

Programme Handbook

Award Institution: Freshart College

Title: BA Fine Arts

Name of final award and programme title: BA (Hons) Fine Art, first cycle

Duration of Programme: 4 years - Full-time

The duration of the programme is four academic years of eight semesters, full-time

Language of study: English

Tuition fees: For details of tuition fees see: website

Level of Qualification: EQF level 6= CYQF level 6

Programme overview

The BA Fine Arts programme prepares versatile and creative students with confidence and the ability to develop their fine art identity.

The main purpose of the course is to teach students the fundamentals and principles of art through different academic, practical and critical approaches to help them expanding their artistic knowledge and understanding.

The degree programme is for students who want to expertise in fine art and study full time. It is encouraging students to work individually and in collaboration with their peers always with guidance of their tutors.

Studio practice provides students with the essential artistic knowledge and give them the opportunity to work with different practical workshops and helps them develop practical skills through an ongoing learning experience. Studio practice is essential and pivotal for the development of creative individuals and encourages shared and individual learning to develop critical thinking and evaluation.

The research labs and online libraries are fully equipped with up-to-date equipment and trained staff to support students on a daily basis.

The critical studies are designed to provide theoretical support to the practical work. The theoretical studies introduce students' key points of important aspects of the contemporary art practice through an ongoing exploration of principles and movements of art history. Students will develop critical thinking and understanding on various topics through lectures, seminars and writings.

Each year students will be allocated in their personal space and tutor and will be given different assignments as part of their practical studies. In their last year students will be asked to write and execute their final major project and work more independently.

Staff is fully equipped and well trained to support the students individually and on a weekly basis.

The programme provides communication and graduation skills.

Programme entry requirements

Home and EU applicants

Profile of Students of the 1st year of study:

1. Completed Admission Form. All the candidates can complete online the admission form or to be provided a form by the Admission Office of Freshart College of Arts, 9, Eleftheriou Venizelou, 8021, Paphos
2. Copy of Secondary (High) School Leaving Certificate (apolytirion) (i.e. 12 or 11 years of education depending on the country of origin or equivalent qualifications such as GCE "A" Levels) and a GCE A'Level in art & design with a grade of C (or higher) or equivalent qualification (e.g. GCE A Levels, International Baccalaureate) or Foundation Diploma in Art and Design
3. GCSE Level in English with C or IELTS 5.5 or equivalent
4. Portfolio / Sample of art works & Interview
5. To be 18 years old before the 31st of December of the year of study
6. Copy of Passport/ID
7. Completed Registration Form and payment of the registration fee.

Profile of Students of the 2nd year of study:

1. Completed Admission Form. All the candidates can complete online the admission form or to be provided a form by the Admission Office of Freshart College of Arts, 9, Eleftheriou Venizelou, 8021, Paphos
2. Copy of Secondary (High) School Leaving Certificate (apolytirion) (i.e. 12 or 11 years of education depending on the country of origin or equivalent qualifications such as GCE "A" Levels) and BTEC HNC Diploma in Art and Design or prior studies (1 year degree studies in another Higher Educational Institution) or HND Diploma in Art and Design or equivalent
3. GCSE Level in English with C or IELTS 5.5 or equivalent
4. Portfolio / Sample of art works & Interview
5. To be 18 years old before the 31st of December of the year of study
6. Copy of Passport/ID
7. Completed Registration Form and payment of the registration fee.

Profile of Students of the 3rd year of study:

1. Completed Admission Form. All the candidates can complete online the admission form or to be provided a form by the Admission Office of Freshart College of Arts, 9, Eleftheriou Venizelou, 8021, Paphos
2. Copy of Secondary (High) School Leaving Certificate (apolytirion) (i.e. 12 or 11 years of education depending on the country of origin or equivalent qualifications such as GCE "A" Levels) or prior studies (2 years degree studies in another Higher Educational Institution) or HND Diploma in Art and Design or equivalent
3. GCSE Level in English with C or IELTS 5.5 or equivalent

4. Portfolio / Sample of art works & Interview
5. To be 18 years old before the 31st of December of the year of study
6. Copy of Passport/ID
7. Completed Registration Form and payment of the registration fee.

