

Autumn Semester, Level 5 module
(Maximum 18 Students)

UCU: 20 Organiser: Dr Ferdinand De Jong

MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework and Project

Timetable Slot:F2

We live our lives surrounded by material objects. In many ways, our lives are dictated by the consumption of goods. How then, should we understand our relation to materiality? In this module, you'll learn about contemporary archaeological and anthropological perspectives in the study of material culture. Questions that come up include: why the Summer Solstice is celebrated at Stonehenge; how houses differ across cultures; why we give each other gifts and wrap them; and how clothing gives us identity? Studying human-object relations from a range of perspectives, this module equips you to understand the role of materiality in your life and to think in nuanced ways on our consumer society.

2019/0 - AMAA5086A MEDIEVAL BODIES

Autumn Semester, Level 5 module
(Maximum 18 Students)

UCU: 20 Organiser: Dr Jack Hartnell

MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework

Timetable Slot:G2\+

Born, bathed, dressed, worshipped, sexed, cut, bruised, ripped, split, buried: the human body offer historians a gateway onto understanding the cultures of the past. On this course you will examine several groups of objects from the visual culture of medieval Europe and the Middle East through this contemporary theoretical lens, building up a body of medieval artistic practice piece by bodily piece, and examining how the techniques and society of the medieval craftsman at once idolised and distorted the medieval body's forms. In previous years this course has also featured a study trip to museums and galleries in London to meet with curators and handle objects.

2019/0 - AMAA5089A THE LIVES OF OBJECTS

Autumn Semester, Level 5 module
(Maximum 50 Students)

UCU: 20 Organiser: Dr Joanne Clarke

MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework and Project

Timetable Slot:A2/*H3/, B1/!D1\!D1/

Your main objective in this module will be to develop your critical skills as they pertain to thinking, reading, writing and looking. To enable this, the module will fall into two main

Autumn Semester, Level 5 module
(Maximum 18 Students)

UCU: 20 Organiser: Dr Simon Dell

MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework

Timetable Slot:G2/-B3

On this module you will explore the relations between art and photography in the United States in the first half of the 20th century. The central debate in American modernism has concerned the role of the medium and considering photography in relation to the other visual arts permits a reassessment of this debate. Artists and photographers examined include Alfred Stieglitz, Georgia O'Keeffe, Marcel Duchamp, Diego Rivera and Walker Evans.

2019/0 - AMAA6001A THE AFRICAN PAST: GLOBAL CROSSROADS AND EMPIRES

Autumn Semester, Level 6 module
(Maximum 18 Students)

UCU: 30 Organiser: Professor Anne Haour

MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework

Timetable Slot:F2-A2\

Exam Paper(hrs):

This module introduces the history and archaeology of Africa in the past 1500 years. It focuses on its art and artefacts, and explores case studies such as the medieval empires of the Sahel, the Indian Ocean trade in cowrie shells and beads, trans-Saharan caravans and the sumptuous graves of southern Africa, Libya and Congo. Through the discussion of Africa's past and its global links, we can reach a better understanding of the continent past and present. This helps us challenge the false (but popular) idea that African societies have remained static over centuries, and that the continent's role in world history was negligible - an idea underpinned by negative media coverage of Africa today. Archaeology, anthropology, history, and oral tradition all inform this module. And although our subject-matter is African, the questions raised apply much more widely.

2019/0 - AMAA6002A OBJECTS OF DESIRE: THE VISUAL AND MATERIAL CULTURE OF EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITAIN

Autumn Semester, Level 6 module
(Maximum 18 Students)

UCU: 30 Organiser: Dr Sarah Monks

MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework

Timetable Slot:G2/+B2

Exam Paper(hrs):

On 16 October 1717, thirteen men and women (including a boy of 13) were sentenced to be dragged through London's streets and burnt to death. They were just the latest victims of Britain's consumer revolution to appear before the Old Bailey's judges for crimes of theft, in mass trials which were held throughout the year during the eighteenth century. The items they were accused of stealing – a silver spoon, a diamond ring, a dress, a pillowcase – are at once heartbreakingly small and historically significant as examples of the consumer objects which had started to come within reach of ordinary people. This module will explore the design, manufacture and consumption of these objects, as well as their meaning and appeal for eighteenth-century Britons. In this module, you'll learn about the visual and material culture of eighteenth-century Britain. You'll discover the ways in which an increasingly wide range of 'luxury' commodities – from portraits to pistols – were made, advertised and consumed. You'll find out about different artistic and craft processes, as well as the formal effects of novelty, fashion and market demand upon the making of consumer artefacts. You'll also learn how to evaluate, analyse and interpret these artefacts yourself. Each week, you'll learn about a different art form through a combination of lectures, presentations and class discussions. You'll find out about the production and use of fine art objects as well as the 'decorative arts' – including textiles, furniture, jewellery and porcelain – in eighteenth-century Britain. You'll be introduced to theories of luxury, consumption and commercial production, as well as the broader history of British culture during this period, helping you to understand the cultural meaning of these objects. You'll also benefit from field trips which will enable you to study eighteenth-century artefacts up close. You'll be assessed through two essays (100%). On successful completion of this module, you'll have the knowledge and skills to recognise and interpret a range of 'luxury' commodities produced for eighteenth-century British consumers. You'll also gain a grounding in the history of eighteenth-century British society and culture. You'll develop your research, writing and presentation skills, as well as your powers of visual analysis.

2019/0 - AMAA6126A GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS PRACTICE

Autumn Semester, Level 6 module
(Maximum 18 Students)

UCU: 30

Organiser: Dr Chris Wingfield

MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework

Timetable Slot:E1-H3\

Exam Paper(hrs):

This module explores a variety of practical and conceptual considerations in Gallery and Museum Studies by focusing on specific aspects of these institutional structures: from building, housing and caring for collections, to curating shows and exhibitions, and producing texts and writing criticism. You will develop your engagement with the practice of conceiving, designing and mounting exhibitions, exploring both the conceptual demands of putting on a successful show and the practical considerations involved in doing so. Finally we consider the role of interpretation and learning in galleries and museums practice, thinking also about how texts of various sorts operate in exhibitions and collections displays. The module has previously involved a study trip to London or Cambridge.

2019/0 - AMAA6135A PUBLIC ART, PERFORMANCE AND MEMORY

Autumn Semester, Level 6 module
(Maximum 18 Students)

UCU: 30

Organiser: Dr Ferdinand De Jong

MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework

Timetable Slot:G1-H2\

Intense debates rage around monuments that represent historical figures as our most celebrated heroes. But why are our monuments epicentres of public debate and political contestation? This module examines how and why public art and performances commemorate historical events. To find answers to these questions, you'll study the monuments that remember the First World War, the Holocaust, the Slave Trade and Colonialism. But you will also be encouraged to ask how memorials makes us remember and, indeed, whether there are alternative ways of remembering. You'll study commemoration in spirit possession, pilgrimage, and popular music. Considering case studies from across the world, you will review the role of memory and commemoration in the constitution of our society. This module encourages you to consider why alternative forms of memory are required for a more just society.