

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: 18/12/2020

Last amended: 21/06/2024

Version no. 1

1. Programme title(s) and code(s)

MA in Art Museum and Gallery Studies

Postgraduate Diploma in Art Museum and Gallery Studies

[HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100918	100%

2. Awarding body or institution

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods

The normal period of registration for the Masters of Arts is 12 months

The maximum period of registration for the Master of Arts is 24 months

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is 9 months

The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is 18 months

5. Typical entry requirements

In recognition of the diverse employment needs of the culture sector, our admissions process recognises and credits a range of prior qualifications and experiences.

Prospective candidates will either have gained a first class or second class degree, which can be in any subject area, or be able to demonstrate equivalent skills and aptitudes through the possession of a professional or vocational qualification and/or the accrual of relevant work experiences. Relevant experience can come from a wide spectrum of work or voluntary environments but clear evidence of this experience must be provided.

All candidates should be able to demonstrate a commitment to, or strong interest in, museums, galleries, or other kinds of heritage or cultural organisation.

If seeking entry without a degree, you will be asked complete an assessment, such as an essay, so as to demonstrate your readiness for postgraduate study. Clear guidance will be provided on assessment criteria. You may also be required to attend an interview.

All applicants must satisfy the University's English language requirements as detailed in the Senate Regulations.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

n/a

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to

- Provide a programme of study for those who want to develop a career in the arts sector based on leading art museum and gallery studies research and practice.
- Produce employable graduates for the arts sector.
- Provide an inclusive, supportive, and yet challenging, learning environment with access to a range of academic support systems.
- Equip students with the professional knowledge, skills and values appropriate for the needs of a rapidly changing museums and galleries sector.
- Engage students in the critical development of art museum and gallery studies as an established academic discipline.
- Prepare students for a research career.
- Foster within students a motivation and aptitude for intellectual enquiry, critical assessment, creative innovation and a commitment to lifelong learning.
- Provide opportunities to develop a variety of personal transferable skills relevant to the needs of a range of employers, and develop students' abilities to identify, reflect upon and communicate these to a range of employers and professional colleagues within museums, galleries, and the wider art and heritage sectors.

All our graduates (MA/PGDip) should be able to:

- Demonstrate a sophisticated knowledge of and be able to critically engage with major theoretical, methodological and professional themes at the forefront of contemporary museum and gallery studies
- Identify a range of issues of concern to art institutions, and creatively and thoughtfully apply the knowledge gained from the course within specific professional and academic contexts
- Develop the intellectual skills appropriate to postgraduate study
- Work independently, collaboratively and creatively
- Demonstrate a range of personal transferable skills including communication skills
- Perform to a high professional standard in order to secure employment
- Plan a response to research questions by formulation of aims, objectives and methodologies based upon a comprehensive understanding of museum and gallery studies research
- Locate, select and analyse information relevant to a research project
- Construct arguments and communicate effectively in English, within an international academic and professional community

Graduates from our MA in Art Museum and Gallery Studies should be able to:

- Plan, execute and write up an extended research project on a topic concerning art museums and galleries, and other art institutions

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

* signifies MA-only components.

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Advanced knowledge of art gallery practice and a range of museum-related issues	Lectures seminars workshops project work study visits and fieldwork practice element feedback on all assessed work self-directed learning independent research	assignments study visits 'report-backs' module 6 project reflective statement module 7 research project*

ii) Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Grasp of major theoretical methodological and professional principles in art museum and gallery studies	Lectures seminars workshops project work study visits and fieldwork practice element feedback on all assessed work self-directed learning independent research	assignments study visits 'report-backs' module 6 project reflective statement module 7 research project*

iii) Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Mastery of range of techniques related to art gallery work including museum communication, collections management, collections care and strategic resource development as well as research methods	Lectures seminars workshops practicals study visits and fieldwork practice element feedback on all assessed work self-directed learning independent research	assignments study visits 'report-backs' module 6 project reflective statement module 7 research project*

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to apply understanding of concepts and techniques with independence, rigour and self-reflexivity	Lectures seminars workshops study visits practice element feedback on all assessed work self-directed learning independent research	assignments study visits 'report-backs' module 6 project reflective statement module 7 research project*

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to organise research material in a manner appropriate to the medium that is to be assessed; to distinguish between relevant and non-relevant material; to write-up and deliver oral reports on findings to a professional standard	WordPress course site writing and assessment briefings tutorials seminars module assignment feedback research supervision research feedback	Individual presentation module 6 project reflective statement module 7 research project*

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to analyse and assess a variety of complex museological and practical museum issues and concepts	Lectures seminars study visits feedback on all assessed work self-directed learning independent research WordPress course site writing and assessment briefings tutorials seminars module assignment feedback research supervision research feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module essays • a feature article • study visit 'reportbacks' • individual presentation • dissertation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to mount and sustain an independent level of inquiry at an advanced level	Lectures seminars study visits feedback on all assessed work self-directed learning independent research WordPress course site writing and assessment briefings tutorials seminars module assignment feedback research supervision research feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module essays • a feature article • study visit 'reportbacks' • individual presentation • dissertation

b) Transferable skills

i) Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to define and describe a problem and its parameters and develop methods for its solution, including a realistic timetable and taking into account relevant ethical issues. Knowledge of a range of research methods.	Online research skills resources Study Guide self-directed learning progressive modes of assessment research supervision.	module assignments module 6 project reflective statement option essay module 7 research project*
Ability to analyse and draw appropriate conclusions from research data. Ability to research and critically engage with websites.	Online research skills resources Study Guide self-directed learning progressive modes of assessment research supervision.	module assignments module 6 project reflective statement option essay module 7 research project*

