

1. Programme title	Master of Arts in Fine Art
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a. Teaching institution	AKTO Art and Design (Athens)
3b. Language of study	Greek
4a. Valid intake dates	October & February
4b. Mode of study	Full-time & Part time
4c. Delivery method	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-campus/Blended <input type="checkbox"/> Distance Education
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body	
6. Apprenticeship Standard	
7. Final qualification(s) available	MA Degree
8. Year effective from	2023 - 2024
9. Criteria for admission to the programme	
<p>One can enrol in the course, via a special AKTO form, if they are already holders of a degree, (at least BA or equivalent, 1st or 2.1). Graduates of degrees of a lower level may be considered, should they prove that they possess the ability to correspond to the requirements of the programme, via a personal interview. In special circumstances, an applicant who is not a graduate may be accepted, should he have extensive professional experience supported by credible evidence. All applicants should submit a statement of purpose about the area of their research, a portfolio of selected works and undergo a personal interview. As the programme is taught in Greek, Greek language requirements for applicants who are not native speakers are of a B2 level. Applicants must also be able to handle English bibliography. There is no maximum age limit for enrolment to the course.</p>	
10. Aims of the programme	
<p>The course aims to explore the broad spectrum of Fine Art and develop graduates with a solid understanding of the industry, incorporating professional practices. In particular, it will enable you to take part to the current discourse of contemporary art and interact with individuals from various fields. It will also enable you to develop and share knowledge with peers and challenge their discipline in innovative ways, taking into account the ethical, considerations of our complex current realities. It seeks to expand your awareness and creative exploration of current social, cultural and environmental issues that have been consistently affecting contemporary culture and art-practices, such as multiculturalism, immigration, identity, gender, inclusivity etc. It provides exciting possibilities to engage with peers in an interdisciplinary setting as well as meet with specialists from diverse industry backgrounds.</p> <p>Its Philosophy, structure and content aim to extend your boundaries through critical analysis, experimentation, research and interdisciplinarity, so as to be able to produce innovative ideas and high quality artworks. During the first semester, the main aim is to develop your own personal artistic practice and research skills, explore contemporary art and culture theories as well as new possibilities in the context of art and visual communication. At semester two you are given the opportunity to expand your knowledge and skills on the industry requirements in the practice of Fine Art, develop your critical enquiry on your chosen field, while having gained a broader artistic perspective, it seeks to enable you to undertake intense research in your chosen area of interest, through your Major Project. As a result, this course offers fertile foundations to develop your creativity in unexpected and innovative ways, engage in the exciting exploration of inspirational challenges and opportunities and respond to urgent socio political issues of importance through your work, ultimately operating as catalysts for change.</p> <p>A range of transferable skills is incorporated into the programme, so as to assist you in achieving a successful career and constantly develop as creators and professionals. Independence of thought, originality of ideas and professionalism, at a higher level of achievement, are the key parameters that are enhanced through both the curriculum and the organized complementary activities that form the</p>	

educational experience within the programme.

11. Programme outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

<p>A. Knowledge and understanding On completion of this programme, successful students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the limitations and specificities of research within a creative context, the introduction of new criteria and formulate new research targets. 2. Critically assess crucial contemporary theories and urgent issues in art and culture and reflect on key dominant trends. 3. Appraise inventive modes of contemporary practice, new technologies, media formats and their expressive tools. 4. Exhibit thorough understanding of the industry in the practice of Fine Art, evaluate the professional environment and challenge existing practices in ethical, social and environmental contexts. 5. Contextualise the intentions of their artwork and plan the management of a systematic independent study on innovative Art related topics. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods Students gain knowledge and understanding through theoretical illustrated lectures, visiting tutors and seminars, debate and critical analysis, independent study and theoretical research through assignments as well as oral presentations that contribute to self-reflection.</p> <p>Assessment Method Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by coursework, classroom feedback as well as exams and research work.</p>
<p>C. Skills On completion of the programme the successful students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate expertise in critically applying combined research methods and strategies, with professional capacity. 2. Critically engage with conceptual tools to investigate complex current realities and exhibit skills in the development of a critical contemporary discourse. 3. Demonstrate mastery of your craft, synthesise, select, combine and implement with accuracy the appropriate means and creative technologies in the materialization of a topic. 4. Develop your methods and approaches, adopt a stance in relation to established systems of activity through their practice and synthesize creative strategies in innovative ways. 5. Demonstrate expertise in defending their creative practice and research effectively by employing advanced presentation and communication skills and critically justifying their choices. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods Students learn practical skills through studio practice and experimentation, tutorials and workshops, the undertaking of coursework-related practical projects, as well as peer critique and assessment.</p> <p>Assessment Method Students' practical skills are assessed through coursework, practical tests, exercises, written essays and projects.</p>

