Professional Practice: Exhibitions
VC2-10

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits[1]	10	Programme	BA Visual Culture
NQF level	8	School	School of Visual Culture
Stage	2	Module Co-ordinator	Emma Mahony
Trimester	2	Module Team	Emma Mahony
Contact	Neasa Travers, Secretary School of Visual Culture: visualculture@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	The NCAD Academic Council and the School of Visual Culture Board are responsible for this module.		

1.   Introduction

The aim of this module is to support students in developing an understanding of a key field of Visual Culture practice – the exhibition – prior to key modules such as the 'placement' in trimester 2 of final year.

Students will propose a project – in consultation with module staff – that culminates in a portfolio of writing and a visual display for a thematic exhibition. The display may be realised or it might take the form of a worked-up and detailed proposal. Through seminar workshops and lecture sessions they will work towards developing an appropriate plan for the realization of this real or fictional project. Where appropriate, students will be given some practical training in software such as Sketch-up. Students will need to take account of questions relating to processes of production, display and distribution, considering the theoretical and ideological issues raised by their project plan, in addition to considering how their project might meet accepted professional standards and relating to existing models in the field.

Live case studies will be presented by guests tutors on the programme with experience of Museum professionals in the fields of curating; exhibition planning and management; engagement and learning; dissemination and interpretation; and marketing."

The aims of this module are:

1. To provide an opportunity for students to test their ideas about the potential of exhibition as the form of intellectual enquiry;

2. To develop and test forms of textual expression in the context of an exhibition

2.   What will I learn?

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

1. RESEARCH: Develop a specific project relating to real-world professional practice contexts.

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

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2. RESEARCH: Establish how to develop appropriate models of professional organisation and distribution for this specific project.

3. ANALYSE: Reflect on the efficacy of specifically applied models of practice in relation to a self-generated project plan.

4. COMMUNICATE: Apply appropriate forms of writing and visual display in the framing and promotion of the project.

5. ORGANISE: Document the selection and use of appropriate resources and co-ordinate these to a professional standard in the real or theoretical realisation of the project.

3. How will I learn?

Learning tools	Hours
Lectures / Seminars	30
Specified Learning Activities	60
Autonomous Student Learning	110
Total Workload	**200**

4. What learning supports are provided?

Students will be set a clear brief which outlines the limits and potential of the work which they will undertake in this elective. They will have opportunities to draw upon the experience and insights of Museum professionals in the fields of curating; exhibition planning and management; engagement and learning; dissemination and interpretation; and marketing during the classes in this module.

5. Am I eligible to take this module?

Module Requisites and Incompatibles

Pre-requisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Incompatibles	None
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.
Recommended	None

6. How will I be assessed?

Assessment tool	% of final grade	Timing
Portfolio of writing and a visual display	100%	week 12
Total	**100%**	

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Assessment tool	Learning outcomes assessed
Portfolio of writing and visual display	All learning outcomes

7.   Feedback, results and grading

The criteria outlined in NCAD Grade Criteria Template (see handbook) will be employed in the assessment of this work. Students' assessments will be graded using the NCAD Grade Descriptors.

The portfolio will include a scale plan of the display space detailing the layout of the exhibition, an illustrated list of works, a catalogue essay introducing the exhibition and a range of the following: a programme of events, a press release, an introductory wall text, extended wall labels for exhibits, a social media marketing plan, a budget or funding application.

8.   What happens if I fail?

Opportunities will be provided during or at the end of Trimester 2 to students who do not complete all assessments in Trimester 1, but students will not be able to progress to the next stage of the programme until they have successfully completed all Year 2 modules, equivalent to 60 credits.

9.   When and where is this module offered?

The module is delivered in School of Visual Culture classrooms and seminar rooms during weeks 1-11 of the trimester.

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.

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. In addition, 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.

In addition, 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**