
Key Information for the BA (Hons) Fine Art Degree (including full time, part time and Top Up) starting in 2019/20

About this document: This key Information gives you a summary of the core characteristics of the BA (Hons) Fine Art degree at HCA. Students may have learnt about this course from multiple sources: the college website, the college prospectus, and from conversations with staff and students for example, but we want to ensure that students have this overview for reference at any time during their studies with us as a record of the service we are agreeing to provide when a student accepts our offer of a place.

Award: The qualification that a student will receive upon successful completion of the programme is a BA (Hons) Fine Art. This means that the award will be a Bachelor of Arts ‘with honours’.

If a student does not complete the course, they may be eligible for a Certificate or Diploma of Higher Education.

Validating Body: The BA (Hons) Fine Art Degree is validated by the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. However, the course has been designed and is delivered by Hereford College of Arts.

Regulatory Body: Hereford College of Arts is registered with the Office for Students (OfS) to deliver Higher Education. The OfS is an independent public body which reports to Parliament through the Department for Education <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk>. (Their aim is to ensure that every student, whatever their background, has a fulfilling experience of higher education that enriches their lives and careers.)

Length of Course: The standard and minimum length of this course is as follows:

Course	Standard/minimum length of the course
BA (Hons) Fine Art Full time	3 years
BA (Hons) Fine Art Part time	6 years
BA (Hons) Fine Art Top Up Full time	1 year
BA (Hons) Fine Art Top Up Part time	2 years

Students will need to complete the course to gain the award.

Entry Requirements

All students need to be at least 18 years of age at the start of the course.

Applicants will normally have an interview where they will present a portfolio of work or perform an audition. In exceptional cases this can be conducted remotely. This will be a supportive process where guidance will be given on the strengths and areas for improvement.

We normally expect applicants to have achieved 80 UCAS points at entry. Whilst qualifications are important, our offers are not solely based on academic results. We may make offers based on other evidence of talent or suitability for the course.

Applicants who do not satisfy the normal entry requirement but offer other qualifications and or relevant experience will be considered on an individual basis subject to satisfactory information being provided at interview.

Applicants whose first language is not English and require a tier 4 student visa must achieve Level B2 in an approved secure English Language test prior to enrolment. For further guidance please visit the UK Visa and Immigration website www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa.

Your offer letter will include any requirements specific to your offer.

Our Admissions Policy can be found here; <https://www.hca.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/HCA-Admissions-Policy-Procedures-2017.pdf>

Core modules:

All programmes of study are made up of modules. Some modules are comprised of two or more assignments. Modules have a credit value that contribute to the achievement of the qualification. Each module has its own syllabus, handbook and assessment. In order to pass each year, you need to achieve 120 credits. Modules vary in size from 20 credits to 60 credits.

Programme Structure:

BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 4 (Year 1) Full time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Practice in Context 1 (Fine Art)	20	During the first year, you will be provided with a solid grounding in the history of your studio subject. Practice in Context One demonstrates that all creative practice is influenced by its historical and cultural context – including factors such as: contemporary events and conditions, the available technologies of production, creative work previously made by other practitioners, and the ideas, values and beliefs of the cultures in which the work is produced.
Developing a Visual Language	20	Mark-making is an almost instinctive human activity. Who has not made marks in sand with a stick, or rubbed two stones together to make marks? Almost everywhere we look we can see the evidence generated by another’s activity. Drawing can be a very personal activity, and like a signature or fingerprint, everybody will approach and utilise this activity differently. This module encourages students to widen their perception of what mark making, or drawing, can constitute. It encourages students to define their own personal response, or position in relation to drawing, and to determine how drawing relates to, and informs their practice. It also encourages students to be experimental in their attitude and approach to drawing.
Introduction to Fine Art Practice	20	Contemporary art practice is very much about the exploration of ideas and concepts and how such ideas are made tangible and visible by the manipulation of materials and through the development of processes. This introductory module gives students the opportunity to begin to explore and develop their ideas and critical ability alongside introducing them to the processes, range of materials and workshops available to them as practitioners. It encourages students to consider very different approaches when realising ideas and asks them to make a body of experimental work in response to two project briefs. In making work students are being asked to explore, to discover, to play, not to reproduce what they already know.
Landscape Site & Context	20	Through an exploration of the issues and contexts that affect our perception of urban, personal, historic, ethnographic, contemporary and rural landscapes, students will be introduced to the possibilities for practice that arise through research and exploration of wider contexts. students will be encouraged to look at the overlooked, the everyday and the spectacular, to engage with sites that are remembered, forgotten, documented, contested, looked at, moved through, lived in and worked on and use this research as a source of inspiration for the development of an innovative, personal and critically considered body of work.
Developing Fine Art Practice	20	This module builds on the exploration of ideas and concepts introduced in Introduction to Fine Art Practice and is intended to help students to more clearly consider the appropriateness of materials and processes in the development of students ideas and to understand the potential

