

Researcher Development Programme

2016 – 2017



Image credit: Jerry Hardman-Jones.



MANCHESTER
SCHOOL OF ART



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If you have any questions about the programme get in touch with Myna Trustram (m.trustram@mmu.ac.uk, 0161 247 1118)

The Researcher Development Programme at Manchester School of Art consists of scheduled activities on Wednesdays and other activities that stem from student and staff initiatives throughout the year.

The scheduled activities are regular and cumulative in their effects.

The other activities tend to be one-off and are more spontaneous responses to something that excites a student or staff member.

All activities are open to all staff and research degree students in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

We require all MSA first year students to attend the Wednesday Workshops, but some (e.g. Towards the RD2, Preparing for your Viva) are also of particular relevance to students in the second and third years, as are the theory seminars and reading group.

These members of staff in MIRIAD have particular responsibilities for the Researcher Development Programme:

Professor Jim Aulich (Head of MSA Research Degrees)
j.aulich@mmu.ac.uk

Dr Amanda Ravetz (Deputy Head of MSA Research Degrees)
a.ravetz@mmu.ac.uk

Dr Myna Trustram (Research Associate)
m.trustram@mmu.ac.uk

PART ONE: SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

These take place (unless specified) in the open space on the first floor of the Righton Building.

Wednesday Workshops 13.30 – 15.00

These workshops and seminars cover research skills, communicating your research, and progression through your degree.

Unless indicated, they are presented by staff and students from the Arts and Humanities Faculty.

5 October	Show and tell Bring along an object that demonstrates some aspect of your research	Amanda Ravetz Myna Trustram
12 October	Towards the RD1 Getting organised (including time management)	Jim Aulich Sam Colling Lewis Sykes
19–20 October	Annual Conference NW Consortium Doctoral Training Programme Royal Northern College of Music	
26 October	An introduction to copyright	Su Jones, Paul Herrmann (Director of Redeye), Lewis Sykes
2 November	Research methods in art and design	Amanda Ravetz
9 November	Research ethics and the RD1 ethics form	John Spencer
16 November	Academic writing	Amanda Ravetz
23 November	The literature and practice review	Philip Sykas
30 November	The digital researcher	Lewis Sykes
7 December	Making effective presentations 1	David Shirley
14 December	Student / staff forum	Myna Trustram

11 January	Making effective presentations 2	David Shirley
18 January	Student presentations (full time)	Myna Trustram
25 January	Student presentations (full time)	Myna Trustram
1 February	Working with a gallery or museum	Jane Brown (Museum and Gallery Officer, The Atkinson)
8 February	Networking Do I really have to become a networker in order to do my research?	Sarah Perks (Artistic Director: Visual Art, HOME)
15 February	Collaboration How can you become an effective collaborator?	Myna Trustram
22 February	MMU postgraduate conference Students Union	
1 March	Writing research proposals	Martyn Evans
8 March	Getting your research published	Meredith Carroll (Journals Manager, Manchester University Press) Felicity Colman
15 March	Student presentations (part time)	Myna Trustram
22 March	Towards the Progression Review (RD2)	Jim Aulich
29 March	Preparing for a viva	Sam Colling
5 April	The art of going to conferences	Tilo Reifenstein Liz Mitchell
12 April	Student / staff forum	Myna Trustram
14-17 April	Easter	

Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design

Wednesdays 15.30 – 16.30

12 October – 5 April

A fortnightly, peer-led group led by Amanda Ravetz

Methods and methodologies in art and design are various and contested, throwing up all kinds of questions for the historian, the designer, the teacher, the ethnographer, the artist and so on.

To tackle these questions we will come together as scholars who can learn from each other. We will create an informal environment that is inclusive, and that encourages and supports participants to share, think and reflect. Everyone doing the course will be encouraged to read chosen texts and share relevant experiences.

We will be guided by the principles of co-production, deciding together what and how to study. During the first two sessions we will scope out the interests and existing knowledge of the group, gather materials and create learning and teaching pathways for the coming months.

Attendance at the two preliminary sessions is particularly encouraged so that we can plan the course together. Everyone is welcome, but please send expressions of interest to Amanda Ravetz (a.ravetz@mmu.ac.uk) by 7 October with a couple of sentences about why you want to join the group.

Theory Seminars

Wednesdays 15.30 – 16.30

A series of seminars from staff in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities talking about the theoretical ideas that underpin their research or particularly excite them.

