

# BA (Hons) Creative Arts



*'Our technologies, our interpretive and inventive skill, our physiology all affirm the interdisciplinarity of much of our experience. Our education should also be prepared to affirm this...'*

Simon Waters: *'Living Without Boundaries'*

## Programme Handbook

2015-16

## **BA (HONS) CREATIVE ARTS: STUDENT HANDBOOK**

### **Introduction**

This handbook will give you an overview of the Creative Arts programme. Due to the nature of the course you should refer to Subject Handbooks and individual Module Handbooks for more detailed information on the modules you are undertaking and have chosen. You will find a list of the subject module codes and titles that are available to Creative Arts students below in the Course Content Section.

The Creative Arts programme allows you to choose two main arts subjects to study through the duration of your degree. Subject modules are complemented by a choice of modules that might be subject specific or particular to the Creative Arts course (for example level 6 Creative Arts projects).

An important principle of the Creative Arts programme is the relationship between practice and theory. We assume that you are primarily artists, performers and makers who are driven by the desire to create in a variety of media, and much of your time on the course will be taken up with making and performing. However within the programme, a contextual, theoretical and critical awareness of making and performing are seen to be vital to supporting and enabling your practice.

In all subjects, you will be taught by practitioners who have strong professional profiles as exhibiting artists and designers, published authors, practising choreographers, writers for theatre, and composers or musicians with a record of performances, recordings and broadcasts. Being practitioners, your lecturers understand the problems surrounding the creative process; they also understand the workings of the creative industries – what it takes to be published, heard or exhibited. Throughout your time at the university there will be opportunities to use this knowledge and you will find you will be exhibiting, performing or designing in a professional and public context.

Finally, in Creative Arts, the subjects are largely autonomous, and concerned with development, skills, and knowledge within their own boundaries. However, the projects at Level 3 provide space for cross - subject work and collaboration, allowing an exploration of relations between your two main disciplines. The Creative Arts programme is the only place on the modular scheme where students can freely relate their two subjects in a purpose - built module.

<b>Major, Joint or Minor</b>	Joint
<b>School</b>	Bath School of Art & Design (parent school) School of Music & Performing Arts School of Humanities and Cultural Industries
<b>Campus</b>	Newton Park; Sion Hill; Dartmouth Ave
<b>Final Award</b>	BA (Hons) Creative Arts
<b>UCAS codes</b>	WW19, WW14, WW13, WW1F, WW9K, WW9H, WW9F, WW4H, WW4F, WW3G, WW1L, WW4Y, WW5K, WW3K, WW2K
<b>Relevant QAA Benchmark statements</b>	Art & Design (2008) English (2007) Dance, Drama & Performance (2007) Music (2008)
<b>Date specification last updated</b>	2012

## COURSE CONTENT

The diagram below shows the structure of the Creative Arts programme. You will need to read this in conjunction with the lists of subject modules that follow, to see what you have to take and what options are available. As already mentioned, individual subject handbooks (Art subjects, Dance, Drama, Music) and individual module handbooks will give you more details of subject modules, teaching strategies, and assessment.

<b>LEVEL 4 (YEAR 1)</b>		
Subject A 40 credits Core	Subject B 40 credits Core	Subject A and/or B options 40 credits (1 x 40 credit module or 2 x 20 credit modules)
<b>LEVEL 5 (YEAR 2)</b>		
Subject A 40 credits Core	Subject B 40 credits Core	Subject A and/or B options 40 credits (1 x 40 credit module or 2 x 20 credit modules)
<b>LEVEL 6 (YEAR 3)</b>		
Subject A 40 credits	Subject B 40 credits	Subject A and/or B options 40 credits (1 x 40 credit module or 2 x 20 credit modules)
		OR: Creative Arts Project / Dissertation 40

