

**V.A. 3610 Visual Arts Internship (3,\*,\*) (E)**

Prerequisite: Completion of minimum four Visual Arts level II courses

All students of the BA (Hons) in Visual Arts programme are recommended to undertake an internship within their preferred career area during their time of study. An internship links classroom theory to professional practice, and thus will provide the student with learning experiences beyond the possibilities of the BA (Hons) programme. Such experience will be valuable for the student's professional and personal development, and in particular very helpful in establishing and/or verifying the student's career intentions.

As any internship is not supposed to interfere with the regular studies of the student, it will usually be taken as a summer course during term break. Any internship will be self-organized by the student, in an institutional body related to the cultural and/or creative sector. To be eligible for credit units the internship needs to represent a workload equivalent to 264 regular working hours (i.e. six full working weeks) to be taken as one consecutive employment. The nature of work performed by the intern during the internship should reflect a reasonable professional level in design, visual arts, arts administration or equivalent.

If a student intends to claim credit units for an internship, he has to seek approval through the Internship Coordinator prior to up-taking the position. In order to get approval the student needs to provide sufficient information about the internship provider—including the name and contact data of a specified supervisor from within the internship institution—as well as about the intended nature of work during the internship. Upon returning to his studies the student is obliged to provide exhaustive documentation of his doings during the internship, and a written report from the internship supervisor to the Internship Coordinator. The Internship Coordinator will assess the sufficient validity of the tasks performed during the internship, and declare—usually after consultation with other academic staff—the relevancy of the internship for one particular concentration. Any internship will only be graded as “pass/fail”, and will be listed in the student's Transcript of Records.

**V.A. 3620 Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Art History (3,3,0) (E)**

Prerequisite: V.A. 2780 Writing in Art and Culture or V.A. 1220 Introduction to Western Art and V.A. 1210 Introduction to Chinese Art

The early meetings and exchanges between Europe and Asia have left a valuable legacy for intercultural studies in the present era of globalization. The accelerated flow of artefacts, artworks, ideas and people from one nation to the other has contributed to the active dialogue between Asian and Western cultures. It also enriches our knowledge and experience of cross-cultural encounters in the global community.

This theme-based course examines the reception and production of visual arts in the context of cross-cultural interaction amongst Western and Asian countries, including America, Europe, China, Japan, India and the Middle East. It will lay emphasis on China's encounters with the outside world from the 18th to the 20th century. Most materials will explore how Western collectors and artists perceived Asian art and material culture, ranging from paintings, woodcuts and photographs, to porcelains, sculptures, furniture and gardens. The in-depth analysis of the production, design and consumption of Chinese and Japanese export art, as well as their impact on Western taste and art practice, will inform critical issues of art training and art market in the modern period. Considering the collecting of foreign objects in China and the presence of European Jesuits and artists at the imperial court, this course will also investigate Asian interest in Western art and the production of the hybrid forms of art. Issues of museum collecting and looting, as well as the theoretical discourses of Orientalism and colonialism will be discussed.

Through lectures, group discussions and field trips, this course will offer students a greater depth of the understanding of art and cultural history from a historical, cross-cultural and interdisciplinary perspective. It will broaden their knowledge of

creativity by demonstrating wider and diverse visual environments in different social, cultural, political and economic contexts. By understanding and evaluating cross-cultural issues in art, students can engage in a dynamic creative process with an international outlook.

**V.A. 3630 Special Topics in Visual Arts Studies (3,3,0) (E/C)**

Prerequisite: V.A. 1220 Introduction to Western Art and V.A. 1210 Introduction to Chinese Art

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.

**V.A. 3640 Visual Anthropology (3,4,0) (E)**

Prerequisite: V.A. 2240 Material Culture and Collections or V.A. 1220 Introduction to Western Art and V.A. 1210 Introduction to Chinese Art

This course introduces the study of visual anthropology, examining the visual documentation of humanity and its cultures. Exploring a variety of media objects and events, this course critically engages students into debates and issues related to photography, advertising, global mass media, material culture and the impact of new technologies.

The visual interpretation offers significant insight into our understanding of the human development in terms of our own identities, and within the wider global and historical contexts. Fragile, and often temporarily specific, the analyses of visual elements offer an intellectual platform for contextualization and decontextualization.

Exploring concepts and methods as research tools for anthropological inquiry that consider the inter-connection of reality, social perspectives, and the resulting visuality, which can help to inform and influence our ways of understanding and assimilating our lives and societies.

Through the discussions of what images mean to us, and their effects, the course will further poses crucial questions surrounding our understanding within the historical, cultural and social, value and power of vision, image and artefact. Emphasizing and contextualizing the relations between people and the visual as objects, studied both within and external to, environmental and cultural context, this course will guide students to integrate various points of view and develop their own critical judgment of the Visual Arts.

**V.A. 3650 Special Topics in Craft and Design (3,4,0) (E/C)**

Prerequisite: To be specified by offering instructor

This course aims to provide an opportunity for students to study in-depth selected topics in contemporary issues related to the various creative practices in Craft and Design.

Through examination of theories related to the topic, students will get an initial look at issues in the Craft and Design from an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective. The course will then guide them to integrate various points of view, and to

develop their own critical judgment on the topic under study. Starting on the basis of this initial introduction the course will then aim to investigate through practice different approaches and methodologies to the course topic, and to ultimately connect and integrate them with existing skills and knowledge of course participants. The aim is to develop and practise skills and concepts for students' personal practices in Craft and Design at the current state of the arts.

