

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SWE07598 INTRODUCTION TO ART WRITING

Tutor: REBECCA PARTRIDGE

Date: WEEKEND FRIDAY 2 FEBRUARY – SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course is an introduction to approaching, thinking, and writing about art. We will discuss how to evaluate art works and exhibitions as well as the ins and outs of writing an artist statement. The tutor will briefly introduce you to the scope of contemporary art writing; reviews, press releases, catalogue texts and exhibition proposals as well as the various outlets for art writing such as magazines, blogs and more.

You then learn how to structure a text, considering description, context and interpretation as well as different styles of art criticism. You will be encouraged to consider the context of art works as well as aspects of exhibition display and curation. As part of the course we will be visiting Pallant House Gallery and a local contemporary art gallery, after which you will have the opportunity to respond to the exhibitions with a short review.

The second part of the course will be spent workshopping the texts, with time for feedback and discussion, including artist statements.

The course will conclude with some practical guidance on publishing texts; how to pitch, working with an editor, how much you should be paid etc.

Art writing is open and creative as well as analytical, you will be encouraged to experiment and also have fun!

By the end of the course you will have gained a basic understanding of how to analyse art works, an overview of contemporary art writing, and the tools to begin writing your own statements and reviews.

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

For those who have taken a related course or have some existing skills, and for more experienced practitioners who want to expand skills. The focus is on working towards independent practice.

This course is suitable for anyone new to writing about art or their practice, as well as practising artists looking to review their existing writing.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Rebecca Partridge is a practicing artist, curator and writer for several contemporary art journals. She has most recently written for Hyperallergic (New York), Sculpturvox (UK) and is a regular contributor to Berlin Art Link (Germany). She has exhibited her own work internationally and is currently co-curating an exhibition for Nottingham University in 2018, which explores landscape and Romanticism in contemporary art. Rebecca currently lives in Berlin and is a regular visiting lecturer on the full time Visual Arts courses at West Dean College.

A selection of recent articles can be read here:

<http://www.berlinartlink.com/?s=rebecca+partridge+>

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Friday 2 February

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
6.45pm	Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner
7.00pm	Dinner
8.00pm–9.00pm	First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course. Introduction to contemporary art writing, an overview.

Other days: Saturday 3 February

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes – visit to Pallant House
3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Visit to Candida Stevens
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Homework – short form review

Departure day: Sunday 4 February

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am	Morning classes start – workshopping texts
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue – workshopping texts
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes – guidance to publishing texts
3.00pm	Classes finish
3.30pm	Tea then departure

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

You are invited to bring your artist statement, no more than 500 words.

MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm, for any materials you need to purchase from the shop.

Available from the shop:

Notebook
Pen/pencil

Please note that there will be an entry fee to visit Pallant Gallery, students to pay the gallery.

Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:

Students will be asked to write a short text, so you will need to bring a laptop and/ or notebook and pens.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.