## Subject Modules offered by Bath School of Art and Design (BSAD)

Leve	Code	Title	Credit	Status
<b>SUBJECT: Art (2D &amp; 3D)</b>				
4	AP4001-40	Introduction to 2D – Painting and Drawing	40	core
4	AP4002-40	Introduction to 3D – Ceramics and Sculpture*	40	core
5	AP5001-40	2D - Practice and Context	40	core
5	AP5002-40	3D - Practice and Context (Sculpture)*	40	core
6	AP6001-40	2D - Individual Practice A	40	core
6	AP6002-40	3D - Individual Practice A (Sculpture)*	40	core
<b>SUBJECT: Ceramics (3D)</b>				
4	AP4002-40	Introduction to 3D – Ceramics and Sculpture*	40	core
5	AP5002-40	3D - Practice and Context (Ceramics)*	40	core
6	AP6002-40	3D - Individual Practice A (Ceramics)*	40	core
<b>SUBJECT: Graphic Arts (Visual Design)</b>				
4	AP4008-40	Introduction to Graphic Arts	40	core
5	AP5008-40	Graphic Arts Practice and Context	40	core
6	AP6008-40	Graphic Arts - Individual Practice A	40	core
<b>SUBJECT: Mixed Media Textiles</b>				
4	AP4003-40	Introduction to Mixed Media Textiles	40	core
5	AP5003-40	Advanced Textile Workshops and Individual Study	40	core
6	AP6003-40	Mixed Media Textiles Individual Practice A	40	core
<b>Optional Modules (available for all students taking one BSAD subject)</b>				
4	AP4009-20	Professional Practice 1	20	option
4	AP4010-20	Introduction to Photography & Lens Based Media	20	option
4	AP4011-20	Introduction to Printmaking	20	option
5	AP5005-20	Professional Practice 2	20	option
5	CX5153-20	Contextual Studies 2	20	option
6	AP6004-20	Written Dissertation	20	option
6	AP6006-20	Professional Practice 3	20	option
6	AP6007-20	Individual Project	20	option
<b>Creative Arts Projects</b>				
6	CA6001-40	Creative Arts: Single Subject Project (BSAD subjects)	40	option
6	CA6002-40	Creative Arts: Cross-Subject Project	40	option
6	CA6003-40	Creative Arts: Dissertation (BSAD subjects)	40	option
6	CA6004-40	Creative Arts: Collaborative Project	40	option

\* AP4002-40, AP5002-40 & AP6002-40 are the same modules, you are able to specialize in Ceramics or Sculpture, or explore both areas together.

**Subject Modules offered by The School of Humanities and Cultural Industries**

Level	Code	Title	Credit	Status
<b>SUBJECT: Creative Writing</b>				
4	CS4001-40	Writers' Workshop 1	40	core
4	CS4002-20	Explorations in Prose Fiction	20	option
4	CS4003-20	Reading to Write Poetry	20	option
4	CS4004-20	Introduction to Scriptwriting	20	option
5	CS5001-40	Writers' Workshop 2	40	core
5	CS5002-20	Short Stories	20	option
5	CS5003-20	Form and Listening in Poetry	20	option
5	CS5004-20	Writing for Theatre	20	option
5	CS5005-20	Lifewriting	20	option
5	CS5006-20	Writing for Young People: Reading as Writers	20	option
5	CS5010-40	Contemporary Publishing 2	40	option
5	CS5021-20	Sudden Prose	20	option
5	CS5022-20	Performance Poetry	20	option
5	CS5031-20	Genre Fiction	20	option
5	CS5033-40	Planning and Making a Film	40	option
5	CS5041-20	Feature Journalism	20	option
5	CS5060-20	Independent Project	20	option
6	CS6001-40	Creative Enterprise Project	40	option*
6	CS6002-40	Researching & Writing a Novel	40	option*
6	CS6003-40	Poetry as Synthesis	40	option*
6	CS6004-40	Advanced Script Project	40	option*
6	CS6005-40	Advanced Non Fiction Project	40	option*
6	CS6006-40	Planning & Writing a Novel for Young People	40	option*
6	CS6010-40	Digital Publishing	40	option
6	CS6014-40	Writing for Broadcasting	40	option
6	CS6020-20	Reading as a Writer	20	option
6	CS6021-20	Speaking as a writer	20	option
6	CS6022-20	Professional Writing	20	option
6	CS6025-20	Teaching Writing	20	option
6	CS6060-20	Independent project	20	option
6	CS6091-20	Strategy Camp	20	option

N.B. In Year 3 all Creative Writing Single students must take either CS6001-40 or CS6002-40 or CS6003-40 or CS6004-40 or CS6005-40 or CS6006-40. Students can only take up to two of these modules.

