

Academy of Visual Arts
Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Visual Arts Programme

VART3305 Further studies in Visual Arts Studies (Art History & Theory)/
VART3306 Further studies in Visual Arts Studies (Chinese Arts Studies)/
VART3307 Further studies in Visual Arts Studies (Visual & Material Culture)

No. of units: 3

Pre-requisite: To be specified by the course instructor, including at least one level 2000 course from the same cluster

Duration: 39 hours

I.1. Course Rationale & Description:

This course aims to provide an opportunity for students to study in-depth, selected topics in contemporary issues related to the theoretical study of the Visual Arts. Through examination of theories related to the topic, students will look at issues from an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective. The course will guide students to integrate various points of view and develop their own critical judgment of the Visual Arts.

The course will normally start with a discussion and introduction to the special topic in relation to the study and practice of the Visual Arts. Depending on the nature of the selected topic, the course will focus on one or more important trends of thought, assessing their relevance to contemporary culture and practice. Assigned readings will be interdisciplinary, and students will be encouraged to examine the topic from a cross-cultural perspective. The course will conclude with a critical reflection on the topic and its relevance to the general understanding of Visual Arts.

This course changes subjects/theme regularly; therefore the individual instructor in consultation with the Visual Arts Studies Division will determine the selected topic, to take full advantage of developing research, issues and global developments in the visual arts.

I.2. Course Content:

Two Sample Special Topics:

I. Art: Competition and Prize Phenomenon.

No.		Hours		%
1.	History and Background	3		7.6
2.	Types and definitions: Annual, Biennale	6		15.4
3.	Global and Local: Context and reputations, education	9		23
4.	Theoretical Reflections: Visual development, hybridity and object	6		15.4
5.	Impact of Art Competitions	6		15.4
6.	Prize, Value and Status: Impacts of entry, winning	3		7.6
7.	Reception and Response	6		15.4
	Total	39		100

II. Space, Place and Creation

No.		Hours		%
1.	History and Status	9		23
2.	Art, Building and Installation: Definition and Purpose	9		23
3.	Art and the Public Spaces	9		23
4.	Blurring the Boundaries: Creative Activity; Politics of Representation: Labels in Visual Art	9		23
6.	Cultural, environment and planning; Policy and Social Change	3		7.6
	Total	39		100

I.3. Intended Course Learning Outcomes (CILOs):

(Please take note of the PILOs for the overall BA programme in the Programme Document.)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	Intended Course Learning Outcomes (CILOs)
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1.	Apply cultural and critical theories to analyse the selected topic;
2.	Critically reflect on the selected and other related topics;
3.	Review the cultural significance of the selected topic with applying appropriate theories;
4.	Compare different theories related to the selected topic in the discussion and presentation; and
5.	Adhere to standards of professional practice and ethos.

**More may be added.*

I.4. Alignment of CILOs with PILOs:

Learning Outcomes	Please indicate alignment by checking '✓' the appropriate box					
	CILO1	CILO2	CILO3	CILO4	CILO5	CILO6
PILO1.1						
PILO1.2						
PILO2.1	✓					
PILO2.2						
PILO2.3		✓	✓	✓		
PILO3.1					✓	
PILO3.2					✓	

**There may not be 6 CILOs, in which case, just leave columns empty.*

I.5. Alignment of Teaching and Learning Activities with CILOs:

No.	Teaching and Learning Activities	CILO	Hours
1.	Lectures and presentations with aid of audio-visual media will introduce the history, theories and key issues of the special topic under investigation. Images, objects, videos and/or reading materials will be used in class. Students will be encouraged to interact actively with the instructor and their peers through Q&A sessions and group discussions.	1-5	21
2.	Tutorials and group discussions on special topics, research practice and methodologies will provide students with training in research skills. Students are encouraged to evaluate various issues covered in the module and express their opinions on peers' presentations that will increase the quality of research outcomes.	1, 4, 5	12

3.	Field trips to museums, art galleries and cultural heritage sites will be arranged to enable students to experience the physicality and materiality of relevant artefacts, artworks and building sites. The visits will also cultivate students' appreciation and understanding of China's cultural exchanges with other countries. Students will fill in feedback forms, evaluating the visualisation and significance of selected artworks/building sites.	1, 2, 4, 5	6
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**More may be added.*

I.6. Assessment:

No.	Assessment Methods/Activities	Weighting	Alignment with CILOs
1.	Research papers: Each student is required to assess and present his/her research findings on a specific topic falling within the scope of this module. Essays should include strong arguments, a clear structure, illustrations, footnotes and a bibliography.	40%	2, 3
2.	Student Presentations: Students are required to give audio-visual presentations based on their essay topics. The following group discussions allow presenters to receive feedback from their instructor and peers.	30%	3, 4
3.	Professional Attitude: Professional Attitude does not necessarily define its own learning outcomes, but takes a look at 'how' the other, non-attitudinal outcomes are achieved. Assessment will always be based on direct personal contact with the student. Assessment methods include personal conversations – formal and informal –, class observation, individual and group-tutorials, and such like. Assessment evidence is continuously produced through attendance and participation class-records, public presentations, peer-reviews, evaluation of sketchbooks or visual diaries, personal notes of students and teachers, etc. For more information, please refer to the BA (Hons) in Visual Arts' Programme Document.	30%	5

**More may be added.*

I.7. References:

The course instructor will provide references during the introduction of the course.

I.8. Academic Integrity:

Students will endeavour to only claim work that they have actually produced themselves. Claiming the work of others is considered plagiarism, and will be dealt with under the academic policies of the university.

I.9. Health and Safety:

Every effort will be made to comply with the intent of Hong Kong's law or acts and the University's policies to maintain a safe and healthy working environment.

I.10. Final Note:

The instructor reserves the right to modify the class and the syllabus or the schedule to adjust to the dynamics of the particular group or to take advantage of opportunities that may arise.