

BA (Hons)

Fine Art



ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH

Programme Specification

This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, graduates, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Whilst every endeavour has been made to provide the course described in the Programme Specification, the University reserves the right to make such changes as may be appropriate for reasons of operational efficiency or due to circumstances beyond its control. Any changes are made in accordance with the University's academic standards and quality procedures.

This document is available in alternative formats on request.

ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

The Programme Specification provides a summary of the main features of the **BA (Hons) Fine Art** course, and the learning outcomes that a 'typical' student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they pass the course.

Further detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching and learning methods of each unit may be found within this Handbook and the online Unit Information, which is available on your course blog.

<u>Key Course Information</u>	
Final Award	BA (Hons)
Course Title	Fine Art
Award Titles	BA (Hons) Fine Art
Teaching institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Awarding Institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Offered in the School of:	Art, Design and Architecture
Professional accreditation	None
Length of course / mode of study	3 years Full Time
Level of final award (in FHEQ)	Level 6
Subject benchmark statement	Art and Design
UCAS code	W100
Language of study	English
External Examiner for course	Rose Butler Sheffield Hallam University
<i>Please note that it is not appropriate for students to contact external examiners directly.</i>	
Date of Validation	1999
Date of most recent review	2018
Date programme specification written/revised	September 2018

Course Description

Practice is paramount. The course actively encourages students to define their own practice by being continually reflexive and innovative.

The course promotes all forms of fine art. Students have to question the shifting dynamics of the cultural, social and political landscapes they are part of. An enquiring mind and a broad curiosity are essential attributes of all the course participants.

BA (Hons) Fine Art provides a platform in which students can investigate and question existing methodologies. The course is committed to promoting dialogue and practice across disciplines by supporting a permeable studio environment.

The course is outward-looking and believes in the adaptability of fine art. An enterprising and professional attitude is fostered to encourage engagement with society and the creative industries.

Course Aims

The course aims to provide an integrated and constructively aligned curriculum in which practice, theory and professionalism are embedded in the creation of artworks. The curriculum provides opportunities to help tailor individual learning routes and to enhance individual thematic interests.

The course intends to develop informed and confident individuals with strong practical and theoretical skills and an awareness of the relationship between the artist and their audience. There are opportunities, within each year, for collaborative practice and for exhibition at a local, national and international level.

In order to evolve independently minded and confident students we encourage a speculative and enterprising approach to making and exhibiting art. We advocate that graduates are proactive and enthusiastic when contributing to society and making career choices.

The course aims to create driven and incrementally autonomous students who think critically and ambitiously about their practice who are prepared for a wide variety of graduate roles.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course you will be able to:

LO1 Learn through making; create inquisitive art that embeds critique (Praxis).

LO2 Understand the value of risk taking in promoting the development of your practice.

LO3 Demonstrate relevant debates and contexts that inform fine art and explore how your practice responds to these.

LO4 Articulate ideas and arguments, both visual and written that are informed by appropriate research.

LO5 Employ resourceful and enterprising attitudes whilst managing your learning and professional career aspirations, including postgraduate level study.

Reference Points

UK Quality Code for higher education, including:

- Subject Benchmark Statement: *Art and Design*
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

AUB Regulatory Framework and Undergraduate Assessment Regulations

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The course contains a rich mixture of taught activities that incrementally build practical and theoretical skills during the levels of the course:

Demonstrations	Making skills are learnt
Workshops	Practical or theoretical projects
Individual tutorials	Discuss academic progress
Group seminars	Talk about art work / practice and ideas
Group critiques	Discuss art work critically and respond to questions
Presentations	Present art work or a slide show to peers
Lectures	Critically engaged visual presentations
Study Visits	To local, national or international cultural places
External projects	Testing art practice through exhibition

These activities can take place both on and off campus and occur over all three years. Importantly, the taught activities run alongside independent study time:

There may also be occasions where digital delivery is appropriate. Where this is the case, this might include on-line lectures, seminars, presentations, and one to one tutorials. It is important that you engage with on-line course delivery in the same way that you would if you were on campus.

Independent study time

Independent study time is of fundamental importance for learning. We facilitate strategies to help students develop and manage independent learning.

Independent study time consists of two main activities:

1. Studio Practice (Praxis)

The skills and knowledge gained from the taught activities help inform individual work. Speculative material investigations take place. Uncertainty must be managed.

2. Contextual Research and Reflection

This can take place simultaneously in the studio and elsewhere, such as the AUB library or other off campus research centres that the student individually selects. We advocate that students conduct primary research. It is also a time to be critically and analytically reflective about all types of work, and to decide on study plans.

The course promotes individual learning and teaching opportunities by adopting a student-centred ethos.

Elective choices can be made within each year of study. These include practical workshops, lectures, seminars, study visits and international university exchanges.

The Course Blog

The Course Blog enhances and supports teaching delivery. Students benefit by having remote access to course information. The Course Blog is continually being developed to meet the needs of the students, providing useful information about the course units.

Assessment

Assessment feedback is designed to enhance learning. We consider assessment to be part of the learning process, and promote deep learning through encouraging students to reflect and discuss their assessment feedback.

There are two main forms of feedback:

1 Formative feedback for learning.

This is developmental, takes place during a unit and can be verbal or written. It is used to help improve learning and to enhance academic performance.

2 Summative feedback on learning.

This is written and specific to the learning outcomes of a unit and takes place when a unit is completed. It is used to give grades for each unit.

Our feedback is constructively critical, helping determine how the student work might progress academically.

Assessment

Each unit is assessed separately, and the assessment forms part of the unit. Assessment both provides a measure of your achievement, and also gives you regular feedback on how your learning is developing.