		that materials and processes have for translating and developing their ideas. Students will be able to make experimental work in a series of different workshop areas during the module; choosing to develop a deeper understanding of particular materials and processes in relation to a brief that allows them to independently develop a body of work exploring the concept of 'palimpsest'.
Fine Art Issues	20	This module provides an introduction to contemporary developments within Fine Art practice, including the emergence of multidisciplinary practices, collaboration and participation, and the digital realm. Students will be encouraged to reflect upon the evolving role of the artist in society, debates around authorship and meaning, and produce a personal response to their chosen social, cultural, or political issues or current affairs news items.

BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 5 (Year 2) Full time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Practice in Context Two (Fine Art)	20	Practice in Context Two introduces a number of theoretical approaches which will help extend your understanding of creative practice. This module places a new emphasis on the role of theory in challenging conventional ideas and perspectives, introducing new analytical concepts and enabling you to look at familiar material in a new way.
Fine Art Collaborative Practice	20	What is Collaboration? How does it function within contemporary fine art practice and, more specifically, within a student's own developing practice? In this module, students will develop a body of experimental collaborative work with their peers and across disciplines within the college.
Art Practice One	20	In this module, students will begin to expand their understanding of their own creative ambitions through the production of a body of studio work to a chosen theme. Students will choose either Landscape, the Figure, or the Object as a basis for their investigation. This gives students the opportunity to experiment, to take creative risks and to explore new ways of expressing their ideas, whilst continuing to develop the intellectual and critical skills that are essential to visual art practice.
Drawing Practice	20	Every practitioner defines drawing differently and uses it in a different way. This module is intended to give students the opportunity to consider more clearly what drawing can be and what its relevance is to your practice. A series of workshops and seminars will help students to develop their knowledge and understanding of drawing as a tool to explore the visible world, materials, the imagination, and with which to develop ideas and research strategies. Students will produce a body of experimental and investigative drawings informed by their developing concerns and interests. Considering the nature of 'drawing' as a verb and a noun, a process and an outcome, students will investigate the suitability and use of materials in contemporary drawing practice.

Art Practice Two	20	Even when working to commission, Fine Artists call the shots, deciding what they produce, what it's about, what it's made from, and no other area of language or social production is more varied or complex. Art galleries are probably the least predictable institutions that we experience. What would you create given total freedom, and no restrictions, other than time and cost? This module encourages students to sample life as a real artist in the writing of their own brief and the production of a body of independent studio work. This means that all decisions regarding this module are made by the student. The student decides what the work will be about, the student decides on the best methods and areas of research. The student will decide what the work will be made from, and therefore which skills and materials best suit their ideas.
Exploring Futures	20	This module is designed to introduce students to a wide-range of opportunities through which they will begin to establish a specific awareness of professional practice in the expanded field of Fine Art, and provides the opportunity for students to undertake appropriate work-based learning activities. Depending upon the student's personal goals and interests the precise nature of this engagement with professional practice and industry will vary, and could include such activities as working with a gallery, arts administration, community arts, art therapy, residencies, or gaining experience alongside a professional practitioner in the students chosen field.

BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 6 (Year 3) Full time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Practice in Context Three	30	In this module you will undertake a substantial piece of self-directed research on a theme of your choice. This module provides you with the opportunity to research and critically assess the ideas and contexts which give meaning and resonance to your own area of studio practice. Your research may be produced in a number of different optional formats, ranging from a written essay to more creative, practice-led options, and you can choose which option you wish to take. The aim of this module is to give you a solid intellectual basis to support you to create a final body of work which is original, perceptive, meaningful, coherent and resolved.
Confirmation of Practice	30	This module is designed to expand and deepen students self-initiated practice by increasing the focus and specificity of their work. It encourages creative risk-taking and exploration of new modes of expression whilst increasing an understanding of professional contexts. It will also help students to develop an autonomous approach to their creative practice that will focus on their ability to learn independently.
Resolution of Practice	60	This is the final module of the Fine Art degree and is intended to give students the intellectual and creative space to fully realise their creative ambition through the production of a comprehensive body of work. Particular emphasis at this stage of the course is placed upon students' ability to demonstrate a high level of professionalism and good project management; including the opportunity to assemble a professional

		portfolio demonstrating a clear understanding of the role played by self-promotion and a professional level of presentation. At the end of this module students will work together with their tutors in the process of organising and curating a final exhibition of work for the college-wide Summer Show.
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BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 4 (Year 1) part time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Practice in Context One (Fine Art)	20	During the first year, you will be provided with a solid grounding in the history of your studio subject. Practice in Context One demonstrates that all creative practice is influenced by its historical and cultural context – including factors such as: contemporary events and conditions, the available technologies of production, creative work previously made by other practitioners, and the ideas, values and beliefs of the cultures in which the work is produced.
Introduction to Fine Art Practice	20	Contemporary art practice is very much about the exploration of ideas and concepts and how such ideas are made tangible and visible by the manipulation of materials and through the development of processes. This introductory module gives students the opportunity to begin to explore and develop their ideas and critical ability alongside introducing them to the processes, range of materials and workshops available to them as practitioners. It encourages students to consider very different approaches when realising ideas and asks them to make a body of experimental work in response to two project briefs. In making work students are being asked to explore, to discover, to play, not to reproduce what they already know.
Developing Fine Art Practice	20	This module builds on the exploration of ideas and concepts introduced in Introduction to Fine Art Practice and is intended to help students to more clearly consider the appropriateness of materials and processes in the development of students ideas and to understand the potential that materials and processes have for translating and developing their ideas. Students will be able to make experimental work in a series of different workshop areas during the module; choosing to develop a deeper understanding of particular materials and processes in relation to a brief that allows them to independently develop a body of work exploring the concept of ‘palimpsest’.

BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 4 (Year 2) Part time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Developing a Visual Language	20	Mark-making is an almost instinctive human activity. Who has not made marks in sand with a stick, or rubbed two stones together to make marks? Almost everywhere we look we can see the evidence generated by another’s activity. Drawing can be a very personal activity, and like a signature or fingerprint, everybody will approach and utilise this activity differently. This module encourages students to widen their perception of what mark making, or drawing, can constitute. It

		encourages students to define their own personal response, or position in relation to drawing, and to determine how drawing relates to, and informs their practice. It also encourages students to be experimental in their attitude and approach to drawing.
Landscape Site & Context	20	Through an exploration of the issues and contexts that affect our perception of urban, personal, historic, ethnographic, contemporary and rural landscapes, students will be introduced to the possibilities for practice that arise through research and exploration of wider contexts. students will be encouraged to look at the overlooked, the everyday and the spectacular, to engage with sites that are remembered, forgotten, documented, contested, looked at, moved through, lived in and worked on and use this research as a source of inspiration for the development of an innovative, personal and critically considered body of work.
Fine Art Issues	20	This module provides an introduction to contemporary developments within Fine Art practice, including the emergence of multidisciplinary practices, collaboration and participation, and the digital realm. Students will be encouraged to reflect upon the evolving role of the artist in society, debates around authorship and meaning, and produce a personal response to their chosen social, cultural, or political issues or current affairs news items.

BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 5 (Year 3) Part time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Practice in Context Two (Fine Art)	20	Practice in Context Two introduces a number of theoretical approaches which will help extend your understanding of creative practice. This module places a new emphasis on the role of theory in challenging conventional ideas and perspectives, introducing new analytical concepts and enabling you to look at familiar material in a new way.
Fine Art Collaborative Practice	20	What is Collaboration? How does it function within contemporary fine art practice and, more specifically, within a student's own developing practice? In this module, students will develop a body of experimental collaborative work with their peers and across disciplines within the college.
Drawing Practice	20	Every practitioner defines drawing differently and uses it in a different way. This module is intended to give students the opportunity to consider more clearly what drawing can be and what its relevance is to your practice. A series of workshops and seminars will help students to develop their knowledge and understanding of drawing as a tool to explore the visible world, materials, the imagination, and with which to develop ideas and research strategies. Students will produce a body of experimental and investigative drawings informed by their developing concerns and interests. Considering the nature of 'drawing' as a verb and a noun, a process and an outcome, students will investigate the suitability and use of materials in contemporary drawing practice.

BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 5 (Year 4) Part time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Art Practice One	20	In this module, students will begin to expand their understanding of their own creative ambitions through the production of a body of studio work to a chosen theme. Students will choose either Landscape, the Figure, or the Object as a basis for their investigation. This gives students the opportunity to experiment, to take creative risks and to explore new ways of expressing their ideas, whilst continuing to develop the intellectual and critical skills that are essential to visual art practice.
Exploring Futures	20	This module is designed to introduce students to a wide-range of opportunities through which they will begin to establish a specific awareness of professional practice in the expanded field of Fine Art, and provides the opportunity for students to undertake appropriate work-based learning activities. Depending upon the student's personal goals and interests the precise nature of this engagement with professional practice and industry will vary, and could include such activities as working with a gallery, arts administration, community arts, art therapy, residencies, or gaining experience alongside a professional practitioner in the students chosen field.
Art Practice Two	20	Even when working to commission, Fine Artists call the shots, deciding what they produce, what it's about, what it's made from, and no other area of language or social production is more varied or complex. Art galleries are probably the least predictable institutions that we experience. What would you create given total freedom, and no restrictions, other than time and cost? This module encourages students to sample life as a real artist in the writing of their own brief and the production of a body of independent studio work. This means that all decisions regarding this module are made by the student. The student decides what the work will be about, the student decides on the best methods and areas of research. The student will decide what the work will be made from, and therefore which skills and materials best suit their ideas.

BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 6 (Year 5) Part time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Practice in Context Three	30	In this module you will undertake a substantial piece of self-directed research on a theme of your choice. This module provides you with the opportunity to research and critically assess the ideas and contexts which give meaning and resonance to your own area of studio practice. Your research may be produced in a number of different optional formats, ranging from a written essay to more creative, practice-led options, and you can choose which option you wish to take. The aim of this module is to give you a solid intellectual basis to support you to create a final body of work which is original, perceptive, meaningful, coherent and resolved.
Confirmation of Practice	30	This module is designed to expand and deepen students self-initiated practice by increasing the focus and specificity of their work. It encourages creative risk-taking and exploration of new modes of

		expression whilst increasing an understanding of professional contexts. It will also help students to develop an autonomous approach to their creative practice that will focus on their ability to learn independently.
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BA (Hons) Fine Art Level 6 (Year 6) Part time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Resolution of Practice	60	This is the final module of the Fine Art degree and is intended to give students the intellectual and creative space to fully realise their creative ambition through the production of a comprehensive body of work. Particular emphasis at this stage of the course is placed upon students' ability to demonstrate a high level of professionalism and good project management; including the opportunity to assemble a professional portfolio demonstrating a clear understanding of the role played by self-promotion and a professional level of presentation. At the end of this module students will work together with their tutors in the process of organising and curating a final exhibition of work for the college-wide Summer Show.