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to communicate views, needs and concerns effectively in the context of international working relationships.	Research Skills resource on Blackboard Project work WP online course site writing and assessment briefings tutorials seminars oral presentation module assignment feedback research supervision research feedback	Individual presentations study visit 'report backs' module assignments module 6 project module 7 research project*

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to deliver oral presentations to a professional standard. Ability to write cogently and clearly at levels appropriate to academic, museum and public contexts	Research Skills resource on Blackboard Project work WP online course site writing and assessment briefings tutorials seminars oral presentation module assignment feedback research supervision research feedback	Individual presentations study visit 'report backs' module assignments module 6 project module 7 research project*

iii) Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to present research clearly and effectively using appropriate digital media resources	Research Skills resource on Blackboard WP online course site writing and assessment briefings self-directed learning assignment feedback research project feedback.	Module assignments Project presentations module 7 research project*

iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to make use of digital resources for conducting academic research, locating resources, and assessing these resources for utility and reliability.	Tutorials Self-directed learning research supervision Independent research Project work Online blog	module assignments Module 6 project outcomes Module 7 research project*
Ability to use online resources set up by the School and the University (e.g. Blackboard, the Digital Library).	Tutorials Self-directed learning research supervision Independent research Project work Online blog	module assignments Module 6 project outcomes Module 7 research project*

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Independently approach the subject and form research objectives in relation to a particular 'problem'.	Research Skills resource on Blackboard WP online course site self-directed learning assignment feedback research feedback	diverse module assignments module 6 project research project*

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Critically select and apply methods for addressing research questions.	Research Skills resource on Blackboard WP online course site self-directed learning assignment feedback research feedback	diverse module assignments module 6 project research project*
Critically select and analyse a range of material for addressing research questions.	Research Skills resource on Blackboard WP online course site self-directed learning assignment feedback research feedback	diverse module assignments module 6 project research project*

vi) Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Knowing how and when to draw on the knowledge & expertise of others	Seminars (and other interactive sessions such as 'buzz groups') Module 6 project Practice element research supervision	Tutorial contributions study visit 'report backs' reflective statement module 6 project discussions research project.
Ability to contribute & comment on ideas in syndicate groups	Seminars (and other interactive sessions such as 'buzz groups') Module 6 project Practice element research supervision	Tutorial contributions study visit 'report backs' reflective statement module 6 project discussions research project.
Peer assessment (where appropriate)	Seminars (and other interactive sessions such as 'buzz groups') Module 6 project Practice element research supervision	Tutorial contributions study visit 'report backs' reflective statement module 6 project discussions research project.

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to identify, find, categorise and organise research material. Effective time and work management skills.	Online research skills resources WP online course site writing and assessment briefings assessment feedback research feedback	Module 6 project Diverse module assignments reflective statement research project
Ability to use IT resources to assist and organise research	Online research skills resources WP online course site writing and assessment briefings assessment feedback research feedback	Module 6 project Diverse module assignments reflective statement research project

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to reflect upon individual professional strengths and identify areas for development.	Tutorials Career Development Programme including: lectures, seminars, workshops. Jobs desk. Museum Studies Connect graduate network .	Self-awareness demonstrated in personal tutorials research supervisions reflective statement after practice element.
Gain the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in the competitive job search environment.	Tutorials Career Development Programme including: lectures, seminars, workshops. Jobs desk. Museum Studies Connect graduate network .	Self-awareness demonstrated in personal tutorials research supervisions reflective statement after practice element.

10. Special features

Practice element, study visits, external speakers, practice-centred project, fieldwork, optional extracurricular visits to art institutions.

11. Indicators of programme quality

External Examiner reports: External Examiners continue to praise the level of feedback provided and the rigour of assessment methods.

12. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of taught postgraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

13. Progression points

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

The following additional progression requirements for this programme have been approved:

- Progression takes place at the end of the taught component, with the assessment of 90 credits of course work completed.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate/exit award where appropriate.

14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

15. External Examiners reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required]

16. Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)

n/a

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Master of Arts in Art Museum and Gallery Studies

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	15 credits	45 credits	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits

180 credits in total

Postgraduate Diploma in Art Museum and Gallery Studies

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	15 credits	45 credits	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 2025/26

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	MU7002	Locating art	15 credits
Semester 1	MU7003	Making art history	15 credits
Semester 2	MU7004	Curating now	15 credits
Semester 1	MU7005	Managing art collections	15 credits
Semester 2	MU7006	Designing for creative lives	15 credits
Year long	MU7007	Entering the field	15 credits
April	MU7008	Research*	60 credits
July	MU7009	Practice	30 credits

Notes

* compulsory for the degree of MA

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See taught postgraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).