

University of Cambridge: Programme Specifications

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ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN HISTORY OF ART

1 Awarding body	University of Cambridge
2 Teaching institution	Institute of Continuing Education
3 Accreditation details	Faculty of Architecture and History of Art
4 Name of final award	Advanced Diploma in History of Art
5 Programme title	History of Art
6 UCAS code	None
7 JACS code(s)	V350
8 Relevant QAA benchmark statement(s)	History of Art and Design
9 Qualifications framework level	FHEQ Level 6
10 Date specification produced/ last revised	February 2009
11 Date specification last reviewed	May 2010

A non-modular Advanced Diploma in the History of Art is proposed by the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education (ICE), as part of its programme of credit-bearing, modular and non-modular courses at FHEQ levels 4, 5 and 6 (CATS Levels 1, 2 and 3) offered to part-time adult students.

ICE is a General Board, non-School institution whose purpose can be defined in two complementary ways. It is a conduit both for transmission of the University's knowledge and research on the one hand and for enabling members of the public to access higher education courses, whether for personal interest or professional development, on the other. In these ways it contributes significantly to the University's public engagement and widening participation commitments.

Applicants seeking entry to Public Programmes courses at FHEQ Level 6 should normally be able to demonstrate significant previous study in disciplines cognate to the course to which they have applied. Academic experience up to and including the second year of undergraduate study in a cognate discipline, for example, the Diploma of Higher Education or an equivalent qualification, will normally be regarded as a minimum requirement. Applicants who have undertaken significant work at an appropriate level in this field, but who lack the appropriate academic qualifications may, however, also be considered, and may be asked to submit a piece of written work as part of conditions for their entry to the course.

The Advanced Diploma will be directed by Dr Francis Woodman, University Lecturer with responsibility for History of Art and Architecture (UTO), assisted where required by supervisors chosen from ICE's Tutor Panel, all of whom are assessed under quality assurance procedures approved by the General Board. It is a requirement of Panel membership that tutors should have academic qualifications and specialised expertise in their discipline appropriate to the supervision that they are invited to undertake. Academic responsibility for monitoring the

performance of individual supervisors working within the Advanced Diploma in History of Art rests with Dr. Woodman.

The Advanced Diploma in History of Art marks the culmination of the three levels of the University's accredited certificated courses. It may also be taken as a free-standing course in exceptional circumstances. The Advanced Diploma in History of Art is an HE level 3 course worth 120 credits. It is based on research and aims to offer students the opportunity to undertake a sustained piece of work under individual supervision. It provides a good foundation in research methods for students who wish to continue with their research at a higher level, either through a post-graduate course or on their own initiative.

The course lasts for nine months in total and culminates in a dissertation of not more than 12,000 words on a topic of the student's own choice, but undertaken with the support and guidance of a supervisor. The assessment on the course is cumulative and is designed to take the student through the stages essential to research and the writing of a logical and well-argued dissertation. This helps the student to become accustomed to research methods and the presentation of work. Each assessed piece of work must achieve a pass mark before the final dissertation can be completed and submitted.

The course aims to

Develop analytical skills when reading key texts of art theory and criticism.

Enable students to acquire analytical skills and good study practice and be able to relate the works of art they see to their appropriate cultural and historical background.

Develop the capacity for critical, effective and verifiable information retrieval and organisation relevant to a given task

Develop the student's ability to be open and receptive to unfamiliar artefacts, issues and ideas and to deploy these constructively.

Knowledge and Understanding

experience of a range of critical, theoretical and practical approaches to the analysis and evaluation of art history.

knowledge of the relationship between art history, social and political events and other forms of cultural production

knowledge of useful and precise critical terminology and, where appropriate, linguistic and stylistic terminology.

Critical skills

use appropriate methodologies for locating, assessing and interpreting primary sources

select relevant evidence from the wide range of types of evidence used in the subject area, and to apply it to the examination of historical issues and problems.

produce logical and structured narratives and arguments supported by relevant evidence.

marshal and appraise critically other people's arguments and to argue on the basis of familiarity both with relevant evidence and with specialist literature.

the ability to break down an argument, a task or a body of evidence, and deal effectively with its component parts.

the ability to bring evidence or ideas of different sorts or from different sources together in a productive way.

the ability to identify and present the key elements of an argument or a demonstration.

the ability to discriminate between alternative arguments and approaches.

the ability to apply knowledge and experience so as to make appropriate decisions in complex and incompletely charted contexts.

demonstrate the capacity for critical, effective and verifiable information retrieval and organisation relevant to a given task

deploy productive criticism of familiar artefacts and arguments.

demonstrate the ability to be open and receptive to unfamiliar artefacts, issues and ideas and to deploy these constructively

Assessment methods

There are five assignments during the course. These are compulsory but carry no marks. 100% of the marks are allocated to the final dissertation.

- Assignment 1: Draft Plan, including a survey of original primary sources, no more than 3 sides of A4;
- Assignment 2: Literature Review, including a bibliography, no more than 2,000 words;
- Assignment 3: Draft of Main Chapters, no more than 5,000 words;
- Assignment 4: Final Draft of the whole dissertation, not more than 12,000 words.
- Assignment 5: Submission of final dissertation, no more than 12,000 words inclusive of references but excluding the bibliography.

Programme Requirements

The programme is targeted at

Students of whatever age and previous experience with an interest in the history of Art and Architecture.

1. Students who have completed the current Certificate of Higher Education in the History of Art, the Diploma in History of Art or any other equivalent accredited programme and who wish to complete their Advanced Diploma.

Further information

Successful completion of the Advanced Diploma will require students to demonstrate the appropriate level of achievement against the learning outcomes of the course as a whole. The minimum criteria for achieving a pass at FHEQ Level 6 are outlined in the ICE Students' Handbook.

Credit awarded by the Institute can be transferred into the degree programmes of other higher education providers. The amount of credit which can be transferred into degree programmes varies from institution to institution and is always at the discretion of the receiving institution.

Delivery

This course is offered over nine months but has the possibility of up to six months' extension, if there are mitigating circumstances.

Employability

Students will have demonstrated high levels of motivation and personal commitment through part-time study. They will also have gained and demonstrated a number of transferable skills, including the ability to:

- demonstrate autonomy in managing their own learning and research with minimum guidance, using all appropriate available resources;
- apply independent criteria to the evaluation of data, reading and opinion, challenge received opinion effectively and objectively, and reflect on, and implement, the comments of others;
- present knowledge or a sustained argument through accurate synthesis in a way which is comprehensible to others, including those unfamiliar with the material.

Managing Teaching Quality and Standards

The teaching quality and standards of the course will be monitored throughout by Dr. Woodman, who will report annually to the Subject Moderation Panel, consisting of the internal and University moderators, the external examiner, and other Faculty and ICE members as agreed by the Education Committee.

Student Support

Academic advice to students taking Public Programmes courses in the History of Art is available from Dr. Woodman both before and after they have registered for a course and, once the course has begun, from the student's Supervisor.

Administrative enquiries are dealt with by Academic Programme Managers.

All students are provided at the start of a course with the ICE Students' Handbook.