

Course Summary: October 4, 2022

## Fine Art

BA Honours

- UCAS code: **W150**
- Full time
- 4 years
- Next start date: **September 2022**

Our Fine Art degree is a practice-based course in contemporary visual art for ambitious, motivated and imaginative artists.

### Fees (per year)

- Home: **£9250**
- International: **£22200**

### Entry requirements and offers

- A Level: **AAB-BBB**
- IB: **32-35 points**

[View contextual offers](#)

UCAS Institution name and code:

- NEWC / N21

## Course overview

This unique four-year fine art degree focuses on developing your professional, practical and theoretical skills alongside your own exciting body of work. You'll graduate ready for a career in the field or progression to postgraduate study.

You will have space and time to experiment and develop your ambitious ideas in the studio, as well as forming a deeper understanding of art history and contemporary art through taught modules.

Throughout your degree, you can choose from more than 20 specialist workshops, such as ceramics, photography, 16mm film, oil painting, performance and experimental printmaking.

You'll become a confident fine art professional, with the skills and knowledge of what it takes to thrive in the contemporary art world through live projects, placement opportunities, exhibitions and your final-year degree show. Your degree show gives you the chance to display your work to hundreds of visitors.

### **Your course and study experience - disclaimers and terms and conditions**

Please rest assured we make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the programmes, services and facilities described. However, it may be necessary to make changes due to significant disruption, for example in response to Covid-19.

View our [Academic experience page](#), which gives information about your Newcastle University study experience for the academic year 2022-23.

See our [terms and conditions and student complaints information](#), which gives details of circumstances that may lead to changes to programmes, modules or University services.

## Quality and ranking

- 5th in the UK – The Complete University Guide 2023 (Art and Design category)
- 3rd in the UK – The Guardian University Guide 2023 (Fine Art category)
- 7th in the UK – Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023 (Art and Design category)
- Top 150 for Social Sciences – Times Higher Education World University Rankings by Subject 2022
- Top 200 for Art and Design - QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022
- 1st in the UK and 8th in the world for sustainable development – Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022
- 65% increase in research power since 2014 – Research Excellence Framework 2021
- 42% of our research is classified as 4\* world-leading research – Research Excellence Framework 2021
- Global Top 125 University - QS World University Rankings 2023

## Modules and learning

### Modules

The information below is intended to provide an example of what you will study.

Most degrees are divided into stages. Each stage lasts for one academic year, and you'll complete modules totalling 120 credits by the end of each stage.

Our teaching is informed by research. Course content may change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline, the requirements of external bodies and partners, and student feedback.

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### **Optional module availability**

Student demand for optional modules may affect availability.

Full details of the modules on offer will be published through the [Programme Regulations and Specifications](#) ahead of each academic year.

This usually happens in May.

To find out more please [see our terms and conditions](#).

You will explore fundamental aspects of making art through projects in sculpture, printmaking, painting, performance and video. This is complemented by history of art modules that introduce a variety of perspectives on art history.

From Semester 2 you will initiate and develop your own projects, with guidance from your studio tutor and professional technicians.

You will also organise and publicise an exhibition as part of LifeWorkArt, and gain skills in curating, installing, marketing, fundraising and project planning.

### Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Studio Practice I</a>	40
<a href="#">Studio Practice II</a>	40
<a href="#">Art Histories I</a>	20
<a href="#">Art Histories II</a>	20

Your teaching is focused around you and your practice, supporting a self-initiated programme of studio work, driven by making in the studios and workshops. Each semester you can choose from several complementary specialist workshops in various media, and LifeWorkArt.

You'll choose history of art modules, such as: Installation Art, Art in the Creative City and Gender and Contemporary Art.

## Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Studio Practice I</a>	40
<a href="#">Studio Practice II</a>	40
Optional Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Art Since 45: Postwar to Pluralism</a>	20
<a href="#">Feminist and Queer Approaches to Modern and Contemporary Art</a>	20
<a href="#">Contemporary Art and Globalisation</a>	20
<a href="#">Histories of Photography</a>	20
<a href="#">Fleshful Things: The Body and Visual Art</a>	20
<a href="#">The Social Turn</a>	20

With the approval of the Degree Programme Director alternative optional modules may also be available.

You will learn to develop and sustain self-directed studio practice, and how to direct and resource your practice appropriately.

You'll make informed decisions about working methods, materials and technical approaches, and carry out a LifeWorkArt external project.

You will write an art history dissertation with an option to take additional art history modules.

## Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Art History Dissertation</a>	40
Optional Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Studio Practice I</a>	80
<a href="#">Studio Practice II with Study Abroad</a>	80
<a href="#">Studio Practice III</a>	60
<a href="#">Studio Practice IV with study abroad</a>	60
<a href="#">Feminist and Queer Approaches to Modern and Contemporary Art</a>	20
<a href="#">Art since 1945: Postwar to Pluralism</a>	20
<a href="#">Contemporary Art and Globalisation</a>	20
<a href="#">Histories of Photography</a>	20
<a href="#">Fleshful Things: The Body and Visual Art</a>	20
<a href="#">The Social Turn</a>	20

You can select an additional module, if required, from those listed above (if not already taken at Stage 2) to bring your total credits for the year to 120.

You'll undertake a self-initiated programme of studio work, resulting in the production of fully realised work for presentation in the final Degree Show.

You can also choose to undertake additional modules, such as LifeWorkArt, Art Writing, and Career Development.

The annual LifeWorkArt conference offers practical workshops and gives you the opportunity to meet recent graduates, artists, curators and arts professionals.