Aims of the programme

The programme is designed to offer a four-year full-time bachelor degree followed clearly by the standards of the Cypriot National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education. The programme is offered to EU and Overseas applicants through specific entry requirements and criteria. The programme provides high academic standards in a supportive, stimulating and innovative art environment through different learning styles and approaches. In the four years students will establish and develop skills in different areas of creative practice, theories and professional practice and get fully prepared for their future studies (MA) or/and their professional career in the art industry.

What you will be expected to achieve

The course has set learning outcomes for every year to provide students with a constructive and stimulating curriculum for the specialist study of art nurturing a personal and intellectual development. Students will establish and develop skills in areas of creative practice, research and professional practice and get prepared for employment and professional practice and/or further study. With emphasis on the cultural and artistic knowledge students will be able to gain a degree with appropriate qualities needed for a successful future career.

Students with the completion of the programme will be able to gain:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by following unit(s)
FA1	Understanding of art language, creative practice, contemporary art theories and practitioners	Assignments, studio practice, tutorials, exhibitions (artists/practitioners)
FA2	Establish and build upon a developing personal creative work centered upon research and understanding surrounding emerging practice	Assignments, studio practice, tutorials, exhibitions, physical visits
FA3	Demonstrate social, political, ethical and cultural awareness and concerns when it comes to own creative practice	Assignments, studio practice, tutorials, exhibitions

Technical skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by following unit(s)
FA4	Develop key skills in practical and technical aspects in relation to practice and theory	Technical workshops, labs, studio practice, group critiques
FA5	Generate, develop and communicate ideas through visualization skills	Technical workshops, labs, studio practice, group critiques
FA6	Practice professionally using essential skills appropriate for the creative practice	Technical workshops, labs, studio practice, group critiques

Critical thinking and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by following unit(s)
FA7	Develop critical thinking and awareness on cultural and contextual theories	Written, visual and oral presentations, tutorials, group critiques, discussions, lectures and seminars
FA8	Built knowledge and understanding in relation to contemporary and historical art through research strategies	Written, visual and oral presentations, tutorials, group critiques, discussions, lectures and seminars
FA9	Develop skills to question, analyse and evaluate information for specific contexts and processes in realizing a body of creative work, relevant to own personal practice	Written, visual and oral presentations, tutorials, group critiques, discussions, lectures and seminars

Employability and career skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by following unit(s)
FA10	Develop transferable and communication skills necessary for employment and progression	Technical documents, work placement, exhibition, studio practice, tutorials
FA11	Develop professional approach and work towards achieving a full potential as creative practitioner	Technical documents, work placement, exhibition, studio practice, tutorials
FA12	Develop curational and promotional skills required for their future career through collaborative, collective and socially engaged approaches	Technical documents, work placement, exhibition, studio practice, tutorials

How you will learn

Studio practice and assignments. Studio space will be assigned and allocated to students every year as part of their studio practice development. Students will be working on their studio practice every year through given assignments. In the last year of the studies students will be working on their degree show and exhibition.

Research labs – online and physical local libraries and physical visits. Students will explore and understand the importance of research through specialist workshops and teaching sessions. Students will also gain knowledge through independent learning. Through different teaching approaches students will develop critical thinking and be able to identify appropriate research methods and processes.

CAD Programmes - The programme offers a wide range of computer aided software and programmes through a series of workshops and given assignments. Students will be introduced to new technologies and computer-based facilities and be able to use multiple media for communication and apply them on their creative practice. Students will be able to use multiple tools and digital languages to facilitate personal and creative development.

