

Histories of Art and Design 2

VC2-2

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits	10	Programme	BA Visual Culture
NQF level	8	School	School of Visual Culture
Stage	2	Module Co-ordinator	Dr Francis Halsall
Trimester	1	Module Team	Fiona Loughnane, Hilary O’Kelly, David Crowley, Dr Francis Halsall and others
Contact	Neasa Travers, Secretary School of Visual Culture: visualculture@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	NCAD Academic Council and the School of Visual Culture Board are responsible for this module.		

1. Introduction

This module develops and extends students’ knowledge of the phenomenon of modernism in different fields of art and design through the close examination of different cultural phenomena. It will also provide a framework for the analysis of different interpretative frameworks for understanding modernism and modernity. In approaching modernism through a variety of frameworks and perspectives - including formal analysis; influence; cultural and historical significance; relationship to social, historical and cultural contexts; contemporary relevance - the module sets out to explore the complexity and even contradictory claims made for the phenomenon of modernism. It follows on from a first-year module in which the broad historical category of modernity is put under scrutiny (VC1-5). In this way students will be developing greater understanding of historiography.

The class takes the form of a lecture followed by a seminar in which various kinds of historical evidence will be examined (film, textual documents, etc.) each week.

The aims of this module are to:

1. Introduce students to key examples that exemplify and define Modernism;
2. Help students develop their own analytic skills in identifying, encountering and describing objects of art and design;
3. Demonstrate that histories of art and design are partial and often driven by partisan enthusiasms.

2. What will I learn?

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

1. RESEARCH key concepts, theories and methodologies that have informed art and design in the 20th and 21st century, including paradigmatic examples relevant to thinking and writing about modern and contemporary art and design practices.

2. ANALYSE: Apply their own analytic skills to describe and examine modernist objects of art and design and contest, where appropriate, perspectives and interpretations other scholars in a reasoned manner
3. COMMUNICATE: Successfully show how a work of art or design can be understood through a number of frameworks.

3. How will I learn?

Classes will take the form of lectures and seminars. Students will prepare for class by reading key texts.

Learning tool	Hours
Lectures / seminars	33
Specified Learning Activities	33
Autonomous Student Learning	134
Total Workload	200

4. What learning supports are provided?

Materials from the following anthologies are set as required reading:

- Mirzoeff, Nicholas (ed.). *The Visual Culture Reader*, (Routledge, 1998)
- Rampley, Matthew (ed.) *Exploring Visual Culture*, (Edinburgh University Press, 2005)
- Wood, Paul (ed.) *Varieties of Modernism*, (The Open University, 2004)

Students are also supplied with bibliographies and seminar handouts.

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
Illustrated essay	100%	Week 11
Total	100%	

Students are required to submit a 3000-word essay. This involves a critical examination of the conceptual frameworks supplied by other scholars as well as careful object- or image-analysis and description. The essay will be assessed using [NCAD's Grade Descriptors](#). Written feedback will be supplied.

7. Feedback, results and grading

Work submitted for assessment will be graded using [NCAD Grade Descriptors](#).

Please note: students undertaking the electives which form part of this module will be at different stages of their study, and tutors will recognise this in their feedback. For instance, first year students should be able to assess the relative usefulness of the sources with which they work, understanding the different qualities of primary sources and secondary ones., whereas second- and third-year students should be able to demonstrate greater degrees of independence as researchers in the sourcing and selection of such materials.

8. What happens if I fail?

Resit Opportunities

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**