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The course is studied over one year (full-time) or two years (part-time). It is arranged in 3 semesters (if studied full-time) and 5 (if studied part-time). There are 13 study weeks per semester. Most of the course is based on individual study and research, where 10 hrs of learning per credit point and 15 hours of individual meetings between each student with their supervisor are allocated to the programme, throughout the year. The course is divided into study units called modules. Each of the first three modules has a credit value of 20 credits/10 ECTS, where the "Professional Practice" has a credit value of 40 credits/20 ECTS and the "Major Project" has a credit value of 80 credits/40 ECTS. The programme totals 180 credits/90 ECTS. Details of each module can be found further below.

12.2 Levels and modules	
COMPULSORY	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>Semester I: - MFA111: Fine Art – Research, Development & Practice - MFA121: Contemporary Theories of Art & Culture - MFA131: Art & Digital Media</p> <p>Semester II: - MFA112: Professional Practice - MFA122: Major Project</p> <p>Semester III: - MFA122: Major Project (continuation)</p>	<p>Following assessment and upon completion of the academic year, 180 credits/90 ECTS are required in order for students to graduate.</p>
12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Compensation is not permitted in any module	
13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules	
See Curriculum Map attached.	
14. Information about assessment regulations	
Detailed information about assessment regulations that apply to the programme can be found in the handbook (Also see Middlesex University Regulations at www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations). Students must pass all components of each module, in order to complete the module successfully.	
15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support	
Not applicable	
16. Future careers	
<p>The Careers Office looks after the professional provision of AKTO graduates. Various companies who have job vacancies contact it. By advising the student records and academic staff, it promotes, in line of priority, the most capable students. It also deals with graduate requests for employment and holds several reference material and information on professional requirements and employment opportunities. The programme also provides students with numerous opportunities for real life projects from the industry as well as a series of alumni benefits once they complete their studies (see section on “Alumni Benefits”). Graduates of this course are expected to work within the broader field of Fine Art as independent artists, in their own specialisation within the creative industry, pursue an academic career or continue their studies abroad. The External Relations office provides graduates who wish to apply for further studies abroad with guidance on application procedures.</p>	
17. Particular support for learning	
<p>The subject specific resources related to this programme include workshops for studio practice, design and drawing studios, a sculpture studio, and a gallery. The studios are at the student’s disposal many hours during the week in order to practice and prepare their projects and there are always technicians and assistants to support them. Students also have access to the photographic studios and dark rooms, Green room, and a post-production unit as well as a model making workshop.</p> <p>The course is housed in the Athens Campus, with access to the Library of the college, , the Auditorium, and of course computer rooms which are equipped with all the relevant software and peripherals. WiFi access is available in all building areas, while the college is equipped with a variety of projection facilities which are used for classes and seminars. Students may also loan equipment (e.g. laptops) for use in class. Availability and booking arrangements are done through the administration.</p> <p>Both AKTO Campuses house a Library. The libraries of the college are equipped with computers, photocopying machines, internet stations and video room. The librarians also provide information on other libraries that the students can use and there is a database of relevant web-sites (see section ‘Library and learning Resources’ for the opening hours of the libraries).</p> <p>The course operates within the multidisciplinary setting of AKTO, offering students the opportunity to come into contact with students from other Art & Design programmes, attend common activities and</p>	

explore the common ground and applications of their disciplines and others. AKTO has a strong tradition in establishing and maintaining strong links with the relevant industry, which creates opportunities for students to visit working areas such as publishing companies and printing workshops and, what's even more important, get assigned real projects by various companies while they study, thus gaining experience, participating in exhibitions outside the college, winning prizes and even seeing their work published while they still study. The college also has a tradition in organizing various other activities that enrich student experience, such as educational excursions abroad, conferences, lectures by known professionals etc.

