

## Fine Art Extension Degree Programme Specification

**Awarding Institution:**

University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)

**Teaching Institution:** Goldsmiths, University of London

**Final Award:**

BA (Hons) Fine Art or BA (Hons) Fine Art and History of Art

**Programme Name:** Fine Art Extension Degree

**Total credit value for programme:** 120 credits

**Name of Interim Exit Award(s):** Not applicable

**Duration of Programme:** 1 year (followed by 3 years full-time on the BA (Hons) Fine Art or BA (Hons) Fine Art and History of Art upon successful completion of the first year)

**UCAS Code(s):** W191

**HECoS Code(s):** (100059) Fine Art

**QAA Benchmark Group:** Art and Design, and History of Art, Architecture and Design

**FHEQ Level of Award:** Level 6 (no award made at Level 3)

**Programme accredited by:** Not applicable

**Date Programme Specification last updated/approved:** November 2022

**Home Department:** Art

**Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:**

Centre for Academic Language and Literacies (CALL)

### Programme overview

The FA Extension programme is designed specifically to support international students in preparation for a Goldsmiths Fine Art education. The programme is the first year of a four-year integrated offer. Students who achieve a mark of pass on the BA Fine Art Extension can progress directly onto of our undergraduate Honours Programmes. The BA Fine Art Extension supports students in the transition from highly structured formal education systems to a student-centred curriculum encouraging the development of an independent creative practice.

The pedagogic focus is the individual development of each student with the entire curriculum organised around the students' practice through individual and group tutorials, convenors, APAs, theory and research, artists' talks, workshops and masterclasses, gallery

visits and walks, with the balance between SP and CS achieved by enabling students to develop their individual research, methodology and practice.

This student-centred approach forms the basis of the UG Studio Practice curriculum, designed to encourage students to find an evaluative art language to discuss their own work and that of their peers in which they challenge the norm, make judgements on existing norms, and reflect on their own and others' practice. This is achieved through group sessions, individual tutorials, and at formal presentations, in which the focus of discussion is the students' practice, research and ideas.

The Critical Studies lectures and seminars introduce new concepts in art history including a wide variety of academic disciplines such as anthropology, politics, social sciences, psychoanalysis, architecture, and other subjects that inform contemporary art practice.

The students are supported to acquire written, discussion and presentation skills.

The Portfolio of Art Writing is unique to the Fine Art Extension programme and supports different forms of writing, from poetry, prose to critical writing. It aims to establish a relationship to writing in the art world, as well as reflecting on how new art is written about, and how art is placed or written about culturally.

English for Academic Purposes (EAP) supports students through an art-related curriculum to develop their proficiency in English language in support of their practice.

## **Programme entry requirements**

Successful completion of A-levels (CC) or equivalent, AND a portfolio of recent art work. If English isn't your first language, you will need an IELTS score (or equivalent English language qualification) of UKVI IELTS 6.0 (with no individual score lower than 5.5)

## Programme learning outcomes

### Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	demonstrate an initial knowledge of key artists and a familiarity with the historical and contemporary contexts in which art is made and understood;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0
A2	demonstrate some understanding of how critical and theoretical debates can support your practice and writing;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0
A3	demonstrate a basic knowledge of materials and processes relevant to contemporary art in support of your practice;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0

### Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	make an initial consideration your work and the work of others with reference to the historical contexts of contemporary art;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0
B2	identify relevant historical and contemporary models for understanding and developing your studio practice and writing;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0
B3	consider different feedback on your work and consider it in relation to other working practices;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0

### Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	familiarize yourself with different materials and conceptual approaches in support of your practice;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0
C2	consider a variety of approaches to the technical development of your studio work and writing;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0 Portfolio of Art Writing or English for Academic Purposes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C3	identify and initiate your interests, imagination and personal ideas in your (i) studio practice (ii) essay writing;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0 Portfolio of Art Writing or English for Academic Purposes

## Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	demonstrate an initial commitment to your own practice, research and collaborative working methods through regular attendance and active participation in all tutorials, seminars and lectures;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0 Portfolio of Art Writing or English for Academic Purposes
D2	begin to present and discuss your work with relevance to others;	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0. Portfolio of Art Writing or English for Academic Purposes
D3	make effective use of IT in support of your research and essay writing.	Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0 Portfolio of Art Writing or English for Academic Purposes