## Subject Modules offered by The School of Music and Performing Arts

Level	Code	Title	Credit	Status
<b>SUBJECT: Dance</b>				
4	DA4001-40	Choreography 1: Constructing the Body	40	core
4	DA4003-20	Movement Technique & Improvisation: Somatic	20	option
4	DA4005-20	Collaborative Practice 1	20	option
5	DA5001-40	Choreography: Body as a Conscious Site	40	core
5	DA5003-20	Movement Techniques: Contact Improvisation	20	option
5	DA5005-20	Collaborative Practice 2: Interdisciplinarity and Site	20	option
6	DA6001-40	Choreography 3: Body as Conscious Site	40	core
6	DA6003-20	Movement Technique & Improvisation: Somatic	20	option
6	DA6005-20	The Enterprising Artist	20	option
6	DA6006-20	The Company	20	option
<b>SUBJECT: Drama</b>				
4	DR4001-40	Introduction to Theatre History	40	core
4	DR4002-20	Introduction to Performance	20	option
5	DR5001-40	Directing and Creative Practice	40	core
5	DR5002-20	Stand-up Comedy	20	option
5	DR5003-20	Applied Theatre	20	option
5	DR5005-20	Physical Theatre	20	option
5	DR5008-20	Musical Theatre Practice 1	20	option
5	DR5010-20	American Actors and Acting	20	option
5	DR5011-20	Introduction to Production	20	option
5	DR5012-20	Drama and Creative Activism	20	option
5	DR5014-20	British New Writing	20	option
6	DR6001-40	Dissertation	40	option
6	DR6002-20	Performance Project	20	option
6	DR6003-20	Experimental Performance	20	option
6	DR6005-20	Site-specific Performance	20	option
6	DR6006-20	Staging Gender	20	option
6	DR6007-20	Performance and Media	20	option
6	DR6008-20	Musical Theatre Practice 2	20	option
6	DR6009-20	Staging Shakespeare	20	option
6	DR6010-20	Modern American Drama	20	option
6	DR6011-20	Devising New Theatre	20	option
<b>SUBJECT: Music</b>				
4	MU4001-40	Performance 1	40	option
4	MU4002-40	Creative Forum 1	40	option
4	MU4003-20	Music in the West	20	option
4	MU4004-20	Global Music	20	option
5	MU5001-40	The Professional Musician	40	core
5	MU5004-20	Music Analysis	20	option
5	MU5005-20	Performance 2	20	option
5	MU5006-20	Creative Forum 2	20	option
5	MU5007-20	Musical Theatre Practice 1	20	option
5	MU5008-20	Opera Project 1	20	option
5	MU5009-20	Musicology 2	20	option
6	MU6001-40	Independent Study	40	core*
6	MU6002-40	Creative Forum 3	40	core*
6	MU6003-40	Recital Performance	40	core*
6	MU3006-20	Music Psychology	20	option
6	MU3007-20	Musical Theatre Project 2	20	option
6	MU3008-20	Opera Project 2	20	option
6	MU3009-20	Music in Action	20	option
6	MU6010-20	Musicology 3	20	option
6	CA6007-40	Creative Arts: Single Subject Project (Music)	40	option

\* You must take at least one of the asterisked modules MU6001-40, MU6002-40 or MU6003-40.

## **COURSE AIMS – WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?**

In addition to knowledge, thinking skills, and skills for life and work derived from the study of Art, Ceramics, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama Studies, Music, Textile Design Studies, or Graphic Arts (please refer to subject handbooks), you will learn the following.

### **Knowledge:**

- A wide range of contemporary practice across two arts disciplines
- Thinking skills
- Versatility in moving between subjects and media
- Versatility in moving between teaching styles
- The ability to relate and draw comparisons between different methodologies

### **Subject-based practical skills**

- Please refer to individual subject handbooks for specific skills.

### **Skills for life and work:**

- Development of your own style of independent learning
- Ability to communicate ideas to others and to debate relevant issues
- IT skills
- Communication skills
- Team work
- Time management
- Confidence

## **LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

Learning is encouraged through participation in a wide variety of activities including lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials, and individual supervision. Contact time for each 40-credit core module at Level 4 is usually 4 hours per week, though this may vary slightly from subject to subject. You should also allow yourself an additional 30 hours each week for private study (student-centred learning). However, you will find that the pattern of contact and non-contact time may differ slightly from subject to subject, and from module to module. Learning is supported by our Virtual Learning Environment, which is called Minerva.

