

HA3E9-30 Crafting the Global Early Modern

26/27

Department

SCAPVC - History of Art

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Giorgio Tagliaferro

Credit value

30

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module explores the role of artisanal practices and craft knowledge in shaping the Early Modern world (c.1450-c.1750) from a cultural, social, economic and environmental perspective. It critically traces the interwoven paths of key crafts – ranging from ceramics to textiles – predominantly in Europe and Asia in the so-called ‘first age of globalisation’. This module will appeal to students more broadly interested in the history of materials and making, the development and circulation of craft knowledge, the relationship between science, technology and the arts, and art historical approaches to early modern globalisation. The module will involve the reading and interpretation of primary sources related to craft, including treatises and workshop documentation, and include hands-on, experiential learning.

Module aims

The module aims to consider the ways in which artisanal practices and craft knowledge contributed to the making of the Early Modern world, predominantly in Europe and Asia, through the lens of global art history. Exploring the contribution of different craft materials and processes, the module will examine craft practices and their wider social, cultural, economic and environmental contexts and impacts. The module will consider questions of localised knowledge

and trans-cultural craft skill, experimentation, imitation, innovation, representation and codification, guild and labour organisation, gender and the impact of craft practices on the environment.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Early Modern artisanal cultures: interconnected local and global
Between art, technology and science: Representing artisanal knowledge
Cities, courts and the rise of consumption
Producing materials
Disegno, design and embodied knowledge
Organising craft
Gender and craft
Making: from the workshop to the shop floor
Bio- and eco-creativity
Craft and the environment

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of key aspects of Early Modern crafts and their wider contexts and impacts
- Critically analyse primary visual and textual sources pertaining to artisans and their practices
- Recognise and describe a variety of artisanal technologies and apply knowledge of these to appraise a wide range of artworks
- Critically engage with key theoretical and methodological frameworks within which early modern artisanal cultures and their productions have been examined
- Apply experiential research approaches to the study of early modern craft practices

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Subject specific skills

- Acquire and demonstrate detailed knowledge of key aspects of Early Modern crafts and their wider contexts and impacts
- Acquire and demonstrate in-depth knowledge of primary visual, material and written sources pertaining to artisans and their practices
- Display an understanding and critically engage with key theoretical and methodological frameworks within which early modern artisanal cultures and their productions have been examined
- Sophisticated visual analysis and understanding visual culture
- Critical analysis of cultural artefacts in their context

Transferable skills

- Initiate and sustain group discussion through intelligent questioning and debate at an appropriate level
 - Ability to undertake research and to write up the results using accurately specific techniques of analysis and enquiry in the form of a well-structured argument at an appropriate level
 - Familiarity with essential ICT skills
 - Ability to collaborate effectively with others
 - Show understanding of diverse viewpoints
 - Ability to find, select, organize and synthesize evidence
 - Ability to formulate a sustained argument
 - Think conceptually and independently at an appropriate level
 - Ability to conduct independent research and analysis
 - Bibliographical skills at an appropriate level
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Study

Study time

| Type | Required |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Seminars | 8 sessions of 3 hours (8%) |
| Tutorials | 1 session of 3 hours (1%) |
| Fieldwork | 2 sessions of 3 hours (2%) |
| Private study | 267 hours (89%) |
| Total | 300 hours |

Private study description

Reading and other preparatory tasks for seminars; presentation preparation; essay planning, research and writing

Costs

| Category | Description | Funded by | Cost to student |
|--|---|------------|-----------------|
| Field trips, placements and study abroad | Two study visits to museum or gallery (London or other pertinent location) | Department | £0.00 |
| Equipment and project costs | One hands-on making/re-making session (e.g. printing or working with clay/textiles) | Department | £0.00 |

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

| | Weighting | Study time | Eligible for self-certification |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Assessment component | | | |
| 4000 word essay | 60% | | No |
| Reassessment component is the same | | | |
| Assessment component | | | |
| Portfolio Portfolio of work | 40% | | Yes (extension) |
| Reassessment component is the same | | | |

Feedback on assessment

On feedback form and dedicated tutorials

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- THAA-V4P3 History of Art (Diploma)
 - Year 1 of V4P3 History of Art (Diploma)
 - Year 1 of V4P3 History of Art (Diploma)
- Year 3 of UHAA-V401 Undergraduate History of Art
- Year 4 of UHAA-V41P Undergraduate History of Art
- Year 4 of UHAA-V402 Undergraduate History of Art with Intercalated Year
- Year 3 of UHAA-V3R3 Undergraduate History of Art with Italian
- Year 4 of UHAA-V3R4 Undergraduate History of Art with Italian with Intercalated Year