

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Academic School/Department:</b> | Communications, Arts and Social Sciences              |
| <b>Programme:</b>                  | MA in Visual Arts Management and Curating             |
| <b>Level:</b>                      | 7   |
| <b>Course Title:</b>               | Professional Research Project                         |
| <b>Course Code:</b>                | VAM 7500  |
| <b>Course Leader:</b>              | Charlotte Bonham-Carter                               |
| <b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>   | <b>400</b>  |
| Independent / Guided Learning :    | 400   |
| <b>Semester:</b>                   | SUMMER  |
| <b>Credits:</b>                    | 40 UK CATS credits<br>20 ECTS credits<br>8 US credits |

### **Course Description:**

For students working independently on their Masters professional research project. The professional research project encourages students to study intensively a topic agreed with a supervisor, and so develop skills and experience which can be applied in work placements or further graduate work. Students apply their knowledge from across the fall and spring semesters to researching a topic on visual arts management and curating, which may relate to the internship. This course is comprised of intensive and regular meetings on a group and one-to-one (by appointment) basis with a project supervisor to discuss the progress of research, development and writing.

**Pre-requisites and/or Co-requisites:** MA Visual Arts Management and Curating students only

### **Aims and Objectives:**

- For the supervisor to guide the student, as a junior research colleague, through the research, writing and production of an MA level professional research project of 10-12,000 words (or the equivalent of)
- For the student to undertake independent/autonomous research on a professional topic which makes a valuable contribution to the field
- To develop professional skills and experience which can be applied in work placements or further graduate work

### **Programme Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes:

B1, B2, B3, B4, B6

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- demonstrate critically engaged visual literacy including formal analysis
- show systematic, critical engagement with texts and objects
- conduct successful and original research, including the application of appropriate methodologies for locating, assessing and interpreting primary sources
- show excellent writing skills including logical and structured narratives and arguments supported by relevant primary and secondary evidence

### **Indicative Content:**

- production of a professional research project equivalent to a 10-12,000 word Masters thesis, suitably illustrated, evidencing:
- intensive autonomous study of a topic agreed with a supervisor
- primary research making a valuable contribution to the field
- a coherent argument
- appropriate, critical use of secondary sources
- footnotes and a bibliography complying with the Chicago Manual of Style
- satisfactory presentation and scholarly apparatus

### **Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

| <b>FHEQ level</b> | <b>Richmond/UK Level</b> | <b>Normal Number of Items (including final exam)*</b> | <b>Total assessment</b> |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| LEVEL 7           | R500/UK MA               | 2-3   | 5000-7000 words         |

Note: the required word count of the professional research project is 10-12,000 words.

### **Teaching Methodology:**

#### **AUTONOMOUS RESEARCH AND RESEARCH SUPERVISION**

The course will require independent research overseen by a thesis supervisor, tutorial opportunities including with specialist faculty for more specific academic guidance, including comments on draft materials, and faculty and peer review feedback at a thesis conference.

