

LEVEL 5 ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

Student name:		Student ID number:	
Programme:			
Module:	Research in Context		
Module code:	ADAD5003	Contribution to Overall Module Assessment (%):	
Lecturer:	Timi O'Neill	Internal Verifier:	Julia Lockheart
Assignment Title:		Word count (or equivalent):	
Submission deadline:	10/12/2020	Return date of provisional marks & written feedback:	22/01/21
Submission method:	All written assessments, where practical and possible, must be submitted via Turnitin unless otherwise instructed by the Lecturer. (Please DO NOT put this assessment specification into Turnitin or it will match many similarities with other students' submissions.) Alternative submission method (if applicable): Late submission of the assessment will result in a late penalty mark. Penalties for late submission: Up to one week late, maximum mark of 40%. Over one week late, 0%. Only the Extenuating Circumstances Panel may approve a change to submission dates.		
Academic honesty / referencing:	Academic honesty is required. In the main body of your submission you must give credit to authors on whose research and ideas your work is based. Append to your submission a reference list that indicates the books, articles, etc. that you have used, cited or quoted in order to complete this assessment.		

Module Learning Outcomes (from module syllabus)

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to:

- Identify and examine the contextual formation of their particular objects of study, research areas and interfaces and demonstrate intellectual curiosity through an engagement with the materials of study, archives, texts and literatures;
- Engage with forms of critical analysis, argument and debate, expressed through an appropriate command of oral, written and other forms of communication.

TASK DESCRIPTION

The *Research in Context* module (ADAD5003) is designed to help students to explore interests, artists, designers and themes within, or associated with their practice, as a preparation for an ongoing engagement with the contextualization of their work.

Bear in mind that in order to contain your argument within the format of a 2,500-word essay and avoid superficial coverage, you should be highly selective in your choice of examples and concentrate on critical analysis.

Overview

On the 27th of January 2021, the next Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) will be held. On this day, there will be a series of events across the world to remember and commemorate the horrors that took place during the 2nd world war, Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

Essay Questions

During this module you will be challenged to consider the relationship your discipline has to both historic events and the shape of contemporary society in order for you to produce a critical response that is culturally, aesthetically, and ethically appropriate. Below is a set of essay questions.

Choose ONE essay question from the following:

Question 1: “The good of a book lies in its being read. A book is made up of signs that speak of other signs, which in turn speak of things. Without an eye to read them, a book contains signs that produces no concept; therefore, it is dumb.” Umberto Eco quoted in *The Book of Informatics* Hobbs et al (2011) Using this quotation, critically discuss it in relation to the contemporary media and debate whether you think we, as a society are being taught to not read the signs of modern life

Question 2: Paying close attention to the terms of 'designer design', 'quiet design' and 'the plenitude', critically discuss the work of TWO practitioners within your field and ascertain how their design work adheres to one or all of the terms.

Question 3: Referring to the idea of storytelling within a discipline, refer to at least THREE practitioners within any field of academic study and critically explore the way their work have aided the creation of a dominant view of how we see society today.

Question 4. From the series of IMAGINED WORLDS research strand lectures, choose a theme, movement, or selection of artists or designers that relate to your practice or interests, and construct a 2,500-word essay. Critically assess primary themes, key writers, and relevant practitioners.

Question 5: With an emphasis on Welsh language, Culture or Identity chose a theme or focus on creative practitioners relevant to your field of study and critically analyse your choices. This essay can be presented in Welsh or in English in discussion with your tutor.

Word Count 2,500

Essay hand in 10th December 2020 12pm via Tunitin on your module Moodle

GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS IN THE COMPLETION OF TASKS

NOTE: The guidance offered below is linked to the five generic assessment criteria overleaf.

1. Engagement with Literature Skills

Your work must be informed and supported by scholarly material that is *relevant* to and *focused* on the task(s) set. You should provide evidence that you have accessed an appropriate *range* of sources, which may be academic, governmental and industrial; these sources may include academic journal articles, textbooks, current news articles, organisational documents, and websites. You should consider the *credibility* of your sources; academic journals are normally highly credible sources while websites require careful consideration/selection and should be used sparingly. Any sources you use should be current and up-to-date, mostly published within the last five years or so, though seminal/important works in the field may be older. You must provide *evidence* of your research/own reading throughout your work, using a suitable referencing system, including in-text citations in the main body of your work and a reference list at the end of your work.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