## Grading Criteria (undergraduate)

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
80-100%	1st: First (Exceptional)	<p>Work that reflects an exceptional level of achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes. The work demonstrates:</p> <p>original research and a rigorous conceptual understanding of the chosen field.</p> <p>decisions made in the manipulation of the visual material begin to challenge the current limits and make an initial contribution to the field of contemporary art.</p>
70-79%	1st: First (Excellent)	<p>Work that reflects an excellent level of achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes. The work demonstrates:</p> <p>wide research and evidence of a clear understanding of the chosen field.</p> <p>a high level of conceptual rigour that indicates sustained independent study together with an original and imaginative visual interpretation of contemporary art, beginning to challenge the current limits of the field.</p>
60-69%	2.1: Upper Second (Very good)	<p>Work that reflects a very good standard of achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes. The work shows:</p> <p>evidence of very good critical reflection with considered manipulation of the chosen visual material.</p> <p>imagination and indicates that an artistic project has commenced, albeit within known boundaries of the field of study.</p>
50-59%	2.2: Lower Second (Good)	<p>Work that reflects a good standard of achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes. The work demonstrates:</p> <p>an initial understanding , coupled with good overall ability.</p> <p>evidence of imagination and critical reflection with some technical competence in the manipulation of the overall visual material that requires further sustained development.</p>
40-49%	3rd: Third (Pass)	<p>Work that reflects a threshold standard of achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes. The work demonstrates:</p>

		a limited understanding of the field of study.  some manipulation of the chosen visual material indicating an unimaginative response to the practice that readily accepts known boundaries.
25-39%	Fail	Work is unsatisfactory and represents an overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes. The work shows:  scant attention to the critical and practical demands of the practice  no apparent judgement in the manipulation of the visual material.
10-24%	Bad fail	Work that represents a significant overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes. The work shows:  no attempt to address the practical demands of the practice  no judgement or exercise of critical reflection.
1-9%	Very bad fail	Work that does not even attempt to address the specified learning outcomes. Work shall be deemed a non-valid attempt and the unit must be re-taken.
0%	Non submission or plagiarised	A categorical mark representing either the failure to submit an assessment or a mark assigned for plagiarised assessment.

## Mode of study

Full-time, on campus.

## Programme structure

### Full-time mode

### Academic year of study 1

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Studio Practice 0 and Critical Studies 0	FA50012D	90	3	Full-time	1-3
Portfolio of Art Writing	FA50013A	30	3	Full-time	1-3
or					

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
English for Academic Purposes	LS50013A	30	3	Full-time	1-3

## Academic support

Support for learning and wellbeing is provided in a number of ways by departments and College support services who work collaboratively to ensure students get the right help to reach their best potential both academically and personally.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor (one in each department for joint programmes) who has overall responsibility for their individual progress and welfare. Personal Tutors meet with their student at least three a year either face-to-face, as part of a group and/or electronically. The first meeting normally takes place within the first few weeks of the autumn term. Personal Tutors are also available to students throughout the year of study. These meetings aim to discuss progress on modules, discussion of the academic discipline and reports from previous years if available (for continuing students). This provides an opportunity for progress, attendance and assessment marks to be reviewed and an informed discussion to take place about how to strengthen individual learning and success.

All students are also allocated a Senior Tutor to enable them to speak to an experienced academic member of staff about any issues which are negatively impacting their academic study and which are beyond the normal scope of issues handled by Programme Convenors and Personal Tutors.

Students are provided with information about learning resources, the [Library](#) and information available on [Learn.gold \(VLE\)](#) so that they have access to department/programme handbooks, programme information and support related information and guidance.

Taught sessions and lectures provide overviews of themes, which students are encouraged to complement with intensive reading for presentation and discussion with peers at seminars. Assessments build on lectures and seminars so students are expected to attend all taught sessions to build knowledge and their own understanding of their chosen discipline.

All assessed work is accompanied by some form of feedback to ensure that students' work is on the right track. It may come in a variety of forms ranging from written comments on a marked essay to oral and written feedback on developing projects and practice as they attend workshops.

Students may be referred to specialist student services by department staff or they may access support services independently. Information about support services is provided on the [Goldsmiths website](#) and for new students through new starter information and induction/Welcome Week. Any support recommendations that are made are agreed with the student and communicated to the department so that adjustments to learning and teaching are able to be implemented at a department level and students can be reassured that arrangements are in place. Opportunities are provided for students to review their support arrangements should their circumstances change. The [Disability](#) and [Wellbeing](#) Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

The [Careers Service](#) provides central support for skills enhancement, running [The Gold Award](#) scheme and other co-curricular activities that are accredited via the Higher Education Achievement Report ([HEAR](#)).

The [Centre for Academic Language and Literacies](#) works with academic departments to provide bespoke academic literacy sessions. It also offers a programme of academic skills workshops and one-to-one provision for students throughout the year.