## Modules

Optional Modules	Credits
Studio Practice II	60
Studio Practice III	80
Studio Practice IV	100
Studio Practice V	120
LifeWorkArt External Project	20
Art Writing	40
Career Development for final year students	20

## Information about these graphs

We base these figures and graphs on the most up-to-date information available to us. They combine data on the planned delivery and assessments of our courses in 2021-22 with data on the modules chosen by our students in 2020-21.

Teaching time is made up of:

- scheduled learning and teaching activities. These are timetabled activities with a member of staff present
- structured guided learning. These are activities developed by staff to support engagement with module learning. Students or groups of students undertake these activities without direct staff participation or supervision

## Teaching and assessment

### Teaching methods

Teaching is focused around you and your practice, and is driven by making in the studios and workshops. You will develop an increasingly self-directed studio practice across the four years.

This will be supported and developed through regular one-to-one tutorials with

your studio tutor, group crits, taught workshops and strands introducing you to new working methods.

You will also benefit from visiting artists, critics and curators who contribute to tutorials and workshops, alongside Newcastle University staff.

### Assessment methods

You'll be assessed through a combination of:

- Assessments
- Assignments – written or fieldwork
- Coursework
- Degree show
- Dissertation or research project
- Essays
- Group work
- Practical sessions
- Presentations
- Projects

### Skills and experience

#### Practical skills

You'll explore, experiment and expand your abilities through practical experiences, working in some of the best studios in the country.

You will have a dynamic programme of workshops, weekly lectures and seminars from artists, critics, curators, historians and art professionals to ensure you develop a broad perspective on art.

You will gain real-world experience of working in contemporary arts through the LifeWorkArt programme.

You will learn how to set up and run a broad range of individual and group projects such as placements, exhibitions, public art, residencies, community and



education programmes, and art therapy.

### Business skills

There are regular study abroad trips, supporting both the art history and studio components of the degree. Recent trips include: New York, the Venice Biennale, Madrid, Florence and Berlin.

You will have opportunities to engage with staff on international projects, such as a recent summer residency in Uganda, and public art project in Bologna.

### Research skills

In the third year of your degree, you'll research and write your art history dissertation. This gives you an opportunity to further investigate and analyse a topic of your choice.

Past students have focused on individual artists, art groups and movements, and social and political issues in art.

You'll develop a greater awareness of the historical, theoretical and critical issues in the subject, while developing your own skills in independent research and critical investigation.

## Opportunities

### Study abroad

Experience life in another country by choosing to study abroad as part of your degree. You'll be encouraged to embrace fun and challenging experiences, make connections with new communities and graduate as a globally aware professional, ready for your future.

You may choose to spend one semester of Stage 3 on an international exchange at a partner institution. In order to qualify, you must have attained an overall average grade of 55 or more at your stage 2 assessments.

[Find out more about study abroad](#)

## Work placement

Get career ready with a work placement and leave as a confident professional in your field. You can apply to spend 9 to 12 months working in any organisation in the world, and receive University support from our dedicated team to secure your dream placement. Optional work placements take place between stages 3 and 4.

You'll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

It will extend your degree by a year and is subject to availability. It isn't available if you're spending a year studying abroad.

[Find out more about work placements](#)

## Facilities and environment

### Facilities

As a Fine Art student at Newcastle you'll be part of [the School of Arts and Cultures](#) and be based in the Fine Art Building in the University's historic Quadrangle, which includes the Hatton Gallery. Along with your own studio space, you'll have access to:

- purpose-built studios
- exhibition spaces
- printmaking, metalwork, woodwork and digital media workshops
- an art supplies shop

- a student-run cafe

## Support

You'll have the support of an academic member of staff as a personal tutor throughout your degree to help with academic and personal issues.

Peer mentors will help you in your first year. They are fellow students who can help you settle in and answer any questions you have when starting university.

## Your future

Graduates have gone on to work as artists and curators, and take up a variety of roles across the cultural and creative sector, such as:

- setting up and running art galleries
- establishing studio projects
- local council arts and cultural teams
- visual arts officers
- teachers
- community arts specialists
- art therapists
- critics and writers
- art directors and technicians
- graphic designers
- illustrators
- set designers

Some graduates also opt to take arts-related postgraduate study in areas such as design and digital media.

The most recent survey of the destination of our Fine Art graduates six months after graduation shows half of them in professional work and a third in further study with the rest combining work and study or supporting their art practice with non-professional work.

Of those working in the cultural sector, 58% were in the North East through links

they made while studying here.

## Make a difference

### Careers support

Our professional development programme, [LifeWorkArt](#) is integrated during each year. This is run in collaboration with many regional and national arts organisations and galleries and prepares you for professional art practice through projects such as:

- organising exhibitions
- attending field trips
- undertaking a gallery placement
- preparing a public art project

Our award-winning Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country, and we have strong links with employers. We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through our ncl+ initiative.

[Visit our Careers Service website](#)

### Recognition of professional qualifications outside of the UK

From 1 January 2021 there is an update to the way professional qualifications are recognised by countries outside of the UK

[Check the government's website for more information.](#)

## Find out more...

- Go online for information about our full range of degrees:  
**[www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate)**
- To watch videos about student life in Newcastle, visit  
**[www.ncl.ac.uk/lovenewcastle](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/lovenewcastle)**
- Visit **[www.ncl.ac.uk/tour](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/tour)** to take virtual tours of the campus and city
- Book for an Open Day to come and see us in person  
**[www.ncl.ac.uk/openday](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/openday)**
- Contact us online at **[www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries)** or phone +44 (0)191 208 3333

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