5 October	Colour in theory	Jane Webb
2 Nov	The multiple artistic uses of light	Tim Edensor (Faculty of Science and Engineering)
30 Nov	Feminist epistemologies	Felicity Colman
1 Feb	Post-colonial theorists	Uthra Rajgopal
1 March	We'll let you know.	
29 March	Curating and the Curatorial: Between theory and practice	Steve Gartside
Easter		
19 April	Image theory	Jim Aulich
26 April	We'll let you know.	
3 May	Capitalism and Contemporary Art: Theoretical approaches in relation to Marxist theory.	Danielle Child
10 May	We'll let you know.	
24 May	Unsound – Undead: Zombie sound theory	Toby Heys

Reading Group: Materials, Technologies, Ethics

Wednesdays, monthly, 15.30-17.30

October – July

Convened by Felicity Colman

Research and Practice MA and PhD students from all disciplines are welcome.

This reading group will span the quantum 20th century's interest in duration (Bergson, Grosz), observation, experience, and territory (Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Deleuze), and the movements of political forces that organise life within these forces (Arendt, Guattari, Butler, Haraway, Barad), and the role that technologies play in determining things (Stiegler, Stengers). We will examine a range of models used to engage these themes and topics, including the phenomenological, the technoscientific, the ecological and the ethical.

Each meeting will consist of an in-depth reading and discussion of one or more texts. This is not a seminar, and all participants should do the core readings prior to the meeting.

Participants are expected to acquire the literature themselves, but wherever possible pdf files will be made available.

Please email Felicity (f.colman@mmu.ac.uk) with your expression of interest to attend, and any specific texts you might wish to address. A full reading list will be available in September.

Writing Class

Wednesdays 10.00 – 12.00

12 October – 14 December; 11 January – 15 March

Led by Myna Trustram

The course is open to research degree students and staff in the Arts and Humanities Faculty.

You must sign up in advance (it is not a drop-in class) and commit yourself to regular attendance. Tell Myna Trustram (m.trustram@mmu.ac.uk) by 7 October if you would like to join.

Writing is one of the most powerful ways of conveying our experience of the world and of communicating insights. This course is designed to help you become a confident and creative writer of academic prose. It will nurture academic writing skills (theories, histories and practices) and encourage individual writing voices.

The approach is exploratory, experiential and practice-based, as opposed to didactic. You will work closely with your experience in order to engage your senses and to draw on your practice whether as an artist, curator, historian, theorist and so on.

We will examine how academic and other writers engage the thoughts of others in order to arrive at their own considered views. We will begin from the assumption that compelling inquiry and writing can emerge from what we already know, including our own creative practice.

Regular writing inside and outside the classes is required. Towards the end of the course you will be encouraged to form your own student-run writing group for those who want to further develop their writing together.

Creative Provocations

Wednesdays 15.30 – 17.00

14 December, 12 April, 31 May

Convened by Gemma Meek (MIRIAD PhD student)

Provocation is the causing of a strong reaction, often from speech or action. This reaction, although equated in some contexts with annoyance or anger, is a deliberate intent to provoke an audience to sit up, listen and take note. A provocation can be useful.

We want to encourage the use of the provocation as a way to explore our research questions and interests. Staff and students are invited to fill a ten minute slot with a chosen provocation, addressed to the audience to unpick, counter or solve.

The provocation can be presented in a multitude of formats: a performance, speech, demonstration, film or action, often creatively weaved or informed. Once the provocation is given, the audience must provide answers and counterpoints, rather than proceeding with questions.

Provocation slots are open to all research degree students and staff in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

Contact Gemma (gemma.k.meek@stu.mmu.ac.uk) if you'd like to book a slot.

PART TWO: MIRIADONLINE AND OTHER MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF ART ACTIVITIES

MIRIADONLINE

<http://news.miriadonline>

MIRIADONLINE is a student-led platform for the MIRIAD research community that promotes and disseminates research and practice. It is led by the MIRIADONLINE co-ordinator (Lewis Sykes) who works with the MIRIADONLINE Group (MOG) which is made up of postgraduate researchers and staff.

It includes announcements, events, exhibition news, news from postgraduate researchers, notices of publications, projects, talks and opinion pieces from students and staff.

It has profiles of current and recently completed students and their projects.

The site features:

MIRIADONLINE Tumblr blog

<http://miriadonline.tumblr.com>

This collates calls for papers and articles, exhibitions, lectures, upcoming events, news, information and opportunities of interest.

MIRIADONLINE on Vimeo

<http://vimeo.com/miriadonline>

This has films of the talks given in the Researcher Development Programme and is designed to guide students through their research.

MIRIADONLINE Scribd page

<http://scribd.com/miriadonline>

This carries useful handouts and guides relating to the programme including such issues as copyright.

