



Contemporary Art Angles

Module Coordinator	Prof. Philip Napier, Head of Fine Art, NCAD
What will you learn from this Elective?	<p>This module encourages the student to situate their interests and emerging disciplinary thinking within the context of engagement with contemporary art. Through a series of guest lectures and seminars by artists and visits to cultural organisations across the city, students will be asked to consider a range of subject matters involving a variety of perspectives, art research methods, decision-making and art outcomes. Students will be encouraged to consider a spectrum of fine art activity through practice-based perspectives and identifying where this overlaps and diverges from other research methods. The promise of the module for people from outside the discipline is learning to identify other ways of knowing, including embodied, expressive, and experiential means, alongside their own methods of research and enquiry.</p> <p>Aims</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To expand student horizons in relation to professional artist practices in the fine art field.2. To develop an awareness of different considerations at play in the development and presentation of an artwork.3. To create experience of different presentational strategies in relation to the discussion of fine art perspectives.4. To generate an accessible “sample” culture that shows the wide range of contemporary art practitioners and practice.
Student Workload	<p>18 to 25 hours: Contact with teaching staff and guests, including lectures by visiting artists, seminars & visits to cultural organisations in Dublin.</p> <p>25 hours: Directed learning, namely independent visits to cultural organisations and group work.</p> <p>50 hours: Autonomous student learning. Development of workbooks, documentation, researching practice-based sources and relevant articles, preparation for assessment.</p> <p>7 to 15 hours: Unstructured student reflection and thinking.</p> <p>****</p> <p>100 – 115 hours total</p>
Assessment Components	<p>FORMATIVE assessment:</p> <p>Small group sharing of notebooks in formation. NCAD & TCD Sharing of forms, views, materials and devices [key is that this prepares the students to know whether they’re on the right track before the 100%]</p> <p>SUMMATIVE assessment: Contextual Notebook submission: 100% Within a contemporary fine art context, we might understand a contextual Notebook to be a way of bringing together a self-authored and organised/ curated body of impressions, references and</p>

	<p>connections, exploring how one might engage with and respond to contemporary artwork. Such a notebook would allow for documents, literature, drawings, photographs, records of experiential viewing (being there), and other material. The blend of self-authored and collected material builds to a perspective in relation to what and how artwork and art talks are being encountered, and where appropriate, connected. This might contain elements of journaling and sketchbook work, but artistic “skill” as such is not being assessed.</p> <p>The full assignment will be shared with students before Reading Week, with a class after Reading Week (Week 8) dedicated to discussion of approaches and samples.</p> <p>Some artists do not wish for their talks to be recorded, so not all content will be available online. When possible, however, recordings will be made available. See examples at:</p> <p>https://www.ncad.ie/undergraduate/school-of-fine-art/recordings/</p>
<p>Indicative Reading List</p>	<p>Reference and reading material will accompany particular talks indicated by the speakers and online.</p> <p>Very general readers + naming - websites, artists’ statements, catalogues, occasionally articles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Seven days in the Artworld</i>, Sarah Thornton, ISBN 10:1847080847 • <i>Playing to the Gallery: Helping in contemporary art in the struggle to be understood</i>, Grayson Perry, ISBN 9781846148576 • <i>What is</i> (series produced by IMMA – Irish Museum of Modern Art) videos & short books, https://imma.ie/what-is-art/overview • <i>Ways of Seeing</i>, John Berger, ISBN9780141035796 • <i>Education for Socially Engaged Art</i>, Pablo Hegura, Jorge Pinto books <p>Galleries (Dublin)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irish Museum of Modern Art • Douglas Hyde Gallery • Hugh Lane, Dublin City Gallery • Temple Bar Gallery • Project Arts Centre • NCAD Gallery • Gallery of Photography • Kerlin Gallery • Kevin Kavanagh Gallery
<p>Learning Outcomes</p>	<p>On successful completion of this module, students will be able to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be able to demonstrate ability to record visual and creative components of their thinking and action throughout the course, utilising a variety of different sources, in the form of a contextual notebook;

- A reflective capacity, i.e. making connections that relate to known and not- yet-considered relationships between presented material;
- A familiarity with artworks, cultural forces, and themes in artwork made in the last 10 years;
- Identification of key opportunities and threats to the professional practice of artists today.

Students from NCAD taking this module will already be familiar with the following four learning outcomes for this branch of their education, and students taking the elective will have the opportunity to engage on this level as well:

1. SELECT: Demonstrate the ability to select studio and research themes which resonate with a personal direction. (Interest)
2. ITERATE: Evidence knowledge of material and conceptual development through the work of self and others. (Others)
3. PRODUCE: Show understanding of artists processes through (their) structured and transparent methodologies.
4. COMMUNICATE: Show an ability to present and discuss creative work of others.