VLE/ MOODLE – inclusive and interactive learning approach, VLE provides a variety of support, facilities and technology to all students including students with disabilities and specific learning differences or/and difficulties. Students will have access to visiting lecturers, sessions, seminars, lectures and other live materials available on their virtual learning platform.

Work-related learning. The programme gives the opportunity to students to work collaboratively with art organizations and art related companies and experience a live working session as part of their four-year studies. Collaborative projects and work placements are available for all students who want to get involved in real projects through their studies. Students are also encouraged to participate in local and national art competitions and fairs or any other voluntary projects. The college ensures that this learning experience will help students with their future employment or progression to their future study.

Workshops. Students will be involved in a variety of technical and specialist workshops and learn how to define and refine personal creative practice. They will be introduced to different specialist aspects of art and develop skills within their chosen pathway. Students will be encouraged to experiment and test with different media and processes and demonstrate willingness to develop own work through different outcomes.

Individual and group tutorials. All students will be assigned to personal tutors and will be given a support on a regular basis.

Critical studies. Each year students will be asked to develop independent research skills and critical reflection and evaluation through given written, oral and visual assignments. Through critical studies students will show understanding of various historical, cultural, social and political topics and develop the ability to articulate specific contexts relevant to

specialist subjects. In year 1 students will be introduced to art history through lectures and seminars and will write their first written work in 1000 words. In year 2 students will be introduced to contextual studies and write an essay on related topics in 1500 words. In year 3 students will discuss visual culture through a written assignment 2500 words. In year 4 students will be asked to write their extended essay/dissertation in 5000 words.

Lectures and seminars. Lectures and seminars will support the critical studies and will provide students with research methodologies and approaches appropriate for their chosen topics and written assignments.

How you will be assessed

All assessments are carried out in relation to following programme learning outcomes.

Learning outcomes

Students will develop generic and academic skills and get prepared for their professional career in the art industry. Within the programme students will have the opportunity to explore different aspects of fine art areas and be prepared to define their own fine art language. Students will create a body of work and portfolio supporting their creative practice and are expected in the last year of their studies to exhibit their work to the public.

Students will develop an open-mind thinking with the ability to consider alternative systems of thought that challenge received notions and social cultural bias. Students will also show understanding of the relationship with responsibility to cultural and social environment through written, oral and visual presentations.

Students will develop communication skills in advance level and get prepared for their professional career or further study within a creative and diverse learning approach. Holders of the bachelor degree will also develop analytical and problem- solving skills that can be applied in many types of employment and personal development.

Within the programme students will be encouraged to explore and investigate the contribution of art in fostering active citizenship and get prepared to be part of a community. Through different learning approaches students will have the opportunity to be part of the local and national community and raise awareness about concepts of democracy and lifelong learning. To support the students the programme will offer work placement opportunities and art fair activities in collaboration with different art organisations.

The programme encourages students to use their curriculum to develop new approaches of art practice, transmitting values and habits among the community. Through workshops, presentations and collaboration projects students will be prepared to design a series of educational and artistic experiences to promote a more sustainable and eco- friendly art environment.

Students will be assessed against the learning outcomes and assessment requirements as given in the designed and proposed units. Within the four years students will follow a curriculum structure through different learning approaches in specific areas of work in which will be examined in formative and summative assessments.

Formative assessment

Students will be asked to present their work before final assessment to help them improve their work. In the formative assessment tutors and peers will give feedback on students through oral and visual presentations.

Summative assessment

In the summative assessments students are required to submit and present their work followed by the learning outcomes and as given on the assignments. The assignments will be marked by the unit assessor and reviewed by the programme leader. In addition, it will be moderated by a non-examining member of staff.

Formative and summative assessment feedbacks will be given by the tutor after the completion of formative and summative assessments in written form via the VLE platform which is available to students. After this process students can arrange a meeting with their tutors to discuss their progress and points of improvement.

Year 1 Presentations and portfolio

In year 1 students will be introduced to the studio practice through a set assignments/projects and practical workshops to get along with the art practice. During the year projects students will be asked to collect their best work and present it in a portfolio.

