

## **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>	Extended Professional Research Project
<b>Course Code:</b>	VAM 7550
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Charlotte Bonham-Carter
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	<b>600</b>
Independent / Guided Learning :	600
<b>Semester:</b>	SUMMER
<b>Credits:</b>	60 UK CATS credits 30 ECTS credits 12 US credits

### **Course Description:**

For students working independently on their Masters professional research project. An extended project equivalent to a 15,000-20,000 word thesis is offered as an alternative to the mandatory internship. 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 autumn and spring semesters to researching a topic on visual arts management and curating, which may relate to their work experience. This course is comprised of intensive and regular meetings on a 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 offered only as an alternative to those not taking the internship.

### **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 15,000-20,000 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 15,000-20,000 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 15,000-20,000 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.

**Bibliography:**

Barnet, S. *A Short Guide to Writing About Art* (Fifth Edition) (New York: Longman, 1997).