## **Employability and potential career opportunities**

The Extension degree in Fine Art prepares students for progression to the BA Fine Art programme or BA Fine Art & History of Art. It is the start of their preparation for life-long learning, and puts in place the foundations to help them gain the ability and confidence to earn their living by being flexible, self-motivated and multi-skilled. The experience of the programme helps students to develop as autonomous individuals, with valuable skills for the changing work place.

The world of work is changing rapidly. Employers want people who can and are willing to learn, adapt and develop to the particular needs of the moment.

Art defines itself against a background of the past and re-defines itself within a changing present. The ability to recognise the significance of change as a fundamental component of self-development is crucial, both in the making of art, and in enabling the student/artist to contribute to the wider culture and economy.

The Extension degree enables students to progress to the BA Fine Art or BA Fine Art & History of Art programme, which provide students with more than a disciplinary knowledge. Students also learn the language that identifies them as members of a particular community of critical practitioners with shared intellectual and economic concerns. It grows knowledge of critical themes and an awareness of the protocols and relevant social procedures that underpin current professional life.

On both the Extension degree and the Undergraduate Programme Fine Art practice is represented to the student through a living network of individual practitioners, institutions, galleries, museums, granting agencies, and critical journals - that define and re-define the boundaries of an expanding field. It is this matrix that constructs the concerns of the community, and that is also responsible for circulating and communicating shared values. The Degrees help individuals make the connection between life-long learning, the wider culture and personal prosperity within the creative economies.

The Extension degree and Undergraduate programmes aim to equip students with the necessary skills to develop independent thought and confidence in their practice. They ultimately prepare the students for post-graduate study and further autonomous learning. Many students continue to be successful practising artists after their final graduation. Six winners of the Turner Prize studied at Goldsmiths, including three from the undergraduate programmes, and since 1991 nineteen alumnae from the undergraduate programmes have been short-listed. The success of our students continues to be reflected in current exhibitions at home and abroad.

The Department works within a thriving and multi-faceted University, allowing undergraduates to benefit from the relationship that Art has with other disciplines of study and academic work. The programmes are committed to giving the students skills to enable them to be active in many career paths.

Graduating students have been successful in fields including museums, galleries, curating, education, music, media and the creative industries.

The mixture of academic and practical elements of the course provides the opportunity for the students to discover and develop a wide range of communication and transferable skills to enable them to practice independently as artists, writers and creative individuals beyond graduation. This will increase opportunities for students to find productive employment within the burgeoning creative industries.

## **Programme-specific requirements**

The programme comprises of three elements: i) Studio Practice, ii) Critical Studies and iii) English for Academic Purposes or A Portfolio of Art Writing. These must all be passed at 40% or above in order to successfully complete the course and proceed to the next Level. Marks achieved on the Extension degree do not carry forward to the assessment of the students' degree should they progress to the BA (Hons) in Fine Art or the BA (Hons) in Fine Art and History of Art.

In order to proceed to Level 4 it is necessary for both parts of the Studio Practice element at Level 3 and for the Critical Studies element at Level 3 to each be passed at 40% or above

and for those students with an IELTS score of less than 6.5, in order to pass the English Language component students need to gain a minimum of 40% in all four sub-tests. For those students whose first language is English or whose IELTS score is above 6.5, in order to pass they must gain a minimum of 40% in the Portfolio of Art Writing.

In the case of Studio Practice, it is possible, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners, to resit the Presentation at Level 0 in late summer, with penalty applied. It is not possible to resit the Coursework part of the Studio Practice element. In the case of Critical Studies at level 3, following the failure of a valid attempt it is possible, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners, to resit with penalty applied, in late summer. In the case of English Language, following the failure of a valid attempt it is possible, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners, to resit any part at Level 3 in late summer, with penalty applied. In the case of the Portfolio of Art Writing it is possible, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners, to resit this element in late summer, with penalty applied. Marks achieved at this level are multiplied by particular weightings.

## **Tuition fee costs**

Information on tuition fee costs is available at: <https://www.gold.ac.uk/students/fee-support/>

## **Specific programme costs**

In addition to these standard costs, you will also be expected to meet some costs which are specifically related to your programme, which are set out below:

Access and support in all of the art practice areas is included in the cost of your tuition fees. However, you are responsible for providing the materials you choose to work with. A range of materials are available to buy in the practice areas, or you may choose to purchase materials from elsewhere. Reading material is available digitally, however printed copies are available to purchase from the department at less than cost price.