Year 2 Studio practice- presentations

In year 2 students will be assigned to personal studio spaces and will have the opportunity to develop their creative practice through assignments and set projects. Studio practice will be assessed and checked by the tutors and IVs in the end of each semester.

Year 3 Studio practice- presentations

In year 3 students will develop their creative practice through assignments and independent study. In parallel students can choose to apply for a job in a short term as part of their studies and experience work placement. Studio practice will be assessed and checked by the tutors and IVs in the end of each semester.

Year 4 Exhibition- Degree show

In year 4 students will be working on their final major project and the end of the year exhibition. Year 4 is mainly focused on the independent study of the students and the

completion of the degree show with assistance of their tutors and peers. Students will have the opportunity to set their own exhibition and show their work in public.

Critical studies

In year 1 critical studies is assessed through a written work in 1000 words. In year 2 it is assessed in 1500 words essay and in year 3 in a written assignment 2500 words.

Dissertation

Extended essay/dissertation 5000 words in year 4.

Assessment methods

Studio practice (coursework)

Students will be assigned to personal spaces and personal tutors in the four years of their studies to support them academically. Studio practice is designed and structured to give the opportunity to students to explore and investigate studio practice through given assignments, technical and specialist workshops. The students will be asked to track and document their progress and development through visual sketchbooks and written evaluations and will be required to submit their work on a given deadline. Within the coursework students will develop a portfolio including final outcomes and visuals from set assignments and a body of work which reflects on their personal development. The assigned work will be assessed internally and externally and marking will be announced to students through given feedback from the individual tutor.

In parallel with the coursework students will be required to keep a record of a continuous evaluation and critical analysis of personal work and development that will be part of the assessments. The students will be asked to present an annotated supporting documentation of development work leading to new and final outcomes with evidence of reflection.

Continuous evaluation is important and crucial for all the years of the studies. Students will develop critical thinking and understanding of various artistic topics to help them communicate critical contextual issues relevant to their studio practice. This will be developed within an ongoing research and independent study. Students are asked to work in parallel with their studio practice hours and the assigned hours/contact with their tutors independently. Independent study prepares students to work professionally with confidence and lead them to successful performance.

Grading criteria

Assessment and grading criteria are designed and yearly reviewed by the quality assurance committee. All the grading criteria are documented in the programme handbook specification and are given to students in the beginning of the academic year.

Marking criteria

Grading System

Freshart College will use the following symbols for grading and status (“Letter Grading and Variations” type).

A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D (lowest passing grade), F (Failure), I (Incomplete), W (Withdrawn), NC (No credits earned).

The numerical equivalent of each letter is given below:

A	95 -100	Exemplary range and depth of attainment of intended learning outcomes, secured by discriminating command of a comprehensive range of relevant materials and analyses, and by deployment of considered judgement relating to key issues, concepts and procedures.
A-	90 - 94	
B+	85 - 89	Conclusive attainment of virtually all intended learning outcomes, clearly grounded on a close familiarity with a wide range of supporting evidence, constructively utilised to reveal appreciable depth of understanding.
B	80 - 84	
B-	75 - 79	
C+	70 - 74	Clear attainment of most of the intended learning outcomes, some more securely grasped than others, resting on a circumscribed range of evidence and displaying a variable depth of understanding.
C	65 - 69	
C-	60 - 64	
D+	55 - 59	Acceptable attainment of intended learning outcomes, displaying a qualified familiarity with a minimally sufficient range of relevant materials, and a grasp of the analytical issues and concepts which is generally reasonable, albeit insecure.
D	50 - 54	
F	01 - 49	Poor attainment of intended learning outcomes appreciably deficient in critical respects, lacking secure basis in relevant factual and analytical dimensions. Largely (but not completely) irrelevant material presented.

