

Unit Title	Explore & Experiment	Unit Code	1H5Z0301
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Unit Tutor	David Penny	Date Set	13/09/2021
Tutor/s	Alan Jones, Sylvia Waltering, David Penny, Sue Fox, Ben McDonnell, Richard Page.	Date Due	01/11/2021 & 11/03/2022

Brief Summary and Indicative Content

This unit will explore photography in relation to a range of photographic genres and approaches to photographic practice. You will develop conceptual, theoretical, technical and craft skills. You will explore and experiment a range of approaches to photography through three projects: Responses One, Responses Two and one self-generated. You will be introduced to concepts around the History of Photography and Contemporary Photographic Practice. Seminar discussion, lectures AND workshop activities will be delivered to support learning. You will begin to evaluate the relationship between photography and writing and understand the importance of craft and presentation skills.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop working methodology that effectively progresses photographic work beyond the initial concept involving research, experimentation and risk taking.
2. Make practical use of a range of techniques and processes that relate to photographic practice including lighting, printing and use of a range of cameras.
3. Apply methods that demonstrate abilities to organise workloads, time manage projects and meet deadlines effectively.
4. Engage in informed evaluation and self-reflective appraisal that convey an understanding of the history of photography, contemporary photographic practice and ethical issues.
5. Communicate ideas and knowledge of photographic practice developed using a range of methods including oral presentation, visual display and written summaries.

Work Submitted

1. Presentation (50%)

You should prepare and deliver a 10minute oral presentation of the outcomes of your two response projects and work to-date. The presentation will be prepared through an appropriate format eg. PowerPoint. The presentation should demonstrate a growing understanding of an aspect of photographic practice, the contexts of your practice and critical reflection on processes and outcomes. Along with your Presentation you should submit a link to your up-to-date professional website.

2. Photographic Book and Reflective Journal (50%)

A photographic book which evidences the development of a self-directed project.

A PDF Reflective Journal must accompany **both submissions**; this should be in PDF format (it can be made using word, In-design, or scanned pages from a sketchbook). It must include a written summary of the journal of approximately 1000 words (see journal overview document). This summary will evidence your ability to summarise and evaluate information gathered. We expect to see evidence of at least 150 hours of work being synthesised into each journal submission. Additional supporting practical work as evidence of progression of technical skills and creative thinking should be documented and submitted within this PDF document.

Key Dates and Deadlines

Unit Briefing: **Monday 13th September 2021**

Presentation (Summative Assessment) : **Week of 1st November 2021. Date TBC**

Photographic Book Submission (Summative Assessment) : **Friday 11th March 2022**

Important. Please note

Check Moodle and on Teams on a regular basis for further information, documents and updates.

Student Self-Assessment: Please complete this form and submit along with your Portfolio submission, evaluating how you feel you performed on this unit.

Student	ELZBIETA SKORSKA	MMU ID	20055782
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Unit Title	EXPLORE AND EXPERIMENT	Unit Code	1H5Z0301_2122_9Z1F
Tutor/s	ALAN JONES, SYLVIA WALTERING, BEN MCDONELL	Date	01.11.2021

