



# MA Art History and Curating

## Postgraduate Certificate in Art History and Curating

The MA in Art History and Curating offers a theoretical and critical approach to the study of art history and curatorial practice. Focusing mainly, but not exclusively, on the modern period (19th and 20th centuries), the programme will address key developments in art and art history up to the present day.

For students who do not wish to undertake a full MA, a Postgraduate Certificate is also available.

The programme would appeal to graduates who have studied Fine Art, Art History or any other Arts and Humanities discipline, or those from non-arts backgrounds wishing to pursue a new subject. It will also appeal to those already working in the museums or galleries sector wishing to undertake Continuing Professional Development (CPD). There are opportunities to participate in overseas study tours and in recent years the department has visited Amsterdam, Barcelona, Bilbao, Milan, Paris, Florence, Venice and New York. London visits and regional exhibition visits may also take place, depending on the exhibition programme for the year.

The Arts play a significant and growing role in wealth creation and the regeneration of urban and rural environments. Visiting galleries and museums has never been more popular. The numbers of Art Education and heritage sites are expanding and all look to recruit postgraduates with a background in the Arts and Art History.

### Programme Overview

The programme consists of four taught modules plus a work placement or Negotiated Learning module and a dissertation. You must complete 180 credits to graduate with the MA and each module will be assessed. Assessment methods will vary and are likely to include academic essays, presentations and a research dissertation.

### Modules

#### **Making and Displaying Art: From Van Eyck to Bruce Nauman (compulsory – 30 credits):**

This module critically examines and explores Western art across a broad historical spectrum, from Renaissance altar pieces to art in the 'expanded field' of postmodernism. There will be an emphasis on both production and display and on historical and contextual issues.

#### **Contemporary Curating (compulsory – 30 credits):**

On this module students will be exposed to a range of curatorial practices and will be encouraged to critically assess and evaluate such practices. Forming the main part of the module is Tate Liverpool's postgraduate course 'Curating the Contemporary: the artist, the curator and the exhibition', run by curators and academics and covering a range of issues and practices within contemporary curating. The remainder of the module will comprise talks and workshops by guest speakers on curating as well as other aspects of museum work. The module also deals with professional practice more generally by covering issues such as freelancing (as an art historian or art critic) and providing a career workshop.

#### **Work Placement (optional – 15 credits):**

This module allows students the opportunity to undertake a work placement at a museum or gallery of their choice. The placement will be 100 hours (the equivalent of approximately three full weeks), to be spent either in a continual block or a certain number of hours per week/month, depending on the needs of the hosting institution and the

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availability of the student. The Award Coordinator will assist students in selecting an institution for their placement and in making contact with them. If students are already working full-time in a relevant institution they can use this time as their placement.

**Negotiated Learning Module (optional – 15 credits):**

The Negotiated Learning Module enables students to undertake an area of study that is not available through the taught curriculum. The aims, outcomes, form of assessment and main content are negotiated between the student and a designated tutor. Negotiated learning enables students to plan and execute their own area of study and requires a high degree of motivation, self-direction and commitment to independent learning.

**Theoretical Models for Art History and Curating (compulsory – 15 credits):**

This module introduces students to theoretical developments in the field of art history, museology and curating across a broad historical period. Key texts will be examined and discussed in order to provide students with a theoretical underpinning for the artistic and curatorial practices considered across the programme. In considering theoretical texts students will not only be introduced to important aspect of art historiography and museology but will learn how to critically engage with texts and theories.

**Research Skills and Dissertation Preparation (compulsory – 30 credits):**

This module is intended to prepare students for the dissertation by introducing them to a range of research skills, resources and methodologies, and to a range of other skills needed for the dissertation such as problem solving, planning and writing.

**Dissertation (compulsory – 60 credits):**

This module offers students the opportunity to undertake a dissertation on a topic of their choice, agreed in negotiation with their tutor, in order to be eligible for gaining the MA in Art History and Curating. The topic can pertain to either art history or curating.

Students undertaking the Postgraduate Certificate will need to complete 60 credits. They will be required to complete the modules Making and Displaying Art: From Van Eyck to Bruce Nauman and Contemporary Curating.

## Location and Facilities

All teaching for this programme will be delivered mainly at the Cornerstone Campus (which is close to the City Centre and ideally situated for access to public transport). It has its own gallery, the Cornerstone Gallery, with a busy exhibition programme. There will therefore be an opportunity for on-site learning and involvement with the Gallery.

The Cornerstone is just starting to undergo the final phase of its redevelopment which is scheduled for completion in November 2009. The new three-storey Centre located on Shaw Street will boast state-of-the-art facilities including improved music facilities, a Performance Hall with tiered seating for 300+ capacity, a library, an exhibition gallery, and extensive facilities for business incubation and a selection of teaching rooms extended across three floors.

## Research Environment

The Department of Visual Arts is staffed by professional art and design practitioners and art historians. Tutors are practising writers or makers, with national and international experience in their chosen field of research. The Cornerstone Campus houses a broad range of Creative subjects and a wide variety of extra curricular activities including the annual Cornerstone Arts Festival of music, performance and art. You will have unparalleled access to the Tate Liverpool, Walker, Open Eye and Bluecoat galleries, the innovative FACT centre and the International Liverpool Biennial.

## Fees

Home and EU	£3445
International	£6800

**All Liverpool Hope graduates are entitled to a 20% discount off tuition fees.**

## Study Mode/Course Duration

The MA in Art History and Curating can be studied full- or part-time. Full-time study is for 12 months whilst part-time is for between 24 and 36 months.

## Entry requirements

A good honours degree, normally a 2:2 or above, or evidence of relevant professional experience, for example work in a museum or art gallery.

## Future Career Opportunities

Art History and Curating provides a firm foundation for diverse career opportunities and provides a broad range of transferable skills. The programme offers graduates a diverse range of career pathways including the media, publishing or journalism in galleries and museums, heritage and cultural industries, marketing and advertising or academia.

## For further information

Please contact the Postgraduate and International Recruitment and Admissions Team on **0151 291 3389** or **postgraduate@hope.ac.uk** for further details of the application process.

Please note that we hold several Postgraduate Open Evenings every year. Further details regarding these events can be found on our website: **[www.hope.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.hope.ac.uk/postgraduate)**