The grade “I” (Incomplete) is given:

1. To a student whose work in a course has been qualitatively satisfactory, but because of illness, or other circumstances beyond control, has been unable to complete the requirements of the course.
2. To a student who was reported for the first time for misconduct in the Final Examinations.

The “I” can only be removed by successfully completing work assigned by the Lecturer within a predetermined period and taking the Final Examination during the examination period of the next semester. The grade “I” carries no quality points.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Quality points (QP) are assigned to each grade as follows:

F=0; D=1; D+=1.5; C=1.7; C=2; C+=2.5; B-=2.7; B=3; B+=3.5; A-=3.7; A=4.

To calculate the GPA, the number of credits for each course attempted in the semester is multiplied by the quality points of the corresponding grade. The Grand total number of quality points is divided by the total number of credits attempted to obtain the GPA for the semester.

Example

COURSE CODE	GRADE	ECTS*	QP	TOTAL
BA/FA101	B	6	x3	18
BA/FA102	A	6	x4	24
BA/FA103	A-	6	x3.7	22.2
BA/FA104	C+	6	x2.5	15
BA/FA105	F	6	x0	0
TOTAL		30		79.20
				GPA = 79.20 ÷ 30 = 2.64 (Fair)

*European Credit Transfer System

The Cumulative Point Average CPA is calculated in a similar way to the GPA, by dividing the grand total number of quality points earned through the whole period of study by the total number of credits attempted throughout the same period.

GPA or CPA Grades correspond to the following descriptions:

3.70 - 4.00 = Excellent

3.50 - 3.69 = Very Good

3.00 - 3.49 = Good

2.50 - 2.99 = Fair

2.00 - 2.49 = Average

1.00 - 1.99 = Pass

0.01 - 0.99 = Unsatisfactory

0.00 = Fail

A Lecturer may change a grade submitted to the Academic Office only by submitting a written approval by the Department Head, stating that an error was made in calculating or transcribing the grade. The request for change in the grade must be initiated not later than the beginning of the semester following the issuance of the grade.

How the programme is structured

Year 1 (60ECTS)

In year 1 students have to pass studio practice and critical studies to proceed to year 2.

Studio practice. Students will be introduced to studio practice and will be asked to produce a portfolio in the end of the year in a short presentation. At the end of each given assignment students will be asked to present their work and collect work for their final portfolio.

Critical studies. In year 1 students will be introduced to critical studies with their first 1000word written assignment with relevant topic to their creative practice.

Year 1- Progression from year 1 to year 2
Students must pass all units.

Year 2 (60ECTS)

In year 2 students have to pass studio practice and critical studies to proceed to year 3.

Studio practice. In year 2 students will be allocated to studios and will have the opportunity to explore different art practices through practical and specialist workshops.

Critical studies. In year 2 critical studies focuses on the writing of 1500w essay.

Year 2- Progression from year 2 to year3
Students must pass all units.

Year 3 (60ECTS)

Studio practice. In year 3 students are required to work more independently on the development of their studio practice and get prepared for the last year of their studies.

Professional practice- work placement. Students will have the opportunity to work in the industry in a short period of time during the third year of their studies.

Critical studies. In year 3 critical studies focuses on the contemporary art and is assessed in a 2500word essay.

Year 3- Progression from year 3 to year 4
Students must pass all units.

Year 4 (60ECTS)

Year 4- Final year of the studies

End of the year exhibition.

Dissertation.

Students must pass all units.

Students must achieve a pass in all units and be awarded in 240 ECTS to qualify a Bachelor Degree in Fine Arts (Honors).

Potential career paths

Graduates can benefit from the local art community and organisations and work as free-lance artists and/or curators in galleries. The programme offers the students the knowledge and technical experience and expertise to work in different art related pathways with specialism in design, fashion and interior. With the completion of the bachelor degree students are qualified and well trained to work in the industry and in different art related programmes. Students with their graduation will be prepared to study further in MA or post-graduate programmes.