

University of Plymouth

Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Business

School of Society and Culture

Programme Specification

BA (Hons) Art History
7207

Date of Approval: July 2021

Approved Final Version for
September 2022

1. BA

Final award title:	BA (Hons) Art History
Level 5 Intermediate award title(s):	Diploma in Higher Education
Level 4 Intermediate award title(s):	Certificate in Higher Education
UCAS code:	V350
HECOS code:	100306

2. Awarding Institution:	University of Plymouth
Teaching institution(s):	University of Plymouth

3. Accrediting body(ies):	N/A
Date of re-accreditation:	N/A

4. **Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience**

- **Experiential Learning and Field Trips:** across all stages of the programme students have the opportunity to travel to local, regional, national, and international museums and galleries. In Stage 2 or 3 an International Field Trip module provides an intensive study of a particular city's art and visual culture. The emphasis in these modules is upon sustained, first-hand interrogation of artefacts, buildings and environments through both staff-led visits and private study. Such activities build student confidence and contribute to the research-informed study-skills assessed in the stage 3 dissertation. Across the whole programme, this experiential learning helps with student induction and retention, brings our course in line with others across the country, and fosters student ambition to go on to postgraduate research or to employment in the museum and galleries sector.
- **Work-Placement:** during the Fieldwork modules, students have the opportunity to study a variety of exhibition spaces. The Stage Three module ARH6006 Working with Culture exemplifies the work we do in introducing students to the galleries and museums of the region, encouraging them to become stake-holders in the cultural life of the South West and beyond. Placements include The Levinsky Gallery, The BOX, KARST Gallery in Plymouth, the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter (RAMM), National Trust

houses in the region, The National Gallery, Victoria Miro and The Philip Mould Company in London.

- **Widening Participation:** our Widening Participation agenda follows the Faculty-wide model for best practice: an annual series of Art History lectures for the Arts Institute; an annual summer school or taster days for local schools and colleges. Our record of events in this area has highlighted the continuing attractiveness of Art History topics for a public or a schools audience, as well as providing a tangible boost to recruitment. Art History also has a strong record of recruiting mature students, many of whom return to study after a first career in other areas, including school teaching, the police and community nursing.
- **Research-Informed Teaching:** a significant proportion of the modules are based on our research. This provides our students with the opportunity to learn from academics whose work is well respected in the field (as evidenced by REF results) and to move away from reliance on a textbook approach to study. We emphatically reject the idea of UG students being treated as passive recipients of our research interests. Instead, our aim is to equip all our UG students with the research skills suitable for that level of study.
- **Assessment by Coursework:** In contrast to other Art History programmes in the South of the UK (see the Marketing Report and Art History Competitor Summary), our degree is assessed 100% by coursework. This distinguishes us and is a particular draw for those students who feel they do not perform well in examination conditions. Our tutorial system and our relatively small size enables us to support students at all stages of their coursework preparations.

5. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group(s)

QAA Subject Benchmark for [History of Art, Architecture and Design](#) (2019)

6. Programme Structure

Level 4	
Semester 1	Semester 2
ARH4003 Introduction to Art History & Visual Culture 20 Credits	ARH4005 Cultural Practices in Context 20 Credits
ARH4002 Modernisms & Modernities 20 Credits	HIS4006 History and Heritage 20 credits
ARH4001 Lives & Afterlives of Renaissance Artists 20 Credits	ARH4004 Image of the Artist 20 Credits

Level 5	
Semester 1	Semester 2
SSC500 Stage 2 Placement Year Preparation 0 Credits	
ARH5001 Collecting & Exhibiting Cultures 20 Credits	ARH5005 International Field Trip 20 Credits
The below two core modules alternate each year:	The below two core modules alternate each year:
ARH5003 Art After 1950: Abstract Expressionism to a 'Black Arts Movement' 20 Credits	ARH5006 Victorian Values 20 Credits
ARH5004 Decolonizing Modernism: Art 1890-1940 20 Credits	ARH5007 Regimes and Revolutions in European Art 20 Credits
Choose one:	Choose one:
Specialism Module Elective 20 Credits	Specialism Module Elective 20 Credits

Optional Placement Year	
Semester 1	Semester 2
SSC600 School of Society and Culture Placement Year 0 Credits	

Level 6	
Semester 1	Semester 2
ARH6001 Dissertation 40 Credits	

The below two modules alternate each year:	The below two modules alternate each year:
ARH6003 Art After 1950: Abstract Expressionism to a 'Black Arts Movement' 20 Credits	ARH6005 Victorian Values 20 Credits
ARH6004 Decolonizing Modernism: Art 1890-1940 20 Credits	ARH6007 Regimes and Revolutions in European Art 20 Credits
Choose one:	Choose one from:
Specialism Module Elective 20 Credits	ARH6006 Working with Culture: Professional Development Project
	ANT6005 Why so Serious? The Anthropology of Humour and Laughter

Specialism Modules

All undergraduate programmes in the School of Society and Culture have been designed to enable students to personalise their degree through a wide assortment of optional modules. These allow students to study more topics related to their core degree or branch out and explore up to three modules from other disciplines across the School. This flexibility starts in the second year, with students being able to choose one module from within cross-school elective pools at level 5 semester 1, level 5 semester 2, and level 6 semester 1. These are marked by the term *Specialism Module* in the programme structure above.

Students can elect to take any combination of modules from the three cross-school elective pools, and options will always be available from their core degree subject. However, students who complete three modules from another discipline will have the choice of graduating with that discipline as a specialism on their certificate: BA (Hons) Art History with <specialism>. The School offers modules in the following areas:

- Acting
- Anthropology
- Art History
- Computing
- Creative Writing
- Criminology
- Dance
- Drama
- English
- History
- International Relations
- Law
- Music
- Musical Theatre
- Politics
- Policing and Security Management
- Sociology

A list of available specialism modules and their associated learning outcomes can be found in the School of Society and Culture's Specialism Specification and on the programme's webpage.

