

Art and Society

Module Code	4ELIT007X
Module Level	4
Site	Central London
Pre-Requisite	None
Assessment	60% Essay, 40% Presentation

Special features

This module may include additional costs for museum tickets. Typical visits include the Tate Modern Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum, National Portrait Museum, Museum of London, British Museum, Wallace Collection, Serpentine Galleries, Welcome Collection. Note: These visits are not the same every year and they are subject to change.

Summary of module content

This module is an introduction to the visual culture of London, including painting, architecture, photography and contemporary media. Students will visit the major art galleries to examine how art works exhibitions and cultural organisations can be understood within wider social contexts. The sessions also include museums and historical sites, such as the British Museum and St Paul's Cathedral, as well as art galleries. The classes will explore how these institutions reveal the complex cultural identity and history of London. The module develops students' skills in visual analysis and critical thinking about culture.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module the successful student will be able to:

- Demonstrate ability to make a visual analysis of works of art
- Demonstrate an understanding of visual arts
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which historical displays and sites can be related to a political, social or cultural context
- Discuss the role of London as a cultural centre
- Develop appropriate skills in academic presentation and writing.

Course outcomes the module contributes to:

Students will be able to demonstrate:

NA

NB This module does not form part of the BA English Literature and cannot be taken by students on this pathway.

Indicative syllabus content

- Iconic buildings and national heritage: St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey
- How museums represent historical narratives: The Museum of London; the British Museum
- Looking at master paintings: the National Gallery
- Multicultural London: the representation of race, gender and sexuality in art and culture 17th – 21st century
- Impressionism and Post-Impressionism: the Courtauld Gallery
- Modernism and Post-Modernism in architecture and the fine arts
- Tate Modern: a contemporary art museum for the 21st century.

Teaching and learning methods

The module consists of 12 x three-hour classes held over three weeks including site visits.

Activity type	Category	Student learning and teaching hours*
Lecture	Scheduled	0
Seminar	Scheduled	0
Tutorial	Scheduled	0
Project supervisor	Scheduled	0
Demonstration	Scheduled	0
Practical classes and workshops	Scheduled	36
Supervised time in studio/workshop	Scheduled	0
Fieldwork	Scheduled	0
External visits	Scheduled	3
Work-based learning	Scheduled	0
Total scheduled		36
Placement	Placement	0
Independent study	Independent	164
Total student learning and teaching hours		200

*the hours per activity type are indicative and subject to change.

Assessment rationale

The assessment is designed to give students the opportunity to develop skills in the reading of artworks and visual material, to develop contextual arguments, and to relate primary and secondary resources. The essay aims to enable them to produce a researched and academically developed piece of work and to enable them to develop their analytical and reflective skills.

Assessment criteria

The assignments are assessed on the ability of the student to discuss a range of material, to reflect upon their responses to individual works of art, to contextualise the examination of visual material to cultural and historical contexts, to develop a coherent argument.

Assessment methods and weightings

Assessment name	Weighting %	Qualifying mark %	Qualifying set	Assessment type (e.g. essay, presentation, open exam or closed exam)
Essay	60	30	-	Essay
Presentation	40	30	-	Group presentation

Sources

- Michael Archer *Art Since 1960* London: Thames & Hudson, 2002
- Francoise Barbe-Gall *How to Look at a Painting*, London: Frances Lincoln, 2011
- David Britt *Modern Art: Impressionism to Post-modernism*, London: Thames and Hudson, 1999
- Anne D'Alleva *How to Write Art History*, London: Laurence King, 2010
- Andrew Wilton *Five Centuries of British Painting* London: Thames & Hudson, 2002