

VART 3357 The Anthropology of Art (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: VART 2306 Art in the 20th Century II

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.

VART 4015 Research and Practice in Visual Arts (6,6,0) (E)

Prerequisite: Completion of minimum one BA-cluster from SMA concentration or VAS concentration

This is an independent study courses for Year 4-students of the BA (Hons) in Visual Arts-programme. It focuses on interdisciplinary research in the visual arts, centred around a self-generated practical creative investigation. While there are no principal formal restrictions to the investigation or the creative project – it may be of any medium or approach – students have to produce substantial research work as their outcome. This research is then to be the basis for their subsequent Honours Project.

This initial theory-based framework of the course is made up of a series of workshops that aim at consolidating, combining and extending the wide range of cross-disciplined research methods, cross-media creative approaches as well as work documentation and presentation skills that students of the programme have acquired in their previous studies so far. Participation in these workshops will help the students to independently pursue their investigations and experimentations within their personal projects in this course. These activities will also establish a time and workload structure to give guidance to the students, and provide opportunity for feedback and criticism in the further course.

To provide the students with opportunities to research the fundamentals and the context of their own intended self-assigned creative project the initial comprehensive research introductions will be followed up by a sequence of lectures, case studies, tutorials and other relevant teaching and learning activities related to the students' specific concentration of choice.

The knowledge, skills and experiences that students gained in this course are prerequisite for the Honours Project in the last term of study in the BA (Hons) in Visual Arts-programme.

VART 4055 Honours Project (3,*,*)

Prerequisite: Year III standing

The Honours Project provides a keystone experience for the student in his final year in the BA (Hons) in Visual Arts programme. It gives the student an opportunity to prove his capability of solving independently and self-reliantly a self-generated assignment in the work-field of the Visual Arts. He will apply the concepts and skills gained on the programme to the investigation. In successfully doing so the student will meet academic and creative standards that allow the Academy to confer the BA (Hons) in Visual Arts degree on him.

The Honours Project has to be completed by all students during

their final term of study in the BA (Hons) Visual Arts programme. To increase students' performance during the development of their Honours Project, and as preparation for their careers after graduation the Honours Project includes a series of required workshops.

VASC 7010 Intensive Workshop I (0,0,3) (E)/(P)

VASC 7020 Intensive Workshop II (0,0,3) (E)

VASC 7030 Intensive Workshop III (0,0,3) (E)

VASC 7040 Intensive Workshop IV (0,0,3) (E)

VASC 7050 Intensive Workshop V (0,0,3) (E)

Course names/mediums would be announced to students in the Master of Visual Arts programme at the beginning of the trimester.

VASC 7100 Research Practice for the Visual Arts (3,3,0) (E)/(P)

Twenty-first century witnesses visual arts practitioners merging cultural concerns, research, and process of making into creative output that highlights the complexities of life experiences; and explores new territories. In equipping students' artistic inquiry, this course introduces various research practice, informed by practice-led research, that are common in visual arts and design, including autobiographical writing, state of art review, typological study, data visualisation, qualitative interviewing technique, oral history, user experience, archival research, sensory ethnography as well as collaborative and participatory action research in the arts. Such pedagogical approach aims at preparing students to set direction and methodological concern to their own research interests, be they phenomenological, through discourse analysis, feminism or action research. Bringing methodology into professional practice, students will go through the process of research and apprehend the significance of practice-led research in the context and currency of visual arts and academia.

VASC 7200 Professional Practice for the Visual Arts (3,3,0) (E)/(P)

A graduate in any area of the visual arts entering the professional arena today cannot expect to be looking forward to a streamlined career. Instead his/her career will be a patchwork of activities crossing all boundaries from art-making to applied design commissions, occasional administrative jobs to part-time teaching and back. They will work in a variety of contexts from self-employed freelancing to private agencies, corporate structures and the public sector. This course aims at equipping students with basic knowledge and skills in a variety of professional fields that will help students to jumpstart their professional practice in the visual arts.

The course is made up by a sequence of workshops delivered by professional specialists and visual arts practitioners. Each workshop includes lectures, seminar-style talks as well as small practical assignments, which allow participants to get some initial hands-on experience within the respective area. The intention of the course however is not to educate specialists, it rather aims to make aspiring professionals of the field aware of these matters, sketch the situation and indicate comprehensive ways of approaching problems arising.

VASC 7300 Interdisciplinary Practice for the Visual Arts (3,4,0) (E)/(P)

"Creativity isn't the monopoly of artists." This remarkable claim made by Joseph Beuys back in 1979 denotes not only the liberation but also the interdisciplinary nature of contemporary art. Over the past decades, all sorts of collaborations among different artistic disciplines, areas of knowledge and various stakeholders in the society have opened up the diversity and openness of creative practice.

By introducing the background and current trends of interdisciplinary practice in connection to visual arts, this course provides students with new insights to rethink about the roles, responsibilities and capabilities of visual artists in our time. As