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

**V.A. 3660 Hong Kong Arts (3,3,0) (E)**

Prerequisite: V.A. 2600 Arts of Asia or V.A. 1220 Introduction to Western Art and V.A. 1210 Introduction to Chinese Art

Every place has its own story/stories that can be narrated, illustrated and represented creatively through visual arts if not in words. This course attempts to tell the many stories of Hong Kong by looking at examples of local art works, including painting, sculpture, cartoons, photography and architecture that are produced from the early 19th century to the present day, as a way to outline the character and history of the place. With the supplement of texts and documentaries, students will learn from the visual examples how Hong Kong transformed from a small fishing village to a metropolis city of over seven million people; or from a British colony to be a part of the People's Republic of China nowadays.

Alternately, the socio-political changes, technology development, education reform, cultural interaction of a place can also influence the production of works of art, in terms of style, medium and meaning. The search for identity before the return of sovereignty before 1997, for example, triggered off a substantial amount of art creation on the issue on Hong Kong identity.

The course will adopt a multi-disciplinary approach in reading stories of Hong Kong, not solely from the view points of visual arts, but also sociology, history, cultural studies, geography, and/or literature, whichever can bring new insight to enhance our understanding on the topics. The opportunity to study original works of art, either from museum or private collection, enables students to make direct encounter with the history of the place, which will ultimately inspire their thoughts and interpretation of the subject of Hong Kong.

**V.A. 3670 Sustainable Design (3,4,0) (E)**

Prerequisite: V.A. 2080 Space and Site or V.A. 2770 Product Design

Not just after the growing concern about global climate change have environmental issues become an increasingly relevant issue in particular for designer. Sustainable Design describes an environmentally conscious approach to a highly sensitive, political and social problem: the world changes, and so must we. The course will give you an understanding of bio-based and biodegradable materials, recycling materials, and sustainable production processes. The challenge is to take an everyday object, remould, rebuild and re-purpose it to create an entirely new item using as little additional materials as possible. Three different projects and external collaborations with the industry will be the means to a deep understanding of global environmental problems and possible solutions.

**V.A. 3680 Special Topics in Studio and Media Arts (3,4,0) (E/C)**

Prerequisite: To be specified by offering instructor

This course aims to provide an opportunity for students to study in-depth selected topics in contemporary issues related to the various creative practices in Studio and Media Arts.

Through examination of theories related to the topic, students will get an initial look at issues in the Studio and Media Arts from an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective. The course will then guide them to integrate various points of view, and to

develop their own critical judgment on the topic under study.

Starting on the basis of this initial introduction the course will then aim to investigate through practice different approaches and methodologies to the course topic, and to ultimately connect and integrate them with existing skills and knowledge of course participants. The aim is to develop and practice skills and concepts for students' personal practices in Studio and Media Arts at the current state of the arts.

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

**VAAA 7100 Management of Creativity (6,6,0)**

This course attempts to investigate how art administrators can act as the bridge between artists, governments and various stakeholders in offering a vast array of cultural experiences for the public. It aims at introducing students to diverse aspects of managing creativity in developing basic understanding and professional skills and attitudes of the field of art administration. Examining current cultural thinking, professional practices and community agendas, this course considers major areas of art administration and discusses key issues and debates in which the profession has been engaged. It is designed to equipping students with theoretical concerns and practical skills in bringing arts to the community.

**VAAA 7200 Arts and the Public (3,3,0)**

This course is designed to explore how people associate with arts through an investigation of cognitive science, aesthetics perception, learning models and communication theories. The theoretical studies will enable students to further examine why people would engage into arts, what aesthetic experiences mean to audiences, and the rationale of art education. Students will also look into practical implications of the theories in developing marketing strategies, organizing education activities, and building audiences in a multi-facets endeavour.

**VAAA 7210 Art Curatorship (3,3,0)**

Art curatorship is a crucial aspect of art administration and management, which involves diverse, creative collaborations with artists, cultural organizations and the public. This course aims to equip students with the basic concepts and skills of curation, and enable them to relate the operational mechanisms of the art world to contemporary contexts and audience development. Relating curatorial works to wider cultural agendas and social concerns, students will also examine current issues faced by curators, and key elements for organizing an art exhibition. This course is an important means of nurturing creative modes of art management and offers further synergies with other courses in this programme.

**VAAA 7300 Master Project for Art Administration (6,\*,\*)**

The Master Project embodies research, development and realization of an independent body of work under the supervision of a supervisory team (Principal Supervisor and Secondary Supervisor). The final outcomes of the Master Project could be a project developed and delivered for/with an art organization or a reflective thesis on a defined topic. The format and deliverables of the Master Project should base on the individual learning contract which is agreed between the student and the supervisory team before the beginning of the last trimester. The outcomes should demonstrate students' mastery of the knowledge, skills and professional attitude throughout the programme.

**VAAC 7100 Critical Analysis of Art and Aesthetics (3, 3, 0)**

This course aims to introduce human artistic phenomena and the relation of art to the study of philosophy and aesthetics. The objective is to enable students to conduct critical discussion on