to historical and contemporary issues within their specialism.
3. Demonstrate some ability to argue or discuss from a critical perspective through critical writing.
4. Demonstrate appropriate research methods in the acquisition, analysis and synthesis of source materials for critical writing, including the use of ICT.
5. Work independently under guidance and demonstrate initiative in the context of independent learning.
6. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their assessed coursework.

YEAR 3

Aims:

The aims of Year 1 remain as core, advanced in Year 2 and further progressed in Year 3.

1. Advance students' critical and analytical skills in historical, theoretical and critical research and writing.
2. Further develop students' information gathering methods and interpretation skills, including the use of ICT.
3. Further develop students' communication skills – written, oral and visual.
4. Further students' knowledge and understanding of specialist subjects and perspectives in historical, theoretical and critical studies.
5. Encourage a degree of autonomy and effective time management.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this unit students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an increasing knowledge and understanding of the breadth and evolving boundaries of an individually chosen research topic.
2. Gain increasing skill in supporting work through the use of appropriate information and communication technology.
3. Undertake critical analysis, evaluation, and synthesis, of ideas, concepts, information and issues.
4. Exercise some autonomy and initiative in research and manage time effectively.

YEAR 4

Aims:

The aims of Year 1 remain as core, advanced in Years 2 & 3, and further developed and progressed in Year 4, with emphasis placed on the personal development of critical writing in consultation with teaching staff.

1. support students in the research and completion of an independently-generated extended essay, critical journal, curatorial rationale or dissertation
2. ensure that students have effective communication skills – written, oral and visual – with particular emphasis on academic writing
3. encourage autonomy and effective time management

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Articulate and synthesise their knowledge and understanding of an historical and / or theoretical subject of their choice in the form of an extended essay, critical journal, curatorial rationale or dissertation.
2. Take significant responsibility in the personal development of their critical writing.
3. Complete the research project using appropriate research methods and ICT skills.
4. Demonstrate the ability to formulate coherent research questions to direct an independent research project.
5. Articulate ideas through the use of written and visual materials to peers and academic staff.
6. Demonstrate a considered and appropriate evaluation of goals and targets in an increasingly personalised learning environment.