

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Specialist Study  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **7005MARCH** (117670)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2016

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool School of Art & Design  
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool School of Art & Design

| Team                  | Leader |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Stephen Bowe          | Y      |
| Dominic Wilkinson     |        |
| Gladys Masey-Martinez |        |
| Charles Smith         |        |
| Athanassios Migos     |        |
| Ian Wroot             |        |
| Philip Lo             |        |
| Robert MacDonald      |        |
| Brian Hatton          |        |
| Gary Brown            |        |

**Academic Level:** FHEQ7      **Credit Value:** 24      **Total Delivered Hours:** 40

**Total Learning Hours:** 240      **Private Study:** 200

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Practical | 24            |
| Seminar   | 4             |
| Tutorial  | 12            |

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

| Category     | Short Description | Description  | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|--------------|-------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| Dissertation | AS1               | Either - two copies where appropriate of a completed piece of work fully | 100           |               |

| Category | Short Description | Description  | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|----------|-------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
|          |                   | demonstrating the exercise undertaken or - if a dissertation, two copies of the fully illustrated document. One digital copy of the final work on disk to be also submitted. |               |               |

## Aims

*To choose and comprehensively experience a 'specialist study' period directly, or in approved cases, indirectly related to the subject of Architecture; to prepare and structure a programme of research and activity; to source appropriate material; to prepare sufficient material to allow a tutor and a Study Panel to agree to the quality of the likely outcome; to undertake the 'Specialist Study' with a personal tutor; to prepare interim and final evidence of the work; outcomes to be bound, as appropriate, and deposited in the Learning Resource Centre.*

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1            1. Explore a contemporary architectural theme through in-depth research and the intelligent development of a critical argument or creative piece of work.
- 2            2. Present the results of their individual research to their peers and assessors and engage in intelligent debate about their work.
- 3            3. Submit a substantial piece of specialist research either as scholarly and illustrated work or other form developed with the agreement of the Panel.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Dissertation                            1            2            3

## Outline Syllabus

*This is the main driving force in the second semester, enabling a student to build up a specific expertise that will help in career development. From any cohort, this period of time could be spent on the following options to be determined, discussed and chosen in semester one:*

- *Researching and writing an Academic Dissertation*
- *Undertaking approved studies at another School of Architecture within the EU. (This will need to be scoped by staff before November at the latest so that the offer is sustainable: candidate schools at present include Copenhagen, Berlin and Istanbul)*
- *Undertaking collaborative projects within JMU. While collaboration within the LSAD (interior design, textiles, graphics etc.) is the most obvious, there could well be*

*collaborations with Engineering etc. (This will need to be scoped by staff before November at the latest so that the offer is sustainable).*

- *Undertaking collaborative projects with outside partners. This could range from a creative placement within a Local Authority (Design Unit of the Mayor of London's Office for example), working within a company such as BP Solar, working within the Theoretical Physics Department at UCLA etc. (This will need to be scoped by staff before November at the latest so that the offer is sustainable).*
- *Undertaking guided studies in Conservation, Energy, Façade Engineering, Roof Technologies etc.*
- *Working within specialist contracting firms on new construction methods and cost valuation.*
- *Placement within a 'super consultancy' such as Davis Langdon in order to understand cost and management skills such as a 'Bauleiter Architekt' has in Germany. (This will need to be scoped by staff before November at the latest so that the offer is sustainable).*
- *Any other suggestion from a student during the first part of Semester One that a panel of staff agree as being suitable. This for example could include a Conference (on schools) or a Symposium (on design responses to climate change) etc.*

## **Learning Activities**

One initial seminar will present and discuss all features of the Specialist Study. Each student will be assigned a personal tutor and will attend weekly tutorials throughout the year. Students will also attend Panels in groups and will prepare a 'PowerPoint' presentation summarising the intentions of their work prior to the final 'write up' and presented to the whole year. Panels and presentations will take place on dates to be timetabled during Semesters One and Two

A series of Discussion Sessions are planned to monitor each student's 'Specialist Study' and the dates and locations for these will be timetabled.

Panel seminars and work / submissions sequence

1. Seminar One: Panel members will talk to all students in seminar mode on 'relevant previous work', drawing on precedents of excellent standard dissertations and other exemplars.
2. Seminar Two: Students make a brief verbal presentation of their 'Specialist Study' proposals to a staff panel chaired by Brian Hatton & Clare Wrigley and by this stage the full 'anatomy' of the study should be determined.
3. Review Panels 1: Progress discussions with students in a panel chaired by Module Leader.
4. Review Panels 2: Progress discussions with students in a panel chaired by Module Leader.
5. Review Panels 3: Progress discussions with students in a panel chaired by Brian

Hatton & Clare Wrigley.

6. 'Powerpoint' Presentations or other means of presenting the work appropriate to each 'Specialist Study'.

Each student will research and submit: Either – two copies where appropriate of a completed piece of work fully demonstrating the exercise undertaken or – if a dissertation, two copies of the fully illustrated document. One digital copy of the final work on CD or zip disk to be submitted as timetabled.

### **Notes**

The tutor-driven list of topics will be published in the first week of Semester One. Final choices, including those proposed by students and accepted by the Module Component Leader as being suitable will be determined on a student-by-student basis during the early part of semester one.

The Review Panel will work closely with each student to co-ordinate progress, but students should not allow a contradiction to emerge between the advice of their tutor and the advice of the Panel. The tutor's advice should take precedence and tutors will therefore attend all panels. A detailed timetable will be issued indicating the dates and student / tutor groups as soon as possible in the first Semester.