1. Attend all taught academic and library sessions
2. Take time to read the set readings given to you. These readings will help you create a wider vision of the subject and provide you with core information to add to your argument.
3. Watch current news stations both mainstream and alternative and make notes

2. Knowledge and Understanding Skills

At level 5, you should be able to demonstrate: sound knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established concepts and principles of the subject area and the way in which those principles have developed; knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the discipline. *Knowledge* relates to the facts, information and skills you have acquired through your learning. You demonstrate your *understanding* by interpreting the meaning of the facts and information (knowledge). This means that you need to select and include in your work the concepts, techniques, models, theories, etc. appropriate to the task(s) set. You should be able to explain the theories, concepts, etc. meaningfully to show your understanding. Your mark/grade will also depend upon the *extent* to which you demonstrate your knowledge and understanding.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

1. *Makes notes of key terms from your research.*
2. *Build a spider diagram and how these key terms relate to each other*
3. *Look for counter arguments to the terms*
4. *Create a list of key thinkers and practitioners that are discussed in your readings.*

3. Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

You should be able to critically analyse information, and propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis, including the critical evaluation of the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems. Your work must contain evidence of logical, analytical thinking, evaluation and synthesis. For example, to examine and break information down into parts, make inferences, compile, compare and contrast information. This means not just describing what! But also justifying: Why? How? When? Who? Where? At what cost? At all times, you must provide justification/evidence for your arguments and judgements. Evidence that you have reflected upon the ideas of others within the subject area is crucial to you providing a reasoned and informed debate within your work. Furthermore, you should provide evidence that you are able to make sound judgements and convincing arguments using data and concepts, with an understanding of the limits of knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations. Sound, valid conclusions are necessary and must be derived from the content of your work. Where relevant, alternative solutions and recommendations may be proposed.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

1. *Write down your argument in terms of a story. Stories have a beginning middle and end, and your essay structure can be the same*
2. *Think to how each paragraph works together and needs to form a coherent whole*

4. Practical Skills

At level 5, you should be able to use/deploy a range of established techniques within the discipline, and apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context. You should be able to demonstrate how the subject-related concepts and ideas relate to real world situations and/or a particular context. How do they work in practice? You will deploy models, methods, techniques, and/or theories, in that context, to assess current situations, perhaps to formulate plans or solutions to solve problems, or to create artefacts, some of which may be creative. This is likely to involve, for instance, the use of real world artefacts, examples and cases, the application of a model within an organisation and/or benchmarking one theory or organisation against others based on stated criteria. You should show awareness of the limitations of concepts and theories when applied in particular contexts.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

1. *As you will need to refer to contemporary practitioners, ask yourself how you are applying these individuals to the context of the essay?*
2. *Are you referring to their work without an appropriate context?*
3. *Are you including relevant historical or biographical data?*

5. Transferable Skills for Life and Professional Practice

Your work must provide evidence of the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making. This includes demonstrating: professional development to advance existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable you to assume significant responsibility within organisations; that you can initiate and complete tasks and procedures, whether individually and/or collaboratively; that you can use appropriate media to effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences; fluency of expression; clarity and effectiveness in presentation and organisation. Work should be coherent and well-structured in presentation and organisation.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

1. *These Contextual Practices assignments are preparing for the world beyond university, where you will be expected to display a critical attitude to a range of activities both intellectual and practical. In this essay, ask yourself whether you are providing the future you will need the skills necessary to survive a ever changing world? With this in mind, the more you read, the more you practice writing your argument, the better you work at perfecting the essay structure and structure in general, will help you transition from a student to someone working and thriving in the outside world.*

STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM

This section details the *extent* to which the assessment criteria are demonstrated by you, which in turn determines your mark. The marks available for each category of skill are shown. Lecturers will use the space provided to comment on the achievement of the task(s), including those areas in which you have performed well and areas that would benefit from development/improvement.

Generic Assessment Criteria	Marks available	Marks awarded
1. Engagement with Literature Skills		
	40	
2. Knowledge and Understanding Skills		
	10	
3. Cognitive and Intellectual Skills		
	10	
4. Practical Application Skills		
	20	
5. Transferable Skills for Life and Professional Practice		
	20	

Assessment Mark (Assessment marks are subject to ratification at the Exam Board. These comments and marks are to give feedback on module work and are for guidance only until they are confirmed.)	Late Submission Penalties (tick if appropriate)		%
	Up to 1 week late (40% Max)		
	Over 1 week late (0%)		