



IMAGE: *Untitled*, 2020. Dewald Botha

Open College of the Arts | [Short Course Course Descriptor](#)

Investigating Place with Psychogeography

Overview

Course Duration: 10 Weeks (plus 2 weeks pre-access to materials)

Credit Value: 8

Scheduled Learning Hours: 30

Independent Learning Hours: 50

Accreditation: CPD

Location: Distance Learning

Course Fee: £305

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 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 can study flexibly to suit your own needs. Over **10 weeks**, you will undertake a variety of tasks which range from visual research, creative practice and reflective writing skills. You'll receive access to course materials including specifically commissioned case studies.

Online support and feedback with your tutor is via group forums and 4 live group video sessions — to discuss and share work, reflections, case studies, and reading material. You will have the opportunity to document your psychogeographic journeys through your 'Padlet' (a micro-blogging / portfolio space) where you will receive individual feedback from your tutor. If you are unable to attend live video sessions, the forum and padlet spaces provide your access to peer and tutor support.

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.

- 8-10 average study hours per week*.
- Access to desktop/laptop computers 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 Frame of Reference.

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

Syllabus

- **Week 1:** Introduction to the course and psychogeography, practice information, orientation
- **Week 2:** Applying a psychographic approach, a methodology. Learn and apply methods for investigating place
- **Week 3:** Analyse contexts and historical perspectives - voices.
- **Week 4:** Engage with the environment, eco-poetry
- **Week 5:** Developing process, apply material approaches
- **Week 6:** Carry out your psychographic investigation
- **Week 7:** Present your work. Dialogue and Summary Discussions
- **Week 8-9:** Self-directed project work and response to comments
- **Week 10:** End of Course On-line Showcase Exhibition and social

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 artists' 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.