

to form a comprehensive analytical survey of the canon of Art History from a global perspective and present connections with the everyday lives of the students. The in-depth analysis of specific works of visual art will broaden the knowledge of creativity and explore issues of multi-cultural creation, belief, ideology and reception.

By studying and understanding the developments and importance of art and culture, students can inform their own practice and compete as artists in a global setting with a greater clarity and depth of knowledge. The courses combine to synthesise understanding of visual art from a global perspective.

This course will be delivered in blocks of learning with assessment at the end of each block.

VART 1306 Art and its Histories II (3,3,0) (E)

Prerequisite: VART 1305 Art and its Histories I

This is the second part of the Art and its Histories-course, continuing the introduction of key developments in the history of visual art. This theme-based course will survey the production of art within the context of the social, cultural, and stylistic significances of art under changing historical, scientific and philosophical conditions.

Each theme will be examined, in depth and linked with theory to form a comprehensive analytical survey of the canon of Art History from a global perspective and present connections with the everyday lives of the students. The in-depth analysis of specific works of visual art will broaden the knowledge of creativity and explore issues of multi-cultural creation, belief, ideology and reception.

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VART 2115 Drawing: Visual Thinking and Observation (3,4,0) (E)

Prerequisite: VART 1006 Visual Arts Practice II or any GDCV courses offered by AVA or any Visual Arts courses

Drawing is the fundamental training for various visual arts subjects. It is a discipline that includes strategies for representing forms, movement and ideas through the mark-making medium. It is also a way to convey thoughts and beliefs through hand and mind coordination. While transforming the experience into drawing, students will obtain new interpretations of visual expressions, as the course focuses on strengthening students' visual perception and observation with the practice of traditional and contemporary drawing approaches.

This course aims to introduce drawing studies from formal and representational into unconventional image expression, and will advance all beginners to go from fundamental to more exploration level. The course consists of three parts: the practice of drawing fundamentals; the learning of basic visual languages in drawing; and the re-interpretation of drawing from the figurative, representational to the application of various media and alternative processes. There will be exercises on basic training through a series of assignments that stress on using drawing as a medium for visual thinking and observation. Students will draw from direct observation or imagination of still life, landscape, and the human figure. Drawing media may include graphite, charcoal, ink, and collage, as well as watercolour and pastel.

VART 2116 Painting: Image and Interpretation (3,4,0) (E)

Prerequisite: VART 1006 Visual Arts Practice II or any GDCV courses offered by AVA or any Visual Arts courses

This course aims to introduce students to the full range of materials and processes of painting. It provides opportunities for substantial skill development through extensive studio practice of different genres including portrait, landscape, still life and abstraction. The course also consolidates the technical expertise in painting including the understanding of the material quality of

paint, the consideration of different painting supports, health and safety issues as well as the efficiency of studio practice.

The course also puts emphasis on examining how ideas and images are represented and explore how they relate to individual expression as well as social interpretation. Students will have opportunity to investigate the fundamental formal languages of painting through different exercises and will gain a solid understanding of the connection between form and content. Studio practice will be supported by lectures and tutorials, which purpose to investigate the debates surrounding the role of contemporary painting. Regular class discussions will also be held to examine the work of art by contemporary painters in terms of their cultural context and stylistic concern. At the end of the course, students will be equipped with preparation skills to discuss in oral and written forms the conceptual and visual elements in their paintings.

VART 2125 Visual Literacy in Chinese Painting (3,4,0) (E)

Prerequisite: VART 1006 Visual Arts Practice II or any GDCV courses offered by AVA or any Visual Arts courses

This course provides comprehensive and fundamental training on *guohua*, literally translated as "national painting" or "Chinese painting". It is primarily divided into two sections: (1) understanding of *Xieyi* (free style); and (2) understanding of *Gongbi* (fine-brush, or delicate style). Focuses are on the critical concepts and ideas, conventional modes of expression and technical skills of *guohua* in the ancient models. Students are expected to explore such models for reinterpreting and rejuvenating the traditional form of *guohua* in the end of the semester.

The rationale to offer this level-II course is to allow students to understand one of the cores of Chinese arts—Chinese painting. Regarded as Hong Kong residents, art students are supposed to have sufficient art trainings in both Western and Chinese arts. However, Chinese art training has been in deficit in local educational system even after the handover of 1997. Thus this course is to provide relevant art trainings and cognitive knowledge for students to capture the Chinese cultural narratives through practicing Chinese painting.

While English is the major medium of instruction of this course, occasionally Chinese will be used in the teaching of materials and texts related to Chinese arts.

VART 2126 Chinese Word as Image: Foundational Studies in Chinese Calligraphy and Seal Engraving (3,4,0) (E)

Prerequisite: VART 1006 Visual Arts Practice II or any GDCV courses offered by AVA or any Visual Arts courses

The centrality of using Chinese words as the major element in artistic expressions is a unique and prominent phenomenon in both Chinese and global visual culture from past to present. Chinese words, as evolved from pictographic representation to non-representational character, is the fundamental medium for artistic expressions in the practices of a range of Chinese art forms including calligraphy, seal engraving and other craft arts. Whether brushed on paper or engraved in three-dimensional objects made of stone, bronze and any other penetrable material, the visual and artistic form of Chinese word interacts with the subtlety of the linguistic aspect of Chinese language to produce a richly interdisciplinary artistic experience. This course consists of three parts: (1) The study of foundational knowledge and theories pertinent to the material, tools, and the linguistic skills involved in the practices of Chinese calligraphy and seal engraving; (2) The practical study of brush, engraving and carving techniques, the compositional strategies of the strokes of Chinese characters and other relevant basic skills; and (3) A simple hands-on studio art project. The class will learn the skills of adopting different material, handling of tools and other basic techniques of Chinese calligraphy and seal engraving through demonstrations and guided practice. The course culminates in a small-scale yet rewarding creative project where by students will produce one piece of artwork based on the application of their acquired concepts, tools