BA (Hons) Fine Art Top Up Level 6 (Year 1) Full time		
Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Practice in Context Three	30	In this module you will undertake a substantial piece of self-directed research on a theme of your choice. This module provides you with the opportunity to research and critically assess the ideas and contexts which give meaning and resonance to your own area of studio practice. Your research may be produced in a number of different optional formats, ranging from a written essay to more creative, practice-led options, and you can choose which option you wish to take. The aim of this module is to give you a solid intellectual basis to support you to create a final body of work which is original, perceptive, meaningful, coherent and resolved.
Confirmation of Practice	30	This module is designed to expand and deepen students self-initiated practice by increasing the focus and specificity of their work. It encourages creative risk-taking and exploration of new modes of expression whilst increasing an understanding of professional contexts. It will also help students to develop an autonomous approach to their creative practice that will focus on their ability to learn independently.
Resolution of Practice	60	This is the final module of the Fine Art degree and is intended to give students the intellectual and creative space to fully realise their creative ambition through the production of a comprehensive body of work. Particular emphasis at this stage of the course is placed upon students' ability to demonstrate a high level of professionalism and good project management; including the opportunity to assemble a professional portfolio demonstrating a clear understanding of the role played by self-promotion and a professional level of presentation. At the end of this module students will work together with their tutors in the process of

		organising and curating a final exhibition of work for the college-wide Summer Show.
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BA (Hons) Fine Art Top Up Level 6 (Year 1) Part time

Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Practice in Context Three	30	In this module you will undertake a substantial piece of self-directed research on a theme of your choice. This module provides you with the opportunity to research and critically assess the ideas and contexts which give meaning and resonance to your own area of studio practice. Your research may be produced in a number of different optional formats, ranging from a written essay to more creative, practice-led options, and you can choose which option you wish to take. The aim of this module is to give you a solid intellectual basis to support you to create a final body of work which is original, perceptive, meaningful, coherent and resolved.
Confirmation of Practice	30	This module is designed to expand and deepen students self-initiated practice by increasing the focus and specificity of their work. It encourages creative risk-taking and exploration of new modes of expression whilst increasing an understanding of professional contexts. It will also help students to develop an autonomous approach to their creative practice that will focus on their ability to learn independently.

BA (Hons) Fine Art Top Up Level 6 (Year 2) Part time

Module Title	Credits	Module Descriptor
Resolution of Practice	60	This is the final module of the Fine Art degree and is intended to give students the intellectual and creative space to fully realise their creative ambition through the production of a comprehensive body of work. Particular emphasis at this stage of the course is placed upon students' ability to demonstrate a high level of professionalism and good project management; including the opportunity to assemble a professional portfolio demonstrating a clear understanding of the role played by self-promotion and a professional level of presentation. At the end of this module students will work together with their tutors in the process of organising and curating a final exhibition of work for the college-wide Summer Show.

Composition of the course and how the course will be delivered:

The course is modular and is managed on a two semester schedule, each of 15 weeks duration. The academic year begins in September and ends in June.

Level 4: the course defines Level 4 as induction and core generic skills acquisition

Level 5: applies the new skills gained at Level 4 in a range of appropriate contexts

Level 6: students specialise through individual learning programmes

The total length of the academic year is 32 weeks (including enrolment, induction and a reading week), with breaks for Christmas, Easter and Summer.

Students will have access to College resources (studios, library, workshops, social areas) on week days during normal working hours and later on some days and at certain times of the year.

Students may also have access to some of the resources in vacations, and current information on this is available by request.

Students are awarded 'credits' for the successful completion of a module, totalling 120 in each academic year. A single credit is defined as ten hours of study so a 20 credit module requires 200 hours of study in total. A student must successfully achieve 120 credits. 1200 hours of study in total.

The percentage of contact time devoted to differing learning environments depends on the individual module content, but the course seeks to use a wide variety of teaching methods wherever possible. Examples of teaching methods include, process inductions and workshops, demonstrations, lectures, presentations, master-classes, on-line learning activities, tutorials and seminar discussion groups.

Assessment is almost exclusively made by submission of course work in the form of a portfolio, although written essays and reviews plus presentations are also used. There are no timed, written examinations.

Tuition Fees: The tuition fees for 2019/20 are outlined in the table below. For more information about applying for a tuition fee loan, please visit www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance.