There is an active Facebook page and a Twitter account @miriadonline

The 'Web 101' lunchtime workshop (Wednesdays 12.30 – 1.30) offers students support in making full use of new media through online research journals and practice blogs. This can be arranged on a one to one basis by contacting Lewis Sykes (l.sykes@mmu.ac.uk)

MA by Research Group

This is a discussion and support group for students doing an MA by Research, convened by Myna Trustram. We will meet near the beginning of term and then regularly depending on demand. If you have any initial questions about this get in touch with Myna Trustram (m.trustram@mmu.ac.uk).

Student-led initiatives

Do you have an idea for a project that will help your own and others' scholarly, professional and personal development?

This might be

- A reading or support group you'd like to initiate
- A project with an external arts organisation
- A symposium, conference, workshop
- And so on...

Get in touch with Myna Trustram (m.trustram@mmu.ac.uk) if you would like to discuss an idea. There is a small amount of funding to support projects.

PART THREE: WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

MMU Graduate School

MMU's Graduate School represents the University's postgraduate research community of over 800 students and their supervisors.

The Graduate School runs a Research Students Development Programme that provides the opportunity to gain skills to support you in the completion of your research degree. There are also programmes to increase employability and transferable skills, such as the MMU Futures Leadership Programme.

The workshops are mapped against the Vitae Researcher Development Framework and are an important supplement to the subject specialist training offered by Manchester School of Art.

The Graduate School supports the annual Postgraduate Research Conference, which is organised by research student representatives from across the University. The theme for the conference this year (22 February 2017) is 'Changing Lives' <http://ow.ly/4i6S303aT3G>.

For further details about the Research Students Development Programme, please visit: <http://ow.ly/CCpF303aT9F>

Graduate School Clinic

There may be times in your research degree when things do not go the way you planned; this is not unusual. If you are unable to find a resolution to your problem through your Director of Studies, supervisors or the Head of MSA Research

Degrees, and would like help away from these usual groups, you can arrange a confidential meeting with staff from the Graduate School Clinic.

To arrange a meeting please contact Clare Holdcroft: c.holdcroft@mmu.ac.uk
0161 247 1062

Manchester University

Research students in Manchester School of Art are invited to attend training events at the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Manchester. You can find out about their programme here:

www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/humnet/our-services/postgraduate-research/researcher-development/

You should also look at their Research Training Hub, ProGRess@humanities, which brings together the training available to postgraduate researchers in the Faculty:

<http://progresstraininghub.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/category>

They operate a booking system for their sessions. Contact Nicola Sheehan if you would like to attend a training event at Manchester University:
humanities-training@manchester.ac.uk

PART FOUR: CALENDAR OF SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

28 – 29 September	Induction	
5 October	13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Wednesday Workshop Theory seminar
12 October	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
19 October	10.00 – 12.00 11.45 – 19.00 15.30 – 17.30	Writing Class Annual Conference NW Doctoral Training Programme Reading Group: Materials, technologies, ethics
20 October	08.30 – 16.30	Annual Conference NW Doctoral Training Programme
26 October	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
2 November	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Theory seminar
9 November	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
16 November	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 17.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Reading Group: Materials, technologies, ethics
23 November	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
30 November	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Theory seminar
7 December	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
14 December	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 17.00	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Creative Provocations

11 January	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
18 January	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 17.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Reading Group: Materials, technologies, ethics
25 January	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
1 February	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Theory seminar
8 February	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
15 February	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 17.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Reading Group: Materials, technologies, ethics
22 February	MMU Postgraduate Conference 10.00 – 12.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
1 March	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Theory seminar tbc
8 March	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
15 March	10.00 – 12.00 13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 17.30	Writing Class Wednesday Workshop Reading Group: Materials, technologies, ethics
22 March	13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
29 March	13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Wednesday Workshop Theory seminar
5 April	13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 16.30	Wednesday Workshop Methods and Methodologies in Art and Design
12 April	13.30 – 15.00 15.30 – 17.00	Wednesday Workshop Creative Provocations

19 April	15.30 – 16.30	Theory seminar
26 April	15.30 – 16.30	Theory seminar tbc
3 May	15.30 – 16.30	Theory seminar
10 May	15.30 – 16.30	Theory seminar tbc
17 May	15.30 – 17.30	Reading Group: Materials, technologies, ethics
24 May	15.30 – 16.30	Theory seminar
31 May	15.30 – 17.00	Creative Provocations
14 June	15.30 – 17.30	Reading Group: Materials, technologies, ethics
12 July	15.30 – 17.30	Reading Group: Materials, technologies, ethics

Cover image:

Slush cast bowl by Ian McIntyre

Ian McIntyre holds a Collaborative Doctoral Award with Manchester School of Art. In his work he uses a mix of industrial design and craft skills to produce installations, studio editions and industrial designs. Collaborators include Another Country, Jerwood Visual Arts, Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design, Vitsoe, The London Design Festival and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

<http://ianmcintyre.co.uk/>