Assessment Criteria	Comments
<p>Research & Conceptual Development Demonstration of; effective working methodology; breadth and depth of research; development of ideas; experimentation and creative risk-taking & decision making</p>	<p>During the unit, I found various artists, and spent a considerable amount of time (around three months) working methodically on my summer project. I found it to be essential in the development of my practice. During that time, I read several books and watched countless videos on Youtube, Netflix and Vimeo on art, exhibitions, talks and interviews. I have then applied the same method of work for my unit's practice. I was present at all the lectures and noted many valuable things from them (form residencies, portfolio reviews, to projects worth getting involved with). I attended all the technical workshops at tutorials, which were an essential part of my growth and learning experience. I fed my knowledge and experience from the previous units into this one, building on everything that I learned and that inspired me, developing in my chosen direction. I particularly related with the DUST project, during which I learned about new and alternative processes like cyanotype, salt printing and learned how to colour print in the darkroom. I found absolutely essential film processing induction we had at the beginning of the unit, that I have been using repeatedly since with success, scanning and developing my films after. I studied all the recommended reading for the unit and artists recommended by tutors, which I found fascinating and thought-provoking. I experimented with methods, arrangements, techniques and approaches from photograms, overlaying negatives to hacking 35mm into multi-exposure to develop my style.</p>
<p>Technical & Craft Skills Application of; a range of techniques; practical skills; investigation into processes; appropriate use of technology; presentation methods; visual competence</p>	<p>Through this unit, I learned a lot about different ways of working, experimenting and collaborating with chance, challenging yourself and reflecting on fundamental questions and definitions of words and what they mean to me (like place and space). I also learned to be persistent and resilient and not give up when things don't work the first or the first few times, practice makes a master. I worked within a tight time frame, catching up with the technical workshops we would have had last year simultaneously working on artistic workshops, exploring my limitations. I learned about studio usage, studio portrait photography, flashguns, phase one tethered shooting and the high-end equipment and software used for it, digital medium format camera FUJI GFX, photogrammetry</p>

BA (Hons)

Photography

	<p>and refreshed my knowledge on advanced DSLR cameras and large format cameras. I discovered salt printing and cyanotypes techniques, which I then continued to exercise at home and utilised in my response to the project. I rented several items of photographic equipment from the AV store, spent time in the darkroom developing my printing skills, overlaying negatives and making photographs, and experimented with analogue multi-exposure photography hacking 35mm camera and ICM, which I later processed and developed myself. I also explored interviewing and film-making, which I used in my response project.</p>
<p>Organisation Skills Evidence of; time management skills; professional communication and conduct; participation; meeting deadlines.</p>	<p>Every week, I filled up my diary with a timetable plan, organising the next week of work and study. I worked methodically, attending all the activities and writing about them, collecting and uploading images onto my reflective journal as I went, and taking notes from lectures and tutorials. When I was at the University attending workshops, I always organised my time after we finished, and sometimes at lunch break, I gave myself various activities in order to progress with work (film processing, scanning, working on my reflective journal, printing photographs etc.)</p> <p>I organised my time over the last two weeks of work by dividing it into sections, working on all the tasks and finalising my submission stress-free. I met all the self-imposed deadlines without any problem. I participated in student reps meetings and communicated with my peers about any issues. I progressed with my work systematically and efficiently, so I didn't feel any tension with the deadline on the horizon. I also applied for Develop Your Creative practice with the Arts Council, and am awaiting results.</p>
<p>Evaluation, Reflection & Analysis Evidence of; analysis of research materials; reflection on own practice; understanding of historical and contemporary contexts of photography</p>	<p>In my blog (that I then duplicated onto my reflective journal), I presented a comprehensive and detailed record of my examination and every element of my creative practice and development. I included many images of my exploration and experimentation, setups, technical workshops and things I studied for the technical workshops and one and two-week responses to workshops. I found that especially books, the text and visual ones, of both classic and contemporary photographers (and other artists), have been essential in my understanding of photography, and helped me immensely in reflecting on and progressing my practice.</p> <p>I am inspired and feel a strong sense of direction, I feel like my style has progressed massively over the last few months, and I am excited about the future. I kept my professional web page up to date and am active on Instagram, posting my newest work and making connections with like-minded artists through online communication and meeting in person.</p>
<p>Communication (Written / Oral / Visual) Ability to communicate ideas and intentions; written annotation; verbal articulation; presentation skills; visual strategies of communication.</p>	<p>I expressed my concepts and intentions in my blog/reflective journal, documented methods, supported by links, notes from lectures and tutorials, images and notes. I build on my previous knowledge in delivering the presentation, and I feel comfortable doing so. I am eager to do it in person as I think it would be a beneficial experience for me and my future. My visual strategies included images, gifs, and videos. I learned how to use InDesign in order to create and produce a short book for my assignment. I also</p>

BA (Hons)

Photography

	created a Vimeo account that allowed me to link my videos up on my blog and reflective journal.
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