

## Open College of the Arts 2020/2021

Short Course Unit Descriptor

# Investigating Place with Psychogeography



Photo by Robert Lukeman on Unsplash



Photo by Waranont (Joe) on Unsplash

### Overview

Course Duration:	8 weeks
Credit Value:	8
Scheduled Learning Hours:	30
Independent Learning Hours:	50
Accreditation:	CPD
Location:	Distance Learning
Course Fee:	£295

## Content

What is Psychogeography? Is it an overused term impossible to define, or does it remain a useful creative tool for artists when looking to investigate place in an immersive and non-linear way?

How do different places make us feel and behave? What creative approaches might we take that respond to the histories of specific sites, their edgelands and margins? This short course will provide you with the framework in which to explore and investigate place in the company of experienced tutors and artists.

This is an opportunity to be a part of a vibrant community of OCA artist-tutors who investigate place as part of their practice (photography, creative writing, sculpture and fine art) and who have been commissioned here to produce and share work that uses a psychogeographic approach.

## Learning Methods and Assessment

Through interaction via an online learning environment, you'll receive access to course materials including specially commissioned case studies for this course and tutor and peer feedback via a forum and live chat facilities at crucial stages of the course. You will have the opportunity to document your psychogeographic journeys through your 'Padlet' micro-blogging account. At the end of the short course, you'll produce a piece of creative investigation that responds to place using psychogeography, and you will become part of an archive associated with this course.

This mode of study requires no summative assessment. Instead, students will receive summary feedback from their tutor at the end of the short course. Students will also contribute to the legacy of the course by adding their work to an ongoing Padlet micro-blog that will form a trace/archive of their self-directed investigations of place with psychogeography. A presentation of student work will be showcased on the OCA website or OCA blog.

## Course Requirements

This course assumes no prior knowledge and is aimed at artists, budding as well as advanced photographers, writers and anyone interested in the medium of photography.

- 10 study hours available to dedicate per week\*
- Access to desktop/laptop computer with internet access
- Must be 18 years of age at the time of submitting the enrolment
- IT literate and comfortable using web-based technologies
- For students whose first language is not English, you must evidence English Language proficiency equivalent to B1 of Common European Framework of Reference.

*\*The above hours are indicative and will vary from student to student.*



# Syllabus

- Week 1: Introduction to the course and psychogeography, practical information, orientation.
- Week 2: Applying a psychogeographic approach, a methodology
- Week 3: Learn and apply methods for investigating place
- Week 4: Analyse contexts and historical perspectives - voices
- Week 5: Engage with the environment, eco-poetry
- Week 6: Developing processes, apply material approaches
- Week 7: Carry out your psychogeographic investigation
- Week 8: Present your work

## Learning Outcomes

On satisfactory completion of the course, you will be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with psychogeography as a methodology in relation to investigating a specific place/location
- evaluate different methods for investigating place/location apply these to a psychogeographic journey
- produce creative work that responds to specific places/locations using a range of artistic mediums and methods
- communicate the results of creative work accurately and coherently, developing lines of enquiry that are grounded in the theories and concepts of a psychogeographic approach to exploring place