For every unit of your course, we will inform you of what you are expected to learn; what you have to submit; how your work will be assessed; and the deadline for presenting your work for assessment. This is made available through Unit Information, which is on your course blog.

A minimum of one unit at Level 4 will be assessed on a pass/fail basis, with written feedback but no numerical grade. Details of this will be clearly expressed on the Unit Information Sheet. All other units will be given a percentage mark.

The final mark for each unit will be recorded on your formal record of achievement (transcript). With the exception of the pass/fail unit, each component of assessment is graded using a notched marking scale, whereby only certain marks are used within each grade. The only marks available within any ten-point band are *2, *5 and *8

(e.g. 62, 65, 68). These marks correspond to a low, mid, and high level of achievement within each grade band.

All learning outcomes must be passed to successfully complete the unit.

On successful completion of your Honours degree course, you will be awarded a degree classification based on your unit marks. The final classification is determined using all unit marks at Levels 5 and 6 using two different algorithms, which are detailed in the HE Student Regulations. If the two algorithms produce different results, you will be awarded the higher class of degree.

If you have joined Level 6 through either the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) route or having completed a Foundation Degree (FdA), the final classification is determined using only your unit marks at Level 6.

For further information on assessment, progression, awards and classifications, please visit <https://aub.ac.uk/regulations>

Course Structure

All students are registered for the award of BA (Hons); however, exit awards are available if you leave the course early, having successfully completed one or two levels. If you successfully complete a level of the course, you will automatically be entitled to progress to the next level.

For the award of a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE), you must have achieved a minimum of 120 credits at Level 4. This qualification may be awarded if you leave the University following successful completion of the first year of your course.

For the award of a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE), you must have achieved a minimum of 240 credits of which a minimum of 120 must be at Level 5. This qualification may be awarded if you leave the University following successful completion of the second year of your course.

For the award of a BA (Hons) you must have achieved a minimum of 360 credits of which a minimum of 240 must be at Level 5 or above, of which a minimum of 120 credits must be at Level 6. This qualification will be awarded upon successful completion of your course.

A BA without Honours may be awarded if you have achieved 300 credits, at least 180 of which are at Level 5 or above, and at least 60 of which are at Level 6.

Course Content

Practice

Level 4

You will be based in a mixed discipline studio, working alongside students with varied interests. This encourages the testing of materials, techniques and processes and new approaches to what could be familiar materials. This, for example, could be painting, drawing, sculpture, video, performance, printmaking, sonic art, or a fusion of some of these.

Simultaneously, you will be researching the theoretical and historical context of practice. Towards the end of level 4 you will begin to define your individual area of practice. Teaching will contain a mixture of lectures, workshops, exhibition projects, study visits, seminars, critiques and tutorials. Most activities take place on campus, with some off campus.

Level 5

You will select one of three course zones to work within; Sculpture, Painting or Media and Performance (MaP) As your practice and research develops, you may, at any point, opt to move zones.

Continuing to work in a studio environment you will test materials and ideas, working alongside peers who may have similar material interests but not necessarily thematic interests. Importantly, you will have mixed group critiques from across the zones to allow for a diversity of viewpoints and to enable you to create relationships with peers who have similar thematic interests.

Excitingly, your work will enter the public domain as you will be invited to take part in a substantial off-campus exhibition project. There are several exhibition venues and organisations to choose from, allowing you to align your interests. Your work can respond to the external 'site' or the ideas that are generated from the off-campus venue.

Studying abroad for a period of time is an option that you may apply for, at one of our partner institutions. This would promote a greater awareness of the international context.

Level 6

You may opt to stay in the same studio zone or move. You will have further autonomy over the direction of your practice and your learning. There will be elective exhibition opportunities to test out your practice in a particular context.

This is a period of further experimentation but also one of deep reflection and consolidation, a defining of your professional voice. Bringing together your experiences and knowledge from the previous two years, you will culminate your studies with a celebration of your achievements in the on-campus Degree Exhibition and then in London at the graduate 'Free-range' Exhibition.

Theory

Theoretical research runs simultaneously to your practice. As your studio practice develops and becomes more specific to your individual concerns, so does your research into the theoretical framework which supports your practice. You will progressively deepen your understanding of the fine art context by writing an essay within each academic year. The essays are supported with lectures, study plans, seminars and tutorials. It is expected that other course activities, such as workshops or study visits, will help influence your essay topics.

Professionalism

Throughout the course, you will gain greater knowledge and experience to equip you to become a successful practitioner after graduation.

Professionalism is embedded into the units of the course. There will be specific points where professionalism is emphasised, such as the producing of a professional development portfolio that includes an artist statement, CV and website, or attending a mock job interview and delivering a presentation about your practice.

Course Units

Unit code	Unit Title	Credit Weighting
FAR464	Thinking Through Materials	40
FAR462	Developing Practice	40
FAR463	Establishing Strategies	40
FAR561	Project by Proposal	40
FAR562	Practice in Context	40
FAR563	Research Project 1	40
FAR664	Defining Professional Voice	40
FAR662	Research Project 2	20
FAR663	Final Major Project	60

Course Diagram

This diagram shows the proposed start/end dates for each unit and shows teaching weeks only; holiday periods are not included.

Level 5																														
0	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
Autumn Term											Spring Term											Summer Term								
FAR562 Practice in Context (weeks 1-10) (40 credits)											FAR561 Project by Proposal (weeks 11-30) (40 credits)																			
											FAR563 Research Project 1 (weeks 9-30) (40 credits)																			

Level 6																														
0	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
Autumn Term											Spring Term											Summer Term								
FAR664 Defining Professional Voice (weeks 1-11) (40 credits)											FAR663 Final Major Project (weeks 13-30) (60 credits)																			
FAR662 Research Project 2 (weeks 1-14) (20 credits)																														

