

Applied Art Professional Practice

FA3002

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits¹	10	Programme	BA Applied Art
NQF level	8	School	School of Fine Art
Stage	3	Module Co-ordinator	Dr Helen McAllister
Trimester	Both trimesters	Module Team	Department of Applied Materials staff
Contact	Helen McAllister: mcallisterh@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	The NCAD Academic Council and the School of Fine Art Board have responsibility for this module.		

1. Introduction

Professionalising the Practice

Professional Practice modules are concerned with learning about the mechanics of negotiating, communicating and presentation of oneself to professional bodies and contexts outside of the College and preparing for future career and study strategies. The module offers ways to compile a clear cohesive portfolio, through written and digital formats. The components require active engagement with 'live' applications or bids and evidence of transferable skills relevant to the context of the application or bid.

This module requires archived evidence and participation in NCAD lectures and with studio discipline seminars. This module is not to be seen merely to run parallel to the studio activities, nor solely to careers after college has finished. Instead, the Professional Practice module together with the Studio Research and Practice Resolution modules are holistically informing the nature of the practice.

Along with 'live' bids / applications, students will compile and build their CV, write Artist Statements and bios for their 'portfolio pack'.

Active attendance, in seminars and NCAD lecture series to be documented with investigation of themes and artists of interest, is expected throughout.

The aims of delivering and studying Applied Materials Professional Practice are:

- To develop advanced knowledge of the professional world of contemporary art and relevant design contexts.
- To understand the transferrable skills gained that can be utilised in interdisciplinary contexts and careers.
- To communicate to others the level of critical and contextual awareness and understanding at play in their work and in the work of others.

¹ European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, where 60 ECTS credits equate to the workload of a full-time academic year

- To clarify career intentions, interests and challenges.
- To foster protocols in their disciplines through knowledge of health and safety.
- To help students evolve an individual approach towards constructing a critical framework for their work and developing good working practices.
- To develop skills in documentation and recording of their work and their exhibitions.

2. What will I learn?

On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

1. PARTICIPATE: Evidence critical engagement with the course, visiting lecturers, other key interlocutors.
2. PROPOSE: Discover, identify, communicate and present 'real world' opportunities in the field of art through verbal / CAD presentation.
3. PRESENT: Present a coherent description of your practice, through reflective activity, support references, documentation skills and critical frameworks.
4. REFERENCE: Demonstrate advanced knowledge of the subject field of activity and context.

3. How will I learn?

A 'live' application / bid.

To be reiterated through 'presentation boards'.

Evidence of research, costings, material exploration, outsourcing-collaborations, and sampling realized through CAD skills to a professional portfolio standard. This form of presentation will familiarize the student as to how to edit ideas into an easily read and cohesive narrative that addresses the brief / theme and supplies relevant information with achievable solutions. Digital 'board' presentations, are a normal practice in art and design applications, whether for a commission / commercial brief and or a 'pitch'.

Information needs to be clearly presented to give stakeholders who are often varied and diverse; not always from art and design backgrounds, a way to understand visually the ideas being purposed.

Learning tool	Hours
Lectures, seminars, workshops, presentations, engagement with gallery/museum programmes and sample situations	60
Autonomous Student Learning	140
Total Workload	200

4. What learning supports are provided?

The module is delivered through seminars and tutorial guidance. Staff work closely with students on their writing elements and with their CAD presentation - first with assignments and then with feed-

back in tutorials. Students are encouraged to view outputs as ‘drafts’, as ‘work-in-progress’, allowing for continual reworking, as the student identifies and defines interests and ideas.

There is a mid-trimester Work-in-Progress Review – where any concerns can be noted and remediated. If additional L.S. is required for writing, this can be provided.

Project briefs, Google Drive folder for all students and staff, NCAD library, Lynda.com, ITC lab resources, departmental audio visual equipment, reading lists, screenings, websites including:

- General references where artist communications can be found.
- Visual Artists Ireland e-bulletin: national opportunities, residencies, commissions, exhibitions. Based in Dublin adjacent to NCAD: <http://visualartists.ie/>
- www.artandeducation.net: Distributes information about some of the significant global contemporary art exhibitions, publications, and symposia taking place within educational contexts, as well as academic employment positions available in the visual arts. Based in USA.
- www.e-artnow.org: an independent alternative to existing electronic e-mail art news distribution with a Do It Yourself philosophy.
- www.wooloo.org: connects the resources of more than 22,000 cultural producers internationally. Set up by Danish artists.
- www.e-flux.com: e-flux announcements, distributes information on some of the world’s most important contemporary art exhibitions, publications and symposia.

