

## COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

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

**Academic School/Department:** Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

**Programme:** MA in Art History and Visual Culture

**Level:** 7

**Course Title:** Contemporary Art

**Course Code:** AVC 7104

**Course Leader:** Eszter Steierhoffer

**Student Engagement Hours:** 200

Seminars: 39

Tutorials: 6

Independent / Guided Learning : 155

**Semester:** SPRING

**Credits:** 20 UK CATS credits  
10 ECTS credits  
4 US credits

### **Course Description:**

Engages students with the diversity of contemporary artistic practice in an international setting, situating this historically, conceptually and theoretically. Students will consider critically the diversity of and interface between contemporary visual practices on a global scale, situating these within current theoretical concerns, and examining a wide range of case studies and the social, cultural and political issues emerging from these. Extensive use will be made of London's galleries and thriving multicultural contemporary art scene, with examples drawn from such case studies as the Middle East, Africa, India, China, Russia, Europe and the USA.

**Pre-requisites and/or Co-requisites:** MA Art History and Visual Culture students only

### **Aims and Objectives:**

- To introduce students to the diversity of contemporary artistic practice
- To explore the international setting of contemporary art
- To examine the historical, conceptual and theoretical context of contemporary art
- To analyse the social, cultural and political issues emerging from contemporary art practices
- To consider the representation of contemporary art in museums and galleries
- To engage critically with texts and objects
- To develop students' visual literacy including formal analysis

**Programme Outcomes:**

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

A3, A6, B1, B2, B4, B5

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 critical intellectual awareness of contemporary art and its circulation in the global dealer-critic system
- show a sophisticated understanding and appreciation of a multidisciplinary culture
- deploy sophisticated visual literacy including formal analysis
- show systematic, critical engagement with texts and objects
- show excellent writing skills including logical and structured narratives and arguments supported by relevant primary and secondary evidence
- demonstrate professional presentation skills including verbal visual analysis, communicated clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences

**Indicative Content:**

- diversity of contemporary artistic practice
- international setting of contemporary art
- historical, conceptual and theoretical context of contemporary art
- social, cultural and political issues emerging from contemporary art practices
- representation of contemporary art in museums and galleries
- visual literacy including formal analysis
- critical engagement with texts and objects

**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	R7000/UK MA	2-3	5000-7000 words

1500 word review of a current gallery show:	40%	due week 5
3000 word research essay:	50%	due week 14
10 minute oral presentation with written notes:	10%, sign up for one presentation (weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14)	