Most tutors on Creative Arts are active practitioners in their subject, and their teaching is informed by their practical experience and their knowledge of the subject's 'industry'. Teaching is further enriched by visits from external practitioners and visiting lecturers.

## **ASSESSMENT**

Students are assessed by a variety of assessment methods depending on which two subjects you have chosen. Please see the individual Subject Handbooks for detailed descriptions of assessment. For each of your modules there will be a module handbook giving details of assessments



and assessment criteria. Please consult these at the beginning of the year.

You should also read the section on Assessment on the Student Services website, particularly with regard to Compensation and Reassessment (on the system of 'deferral' and 'referral' in the event you fail anything) and Mitigating Circumstances (if you are ill or have other reasons for not completing assessments).

## **WORK EXPERIENCE AND PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Placements or other elements of work experience are organised within subjects. All work placements take place in accordance with Bath Spa University's Work Based and Placement Learning Policy:

'Programmes containing work based and/or placement learning should have a clear rationale for doing so. Intended learning outcomes should identify the knowledge and skills that students will achieve. There should be an opportunity for personal development planning and reflective practice. Work based and/or placement learning should be assessed according to the appropriate regulations. Students should also be adequately prepared for such learning.'

## **PROJECT WORK**

Creative Arts students can complete a major piece of independent work in Year 3 (see the list 'Creative Arts Projects' in the module grid above). This may be in either of your main subjects, or it may explore relations between them. Teaching is by individual supervision. Examples of cross-subject or collaborative projects have included:

- a music-theatre event;
- dance with film;
- radio drama with music;
- text as part of an exhibition of work in textiles;
- a CD of songs to specially written texts;
- an art installation or film with music or sound design; The Creative Arts project modules are listed on page 9.

NB Drama is not available in a Creative Arts Cross-Subject project or Collaborative Project. You can combine project work in Drama with Art, Music, or Textile Design by taking DR6002-20 Performance Project and undertaking work in the other subject through that subject's core module: AR6003-40 Individual Practice, MU6001-40 Independent Study or TD6003-40 Studio Practice. Other subjects cannot currently be combined with Drama in this way.

## **ADDED VALUE**

- Extensive personal support from a friendly and caring staff
- A good practical and theoretical education
- Availability of careers advice and support

## **TEACHING QUALITY INFORMATION**

- National Student Survey data

## **HOW WE SUPPORT YOU**

We provide:

- Supportive specialist module tutors who understand the problems connected with your work
- Subject Leaders who can solve wider problems relating to the main subjects in Creative Arts
- A Course Director responsible for addressing issues concerning your programme as a whole
- Your personal tutor who is assigned to you throughout your time at Bath Spa, offering advice on all aspects of university life, helping to solve problems, and, when necessary, putting you in touch with other staff who can help with more specific issues. For more information follow this link: [Personal tutoring](#)
- Student Support Services for advice on health, well-being, accommodation, finance, or for counselling at any time
- Specialist technical support within each subject
- Materials on Minerva for all modules
- Lectures by visiting professionals and practitioners
- Personal development planning
- Student Services
- Writing and Learning Centre

## **HOW WE ASSURE THE QUALITY OF THE COURSE**

Before the course started, a process of course approval took place, which included consultation with academic, and industry subject experts. The following was checked:

- There would be enough qualified staff to teach the course
- Adequate resources would be in place
- Overall aims and objectives are appropriate
- Content of the course meets requirements of Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education and European Standards and Guidelines
- The course maps to subject benchmark statements
- The course meets any professional/statutory body requirements
- Internal quality criteria, such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy and student support mechanisms

## **HOW WE MONITOR THE QUALITY OF THE COURSE**

The quality of the course is annual monitored through evaluating:

- External examiner reports (considering quality and standards).
- Peer observation of teaching and staff development review.
- University surveys.
- Statistical information, considering issues such as pass rate.
- Student feedback, including module evaluation questionnaires.

The course team uses this information to undertake annual monitoring, which, in turn, is monitored by the University's Academic Quality and Standards Committee.

