



Module Descriptor

Title	Art Culture & Society		
Session	2025/26	Status	
Code	SOCY09059	SCQF Level	9
Credit Points	20	ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)	10
School	Education and Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator	C Brick		

Summary of Module

This module will introduce students to the study of art and culture from a social science perspective. Students will engage with and critically evaluate theories and models that examine the contested concepts of art and culture and the different ways in which these concepts are defined. Learners will examine the ways in which art and culture are produced and consumed and how they are shaped by and are functions of the social world. A focus will be placed on the social, economic and political nature of art and culture, both historically and in the contemporary context, and learners will be encouraged to develop a reflexive understanding of the lived experience of art and culture.

As a broad introduction to the module, the first section will introduce learners to the concepts of art and culture, considering their contested nature, and extending learners' understanding of the production and consumption of art and culture. It will consider the concepts of fine and popular art and high and popular culture, examining the ways in which these concepts have been constructed and how society has been stratified along lines of artistic and cultural engagement.

The second section will critically examine the influence of classical and contemporary theorists whose work has been instrumental in examining and exploring the field of art and culture. A key focus will be placed on the social, economic and political nature of art and culture, both historically and in the contemporary context.

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus¹	Hybrid²	Online³	Work -Based Learning⁴
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

¹ Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

² The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

³ Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

⁴ Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

						<input type="checkbox"/>
Campuses for Module Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr <input type="checkbox"/> Dumfries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lanarkshire <input type="checkbox"/> London <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paisley	<input type="checkbox"/> Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)			
Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 2 – Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3 – Term 1	<input type="checkbox"/>

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate a critical understanding of key theoretical approaches to the study of art and culture
L2	Critically analyse and evaluate theoretical positions, concepts and issues relating to the contested nature of the study of art and culture.
L3	Communicate complex ideas and concepts relating to the evaluation of art and culture in appropriate audio/visual or written form
L4	
L5	

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	SCQF 9 Demonstrating a broad and integrated knowledge and understanding of art and culture and the way in which the concepts of art and culture are socially constructed; Demonstrating a critical understanding of a range of theoretical perspectives and approaches relating to the social scientific engagement with art and culture.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF 9 Retrieving, interpreting, employing and referencing specialized knowledge and information from a variety of primary and secondary sources which examine engagement with art and culture in the social sciences; Conceiving, developing and producing a substantial piece of written work evaluating some key aspects of theoretical approaches to the study of art and culture.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF 9 Developing reasoned argument, synthesising relevant information and exercising critical judgement in the analysis of complex theoretical theories and perspectives
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF 9

	Communicating complex ideas effectively and fluently, visually, orally and in writing through the assessment mechanisms of the electronic presentation Making effective use of information retrieval systems and using information technology applications to research assessment material
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	SCQF 9 Exercising autonomy and initiative while developing the capacity for independent work

Prerequisites	Module Code	Module Title
	Other	
Co-requisites	Module Code	Module Title

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
Learning Activities	Student Learning Hours
During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	(Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	26
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	10
Please select	164
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
<p>The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:</p> <p>Hanquinet, L & Savage, M (eds.) (2015) Routledge International Handbook of the Sociology of Art & Culture (Routledge)</p> <p>Tanner, J (2003) The Sociology of Art. A Reader (Routledge)</p>
(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
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In line with the [Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure](#), Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

In line with the Academic Engagement Procedure, Students are defined as academically engaged if they are regularly engaged with timetabled teaching sessions, course-related learning resources including those in the Library and on the relevant learning platform, and complete assessments and submit these on time. Please refer to the Academic Engagement Procedure at the following link: [Academic engagement procedure](#)

Where a module has Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body requirements these will be listed here:

All fulltime students (part-time and distant learning students should check with their programme leader for any queries) are required to attend all scheduled classes and participate with all delivered elements of the module as part of their engagement with their programme of study. Consideration will be given to students who have protection under the appropriate equality law.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code](#).

Aligned with the overall commitment to equality and diversity stated in the Programme Specifications, the module supports equality of opportunity for students from all backgrounds and with different learning needs. Using Moodle, learning materials will be presented electronically in formats that allow flexible access and manipulation of content (part-time and distant learning students should check with their programme leader for any queries). The module complies with University regulations and guidance on inclusive learning and teaching practice. Specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Policy can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.uws.ac.uk/equality/>

Our partners are fully committed to the principles and practice of inclusiveness and our modules are designed to be accessible to all. Where this module is delivered overseas, local equivalent support for students and appropriate legislation applies.

UWS Equality and Diversity Policy

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	Social Sciences
Overall Assessment Results	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass / Fail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graded
Module Eligible for Compensation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.
School Assessment Board	Social Sciences
Moderator	TBC

External Examiner	R Ryder
Accreditation Details	ACCA
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Changes / Version Number	

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Written Assessment
Assessment 2
Assessment 3
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
Written Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	100	

Component 2							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Component 3							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	When	Who
New template, no changes for 25/26	Mar 25	C Brick
