

with appropriate references and theoretical backup together with a formal project proposal which show great potential to be further developed in CD Studio Project II.

#### **VACD 7020 CD Studio Project II (9,4,8)**

Prerequisite: VACD 7010 CD Studio Project I

The CD Studio Project II is the second part of the 2 consecutive 9-credit courses. Students have to continue the artistic exploration bring forward from CD Studio Project I and eventually realize the proposed independent project under the guidance of respective supervisor. The final outcomes of the CD Studio Project II will be a series of studio work with well-defined theoretical framework, references and continuous development according to the project proposal approved by the supervisor.

The format and deliverables of the CD Studio Project II should demonstrate the students' mastery of the knowledge, skills and professional attitude acquired throughout the programme as well as to show their achievement of independent creative pursuit.

#### **VART 1005 Visual Arts Practice I (3,4,0)**

"Visual Arts Practice I" and "Visual Arts Practice II" are required double-courses to be offered in consecutive semesters of Year I of the BA (Hons) in Visual Arts programme of AVA. The course will be offered in parallel with the theory courses "Art and its Histories I" and "Art and its Histories II", and are intended to supplement and expand their learning by introducing fundamental practical knowledge, skills and work attitude to first-year students to train up their "minds", "eyes" and "hands" for further study in various academic/artistic clusters within the BA programme, and to familiarize them with the settings of teaching and learning at the Academy of Visual Arts.

"Visual Arts Practice I" focuses on initially introducing students to a selected set of practical 2D and 3D skills that enable them to start off their personal creative production, and develop a sense for a sustainable personal studio practice.

#### **VART 1006 Visual Arts Practice II (3,4,0)**

Prerequisite: VART 1005 Visual Arts Practice I

"Visual Arts Practice I" and "Visual Arts Practice II" are required double-courses to be offered in consecutive semesters of Year I of the BA (Hons) in Visual Arts programme of AVA. The course will be offered in parallel with the theory courses "Art and its Histories I" and "Art and its Histories II", and are intended to supplement and expand their learning by introducing fundamental practical knowledge, skills and work attitude to first-year students to train up their "minds", "eyes" and "hands" for further study in various academic/artistic clusters within the BA programme, and to familiarize them with the settings of teaching and learning at the Academy of Visual Arts.

"Visual Arts Practice II" focuses on heightening students' aesthetical and cultural awareness as well as facilitating the development of their perceptual and conceptual abilities for visual arts practice. Through a series of integrated seminars, workshops and field studies, students are expected to formulate critical feedback; to articulate creative ideas and to propose individual creative responses in connection to a specified topic. From sensory observations to idea development, then to visualizing innovative thoughts, students will go through the comprehensive process of creative thinking and execute their creative ideas with appropriate media and problem solving skills.

#### **VART 1305 Art and Its Histories I (3,3,0)**

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the 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.

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)**

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.

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

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 believes 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)**

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)**

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)**

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 and skills. Students need to the foundational tools and skills of this course to nurture their understanding of Chinese cultural heritage. The acquire foundational knowledge and experience offered by this course are intended to cultivate a synergy with all

other courses of Chinese and Asian art history, visual culture, Chinese calligraphy, seal engraving, Chinese painting, typography, Chinese language, and some aspects of sculpture.

**VART 2135 Looking through the Lens (3,4,0)**

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

The world and its cultures are external before one looks deeply. As artists and as responsible citizens, ways of focused looking will help us to learn from, and benefit back to our society and the world.

This is a course on fundamental knowledge of lens-based media. The essential foundation provided in this course is not merely technical skill but ways of inquisitive looking. Looking is attentive and active while seeing is external and passive. Accordingly, supplementary to technical training, this course aims at broadening students' visual perceptions and sharpening their senses responding to the outside world.

Students will explore and experiment how lens-based media artists understand, capture, represent and interpret the physical reality. Technical workshops on camera obscura, optical theory, colour management, framing and composition will be offered. Field work of self-directed nature for practicing skills of observation is an important part of the course. Class assignments will enhance students' ability to look into details both in aesthetic realm and in cultural contexts.

Students will be working mainly on photography and moving image production that are essential craft for visual artists in various fields and in a cross-disciplinary manner. This course serves as a foundation for works of photography, moving image, visual narrative and interactive media. Students will be both technically and intellectually ready to engage in further experimentations of lens-based media creations in advanced courses.

**VART 2136 Sound: The Basics (3,4,0)**

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

This course aims to study sound beyond the common practice of audio as supplementary and secondary to visuals. Students will un-learn sense of sight as their primary sense, and thus re-learn multiple meanings and interpretations of sound and its relations with visuals. Students will learn to use microphones and recorders, and the skills of audio recording and editing techniques. On top of these technical craft, fundamentals of sound design form essential parts of the course. Principles of sound including physics of sound, auditory perception, awareness of acoustic environment and different types of listening practices will also be introduced.

As a foundation course, it aims to raise students' interests and doubts in rethinking audio-visual relations. By stressing sound as an artistic and expressive medium in its own right, rather than approached as secondary to visuals, students learn to discover immense creative potentials of sound. Hence, students will be both technically and intellectually ready to engage in further experimentations of sonic creations in advanced courses exploring novelty and possibilities of time-based media. Students will work on sonic creations or, sound design for moving image works (of their own or of their fellow classmates). This course also supports students further explore sound in various media such as video art, installation art, hypermedia, interactive media.

**VART 2145 Sculpture: Materials and Processes (3,4,0)**

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

We live in a built environment. This environment is defined by different structures and objects, and their spatial relationships. In an effort to interpret our environment and to create new places and forms, this course will explore through in and out of class projects how structures and forms are built through an additive process. This course is designed to bring to light different ways of understanding how sculpture has been made, can be made and explore new methods for the continuance of the discipline into