Please note that this annual fee will remain unchanged for the 3-year duration of your course. However, following enrolment, students transferring to an alternative mode of study, repeating or retaking modules or suspending their studies, will need to confirm fees with the Finance Department.

Course	Level	Year	Fees
BA (Hons) Fine Art full time (UK/EU students)	4	Year 1	£9000
BA (Hons) Fine Art full time (UK/EU students)	5 <i>(Direct entrants)</i>	Year 2	£9000
BA (Hons) Fine Art Top Up full time (UK/EU students)	6	Year 1	£9000
BA (Hons) Fine Art part time (UK/EU students)	4	Year 1	£4500
BA (Hons) Fine Art Top Up part time (UK/EU students)	6	Year 1	£4500
BA (Hons) Fine Art full time (Overseas students)	4	Year 1	£10500

Please note that the Higher Education Student Finance portal normally opens in mid-February. The College would encourage students to submit their student finance application as soon as possible.

All students need to ensure that the funding is in place for their tuition fees and living costs prior to enrolment.

Payment, service delivery and performance arrangements:

If the tuition fee is paid to the College via the Student Loans Company, it will be paid in 3 instalments – 25% in term 1, 25% in term 2 and 50% in term 3.

If a student is paying their own tuition fees, students can pay in instalments by direct debit only. Students will be required to pay 1/3 of their annual tuition fees each term.

Overseas students are required to pay their tuition fees in full by June prior to the commencement of their course.

Any of the additional costs (see additional costs section) are collected via an online secure payment system.

Additional Costs

Additional costs are directly related to your study but exclude accommodation and student's personal living costs. Further information about halls of residence and other accommodation available in Hereford is available on our website.

In addition to the tuition fees charged, the nature of creative arts practice means students will need to allow for some additional costs, for example, materials that they choose to use in the production of work and activities such as trips to external events and exhibitions. The courses at HCA have been designed to minimise the impact of additional costs; some trips and materials will be fully funded by the college or heavily subsidised. However, typically, a student will choose to spend around an additional £250 in the first year, £375 in the second year and £400 in their final year, depending on scale of work and materials chosen or other related costs. Students spend different amounts depending on the areas in which they specialise and individual choices. We appreciate that not all students will be able to invest the same money in their work and staff assessing it will not judge work by the cost of materials or other resources.

The college shop stocks specialist materials at competitive prices and digital equipment can be loaned from the media stores at no extra cost to students.

Students on all courses will also have the chance to take part in optional trips that require additional payment. Non – attendance on the trips will not incur assessment penalties, though trips are designed to help students develop their practice. There is an optional annual cross-course overseas residential trip. During the academic year 2018-19, the destination was Rome and the cost to students was £400.

Places on the optional trips are allocated on a first come first serve basis.

On completion of Level 6 (the final level of study), some students also choose to take part in an optional residential trip to London for one of the various graduate showcases (for instance Free Range). Decisions about these showcases are made by the college with students on an annual basis and costed according to differing showcase fees, numbers of students taking part and ambition of display. Students are required to contribute to financing this activity and are encouraged to take part in fundraising events and grant applications.

The College is committed to ensuring that students considering studying at HCA are fully aware of the possible additional costs.

Following enrolment, students that face genuine financial hardship may apply to the College Hardship Fund.

Location of Study Our degree courses are all based at our College Road Campus but several specialist workshops and performing spaces are located nearby on our Folly Lane Campus and degree level students often work between both sites. Much of a student's study will also involve working in different locations in the city and surrounding area.

Locations and contact details:

College Road Campus: Hereford College of Arts, College Road, Hereford. HR1 1EB.

Folly Lane Campus: Hereford College of Arts, Folly Lane, Hereford. HR1 1LT.

Telephone: 01432 273359

Fax: 01432 341099

If you have any enquiries please contact our registry department: registry@hca.ac.uk

Complaint handling process.

Our full complaints policy can be found here; <https://www.hca.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/HCA-Student-Complaints-Policy-Procedure-2017.pdf>

Information relating to all academic regulations, including complaints procedures can be found via the UWTSD public website. <https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/academic-office/academic-quality-han>

