

Title	Introduction to Practice as Research
Location in course	Elective unit on PGCert/PGDip stage of MA
Credit rating	20
Level of Study	7
Contact Hours	15 hours

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit you will be able to:

1. Examine the possibilities of practice as research in an academic context.
[Knowledge]
2. Evaluate the potential of collaborative and interdisciplinary initiatives in planning for research.
[Process]
3. Articulate the relationship between your practice and the field of practice-based research.
[Communication]

Indicative Content

This unit investigates the implications of considering practice as research within arts disciplines. You will review theoretical perspectives and policy documents that promote particular definitions of academic research and research as practice with reference to key aims, objectives, and impact, and relate these to a series of case-samples that illustrate possible formats for research as practice and draw out the relationship between practice as research and writing.

Relating practice as research discourse to your own practice, you will explore building networks and communities within artistic research, and the role that creative practitioners can play in interdisciplinary research. You will be encouraged to consider your own practice in relation to current opportunities and possibilities in the field of creative research.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The teaching and learning methods used on this unit include:

- Seminars
- Group tutorial
- Presentations
- Workshops
- Independent study

Assessment Requirements

The unit will be assessed holistically through:

- An essay that appraises the various ways in which practice can be conceived as research and locates individual practice within a field of practice-based research. (4000 words, excluding illustrations and references)

Essential Reading

Bal, M. (2002) *Travelling Concepts In the Humanities: A Rough Guide*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Barrett, E. and Bolt, B. (eds.) (2007) *Practice as Research: Approaches to creative arts enquiry*. London: I.B.Tauris.

Frayling, C. (1993) *Research in Art and Design*. Royal College of Art Research Papers, 1(1).

Malpass, M. (2016) *Critical Design in Context*. London: Bloomsbury.

Rughani, P. (2013) 'The dance of documentary ethics'. In: Winston, B. (ed.) *The BFI documentary film book*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Williams, R. (1996) *The Politics of Modernism: Against the new conformists*. London: Verso.

Wilson, M. and van Ruiten, S. (2013) *SHARE Handbook for Artistic Research Education*. Amsterdam: European League for the Institutes of the Arts (ELIA). Available at: <https://www.elia-artschools.org/userfiles/Image/customimages/products/120/share-handbook-for-artistic-research-education-high-definition.pdf>

Further recommended reading and resources are provided in the course reading list.