7. Programme Aims

The programme aims to:

- Provide students with a knowledge and understanding of the prominent position, throughout history, of art and visual culture.
- Provide students with the necessary theoretical and practical tools to approach art practice and the history of art and visual culture.
- Encourage students to interrogate the cultural, political and social import of art and visual culture.
- Facilitate students to undertake independent research using primary and secondary sources.
- Facilitate students to undertake fieldwork on supervised visits to the galleries and museums of the region and beyond.
- Facilitate the inculcation of skills in visual literacy and visual analysis by offering opportunities in which students engage directly with artefacts and other forms of visual culture.
- Provide students with the ability to communicate arguments and ideas in written formats.
- Provide students with a range of skills appropriate to employment and lifelong learning.

8. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

8.1. Knowledge and understanding

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

1. Detailed knowledge of a number of major theories in Art History and an awareness of how to apply them appropriately.
2. An awareness of the implications of the wide social interpretative implications of Art History and an ability to debate issues in relation to more general ethical perspectives.

8.2. Cognitive and intellectual skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the skills to:

1. Analyse a range of information with minimum guidance using given art historical principles.
2. Reformat a range of ideas and information towards a given purpose
3. Select appropriate techniques of evaluation and can evaluate the relevance and significance of the data collected.
4. Identify key problems and choose appropriate methods for their resolution.

8.3. Key and transferable skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Communicate the results of their study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments.
2. Interact effectively within a team/learning group, giving and receiving information/ideas.
3. Manage learning using art history resources.
4. Evaluate own strengths and weaknesses, challenge received opinion.
5. Select appropriate data from a range of sources and develop appropriate research strategies.
6. Identify key issues/problems and choose appropriate tools/methods for their resolution.

8.4. Employment related skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Undertake further training and develop new skills within a structured and managed environment.
2. Demonstrate the hybrid and transferable skills necessary to work across sectors, exercise personal responsibility, and use feedback to improve performance.

8.5. Practical skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

1. Ability to act with increasing autonomy, with reduced need for supervision and direction, within defined guidelines.
2. The ability to make effective use of IT for research and communication.

9. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and Disability Service arrangements

All applicants must have GCSE (or equivalent) Maths and English at Grade 4 or above (equivalent to a Grade C as per the grading system until 2017).

Entry Requirements for BA (Hons) Art History	
A-level/AS-level	Normal minimum entry requirements are A level/AS level/Vocational A level: 104-112 points
BTEC National Diploma/QCF Extended Diploma	Candidates can be interviewed before an offer is made. Grade Pass MMM - DMM in any subject.
Access to Higher Education at level 3	Candidates can be interviewed before an offer is made. Pass an Access to HE Diploma in any subject, including GCSE English and Maths grade 4 or above or equivalent with at least 33 credits at Merit/Dist.
Welsh Baccalaureate	Accept as add on points; in addition to 2 A Levels
Scottish Qualifications Authority	104-120 points
Irish Leaving Certificate	Obtain H4, H4, H4, H4, H4 - H3 H3 H4 H4 H4 (all at Higher level)
International Baccalaureate	26-30 overall to include 4 at in any subjects at Higher Level. English accepted within Higher Level = 4+ (A1) or 5 (A2/B) Standard Level = 5+ (A1) or 6 (A2/B) If overseas and not studying English within IB – MUST have IELTS: 6.0 overall with 5.5 in all elements.

10. Progression routes/criteria for progression to Final and Intermediate Awards

Certificate in Higher Education	Achieved through completion of 120 credits at level 4 .
Diploma in Higher Education	Achieved through completion of 120 credits at level 4 and 120 credits at level 5.
BA (Hons) Art History	Achieved through completion of 120 credits at level 4, 120 credits at level 5, and 120 credits at level 6.

11. Non Standard Regulations

N/A

12. Transitional Arrangements for existing students looking to progress onto the programme

N/A

Appendices
Programme Specification Mapping (UG) – core/elective modules

Appendix 1: Programme Specification Mapping (UG): module contribution to the meeting of Award Learning Outcomes

CORE MODULES: tick those Award Learning Outcomes the module contributes to through its assessed learning outcomes.

Core Modules		Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)														Compensation Y/N	Assessment Element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical			
		Knowledge & understanding		Cognitive & intellectual skills					Key & transferable skills						Employment related skills			Practical skills		
		1	2	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	1			2	1	2
Level 4	ARH4003	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	Y	C1 100%
	HIS4006			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH4001	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH4005	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	C1 100%
	ARH4002	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH4004	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
Level 4 LOs		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Level 5	ARH5001	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	N	C1 100%
	ARH5003	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH5004	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH5005	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	C1 100%
	ARH5006	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH5007	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
Level 5 LOs		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Level 6	ARH6001	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	N	C1 100%
	ARH6003	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH6004	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH6005	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
	ARH6007	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 100%
Level 6 LOs		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x		
Confirmed Award LOs		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		

ELECTIVE MODULES: tick those Award Learning Outcomes the module contributes to through its assessed learning outcomes. Insert rows and columns as required.

Elective Modules		Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)														Compensation Y/N	Assessment Element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical			
		Knowledge & understanding		Cognitive & intellectual skills					Key & transferable skills						Employment related skills			Practical skills		
		1	2	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	1			2	1	2
Level 5 LOs																				
Level 6	ARH6006														x	x	x	x	Y	C1 100%
	ANT6004		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 60%, P1 40%	
	ANT6005		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Y	C1 60%, P1 40%	
Level 6 LOs			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Confirmed Award LOs			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		