5. Am I eligible to take this module?

Module Requisites and Incompatibles

Pre-requisites	Students must have completed Year 1 and Year 2 of a BA Fine Art or Design programme. Part-time Route / Transfer or Advanced Entry must have obtained the required credits before being considered.
Co-requisites	Students must study the following modules at the same time as this module, unless they have already successfully completed these modules: Applied Materials Studio Research Applied Materials Practice Resolution Visual Culture Research Project 3
Incompatibles	N/A
Prior learning	Where a student can demonstrate that they have achieved at least 80% of the learning outcomes of this module, by academic certified achievement, or through quantifiable and documented experience, they can apply to the School for that prior learning to be recognised. Applications must be received prior to the commencement of delivery of the module. For further information on recognition of prior learning (RPL), refer to NCAD’s RPL Policy and Practices on the NCAD website.
Recommended	N/A

6. How will I be assessed?

Examination is through your presentation of research and practice. This should be achieved through documentation that evidences your inquiries. That is material which supports the practice interests. All pertinent information to be compiled into a Professional Practice Folder with file headings to reflect seminar / tutorial interests in key artists, exhibition / event manifestations and cultural contexts.

CAD Presentation Boards for Application / Bid: An application / bid / 'pitch', researched in-depth. This could be an application for an award, bursary, residency, gallery prize, commission, open calls etc. For example, Thomas Damman Jnr award, Golden Fleece Visual Arts Awards, Future Makers, Undergraduate Awards, RDS to name a few. This also might be a relevant Erasmus + placement or training in your field outside of Ireland, % for Arts or other grant / funding or scholarship opportunity. Application to be edited into three presentation (PDF) boards.

Two Additional Applications – to differ from the above - these could be applications for postgraduate courses, advanced up-skilling training / an internship / placement (for gallery / community location) to interests in design studios and to places outside of Ireland.

To include evidence of research into and the career strategies and rationale into the selected application, supported by evident of an appropriate portfolio, CV, Proposal / Artist Statements and or letter of Interest.

The written application can be assessed by award criteria / guidelines proposed by project brief, e.g. quality of overall proposal and its potential to be realised, presentation, fluency, accuracy to the awards context and conditions, the ambition and originality of the proposal / interview etc.

Assessment tool	% of final grade	Timing
CAD PDF Presentation Boards Application / Bid 1	50%	Formative review end of trimester1 – Summative Assessment end of Trimester 2
Two Applications / Bid	25%	Summative Assessment - end of Trimester 2
CV/ Artist Bio	25%	Summative Assessment – end of Trimester 2
Total	100%	

Assessment tool	Learning outcomes assessed
CAD PDF Presentation Boards Application / Bid 1	All elements assessed against the Learning Outcomes as holistic and integrated
Two Applications / Bid	
CV/ Artist Bio	

7. Feedback, results and grading

Feedback is given in written form after any work in progress reviews.

Grading of this module is amalgamated with the three other final year module submissions to produce a Grade Point Average (GPS) and the final award (for those pursuing BA Fine Art and BA Fine Art (International)).

The [NCAD Grade Descriptors](#) are used for grading assessment.

8. What happens if I fail?

Opportunities to remediate an unsuccessful assessment depend on the deficit encountered. Resit opportunities will be provided at the end of each trimester to students who do not complete all assessments by the assessment deadline. Students who are unsuccessful at the end of spring trimester and after attempting the resit opportunities may be given the opportunity to resit at the end of summer trimester. This will involve a resit fee. At this point, a student failing substantially would be required to repeat (and attend) one or both trimesters in the following year, and pay the required registration fee.

9. When and where is this module offered?

This module is delivered over the autumn and spring trimesters, in Applied Materials studios, depending on a student's specialisation and using online facilities.

10. How will I have the chance to evaluate the module?

It is important to NCAD that students inform the development of teaching and learning at NCAD. We encourage all students to communicate their concerns and their observations about their study to members of staff so that any changes can be made in a timely manner.

Student Forums: About two-thirds of the way through the year, a student forum will be convened to gather students' comments about their study and the delivery of the programme.

Student Evaluation Survey: At the end of Trimester 2, students have the opportunity to complete an online evaluation of their study and experience at NCAD. These evaluation events are important to current and future students, to ensure we can enhance the delivery of programmes at NCAD.

You are invited to discuss your experience on the module with your lecturers at any point during the year. You can also relay your comments to the class student representative who will communicate your comments to the staff.

**For further details on the content of your module and teaching arrangements,
consult your Programme or Module Handbook**