AKTO provides support for students with disabilities and anyone who require counselling. Any disability which might affect your study should be disclosed to your Programme Leader and the MA Coordinator through the Administration services on commencement of your course. Students requiring counselling support should contact the Administration or the AKTO Counselling service.

Lab support gives you supervised access to all workshops, computer labs, and studios, while personal tutorials are available to you when required and can be arranged through the Administration. For more information see section "Support services at AKTO".

Please also refer to sections "library" and "student support" of this Handbook, as well as "Fees and Scholarships" at <http://aktocollege.com/fees-and-scholarships/> for more information on learning support.

For more information please also refer to sections "Learning resources" and "Support" of this Handbook.

18. HECos code(s)

100059

19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)

Art & Design

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing the programme:

1. Subject Benchmark Statements for Art and Design programmes as issued by the QAA (2017).
2. Benchmark Statements for Masters programmes as issued by the QAA (2015).
3. Descriptors of the National Qualifications framework for MA in Design level (2010).
4. Middlesex University regulations (2022-2023).
5. AKTO College mission statement (2013).
6. The framework for higher education qualifications [FHEQ] (2008).

21. Other information

Students also benefit from:

- Qualifications and expertise of teaching staff: Most members of the programme team have completed university studies and/or postgraduate studies. All of them are practicing professionals with notable experience in the field and are all holders of the certification of the teaching qualifications of trainers for adults (Greek Dep. of Education).
- Educational experience of the teaching staff: all members of staff have substantial educational experience since they have been teaching in advanced levels of undergraduate programmes for a number of years.
- History and experience of the college: AKTO, which is the largest provider in the field of Art & Design education in Greece, has been running successfully a number of undergraduate programmes in the field, validated by Middlesex University since 1992 and the first postgraduate course at Master's level since 2003. The college has a long-standing good reputation for the quality of its provision.
- The validation by Middlesex University ensures implementation of all quality factors and procedures officially referring to academic programmes of such standards.
- Educational excursions and visits to areas of interest, so as to enrich the students experience.

The programme is evaluated and improved in the following ways:

- Student feedback in surveys (end of first semester) and board of studies (once per semester).
- External Examiner arrangements: Future reports on the operation and standards of the MA Level will assist in the evaluation and improvement of the Programme.
- Feedback from the employment market, whereby there is a demand for AKTO graduates by employers, is very positive, and the very good reputation of AKTO graduates in the industry.

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for MA Fine Art

This map shows the main measurable learning outcomes of the programme and the modules in which they are assessed.

Module	Code	Programme outcomes									
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
Fine Art – Research, Development & Practice	MFA 111	x					x				x
Contemporary Theories of Art & Culture	MFA 121		x					x			x
Art & Digital Media	MFA 131			x		x			x		
Professional Practice	MFA 112		x		x			x		x	
Major Project	MFA 122	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x

Programme learning outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding	
1	Assess the limitations and specificities of research within a creative context, the introduction of new criteria and formulate new research targets.
2	Critically assess crucial contemporary theories and urgent issues in art and culture and reflect on key dominant trends.
3	Appraise inventive modes of contemporary practice, new technologies, media formats and their expressive tools.
4	Exhibit thorough understanding of the industry in the practice of Fine Art, evaluate the professional environment and challenge existing practices in ethical, social and environmental contexts.
5	Contextualise the intentions of their artwork and plan the management of a systematic independent study on innovative Art related topics.
B. Practical skills	
1	Demonstrate expertise in critically applying combined research methods and strategies, with professional capacity.
2	Critically engage with conceptual tools to investigate complex current realities and exhibit skills in the development of a critical contemporary discourse.
3	Demonstrate mastery of your craft, synthesise, select, combine and implement with accuracy the appropriate means and creative technologies in the materialization of a topic.
4	Develop your methods and approaches, adopt a stance in relation to established systems of activity through their practice and synthesize creative strategies in innovative ways.
5	Demonstrate expertise in defending their creative practice and research effectively by employing advanced presentation and communication skills and critically justifying their choices.