

Focus on Research Degrees at NSAD

NSAD has an active research environment that celebrates the specialist nature of art and design. The School encourages disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to research and supports a wide range of partnerships between staff, students, academic and commercial partners. The School's research strategy emphasises practice-based, theoretical and applied research, which promotes knowledge transfer with business and the community that is collaborative and develops links outside of NSAD.

Research degrees at the School are to be offered in partnership with University of the Arts London (UAL)* from September 2008. This will bring significant opportunities for research collaboration between staff and research students in the two institutions. Although registered with UAL, students will undertake their programme of study at NSAD.

The School welcomes proposals for research study in the fields of art, design, media and creative writing (practice, interpretation, history) leading to MPhil and PhD.

For more information please contact the Research Secretary at: research@nsad.ac.uk or telephone: 01603 610561.

*Subject to UAL Academic Board approval

Research Degrees include --->

The Impact of Dyslexia on the Process of Creativity in the Visual Arts, PhD by creative practice and written commentary by Rob Hillier

NSAD Senior Lecturer Dr Rob Hillier completed a PhD at NSAD in 2007 that focused on research into fonts for dyslexic students after personally being diagnosed as dyslexic. It is estimated that the number of art and design students with dyslexia is 11% higher than the national student average. Before his research, fonts recommended by associations such as The British Dyslexia Association favoured those designed by non-dyslexic designers for non-dyslexic readers. As a result of his research, Rob has come up with a new typeface, 'Sylexiad'. Two fonts, 'serif sylexiad' and 'sylexiad sans' are now commercially available. For more information, please visit: www.robsfonts.com/projects

Negotiation, Assertion and the Public Realm, PhD by fine art practice and written commentary by Mark Wilsher

Mark's PhD research uses interdisciplinary models of negotiation to examine the construction of individual identities within the public realm. This image is from a series of drawings working on top of original photographs of public sculpture. Mark is exhibiting his work at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds from 26 July to 26 October 2008.



Sylexiad: a typeface for the adult dyslexic reader

1. 'Cylinders' by Mark Wilsher.
2. 'Sylexiad Sans Medium' by Rob Hillier.
Images supplied.

Other Current Research Degrees include -->

- The Easel in the corner, PhD by creative practice and written commentary
- Textile Practice, Materials and Artistic Discourse, PhD by creative practice and written commentary
- Getting old for Real, PhD by photographic and written commentary
- AnOther Thought: Binary oppositions and the Spatial Uncanny, PhD by Fine Art practice and written commentary
- Animation in Education: Its impact on Learning, Literacy and Creativity, MPhil/PhD by thesis
- The Infrastructural Support Requirements for the Animation Industry in the East of England, PhD by thesis
- Frog Pond Plop: The appearance and disappearance of the concrete, in the work of the artist and poet Dom Sylvester Houédard. PhD by thesis