Every six years an in-depth periodic review of each subject area is undertaken by a review panel, which includes at least two external subject

(academic and industry) specialists. The panel considers documents, meets with current/former students and staff before drawing its conclusions. This results in a report highlighting good practice and identifying areas where action is needed.

## **THE ROLE OF THE COURSE COMMITTEE**

This course has a course committee comprising subject leaders or their delegated representatives, student representatives and others who make a contribution towards the effective operation of the course (for example library and technical staff). The committee has responsibilities for the quality of the course and plays a critical role in the University's quality assurance procedures.

## **THE ROLE OF EXTERNAL EXAMINERS**

The standard of this course is monitored by at least one external examiner in each of your two subjects. Their specific duties will depend on the nature of the subject in question.

## **LISTENING TO THE VIEWS OF STUDENTS**

### **Student Charter**

Student feedback is important and is obtained through:

- Module evaluations.
- Student representation on course committees, meeting each term
- Personal tutor, module leader

Students are notified of action taken in response to feedback through:

- Minerva announcements
- Matters arising in subsequent course committee meetings.

## **HYPERLINKS TO APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS, POLICIES AND GUIDANCE**

- [Undergraduate Modular Scheme regulations](#)
- [Undergraduate Specialised regulations](#)
- [Taught Postgraduate regulations](#)
- [Anonymous marking policy](#) (see page 27)
- [Plagiarism/unfair practice policy](#)
- [Referencing guidance](#)
- [Equal opportunities statement](#)

## **STAFF PROFILES**

These are brief résumés of the tutors who are responsible for leading Creative Arts and its subjects. You should visit the staff profiles on the university website to see more on their creative and research activities, and find out about other staff who teach on the programme. The tutors listed below are the people you should contact to discuss course-related or

subject-related matters.

**Course Leader: Martin Thomas**

Art and Visual Design  
Site: Dartmouth Avenue  
Room: DA: BG.11  
Email: m.a.thomas@bathspa.ac.uk  
Telephone: 789444

Martin's teaching specialism is photography and digital media. His major interest is in the poetics and representation of land, flora and fauna. He has exhibited in the UK and overseas and his work is held in private collections. Before lecturing full time he has worked commercially as a designer for a leading UK design company, a theatre photographer and a shepherd.

**Ceramics: Peter Bodenham**

Site: Sion Hill  
Room: SH.FA20  
Email: p.bodenham@bathspa.ac.uk  
Telephone: 875465

**Creative Writing: Paul Meyer**

Site: Newton Park  
Room: Dairy DA.G11  
Email: p.meyer@bathspa.ac.uk  
Telephone: 876591

**Dance: Michelle Elliott**

Site: Newton Park  
Room: Ashton AN.G07  
Email: m.elliott@bathspa.ac.uk  
Telephone: 876513

**Drama Studies: Ian McNish**

Site: Newton Park  
Room: Ashton AN.G05  
Email: i.mcnish@bathspa.ac.uk  
Telephone: 876332

Ian worked for a number of years as a consultant project manager /web project manager on behalf of JPMorganChase in London. Previously, he was manager of, and dramaturge for Taking Liberties Theatre Company in Queensland, Australia and a tutor at Griffith University. His research interests lie in dramaturgy in actor training, in 'theatre as (world) citizenship' and in the interfaces between marketing, theatre and new media including graduate employability.

**Music: Nick Atkinson**

Site: Newton Park  
Room: Michael Tippett Centre MT.G04  
Email: n.atkinson@bathspa.ac.uk

Telephone: 875408

Nick Atkinson is a composer specialising mainly in music for film. Much of his work has involved collaboration with filmmaker Robert Fearn, and more recently with Angela Cockayne, and has been televised in the UK and shown widely throughout Europe. He has also collaborated with poets and choreographers.

**Textile Design Studies: Sue Bradley**

Site: Dartmouth Avenue

Room: DA:BG.12

Email: s.bradley@bathspa.ac.uk

Telephone: 484708

Sue's teaching specialism includes hand and machine knitting, embroidery and surface embellishment. She is known internationally for her knitwear collections and wearable art and is a published author. She regularly exhibits her work in galleries in the UK, USA and Europe.