

VART 3246 Studio Jewellery (3,4,0)

Prerequisite: VART 2246 Small Metal Jewellery

From pre-historic time till the mid-twentieth Century, people wore jewellery to showcase their wealth, power, social and religious status, superiority and their aesthetic sense. After the Second World War, many of the societies in Europe and America were turned upside down.

The great loss of lives made many artists questioned the traditional values, and reflected on the question of self-identity. The scarcity of materials also pushed many artists to start making jewellery. Together with the new materials made available through technology advancement, the studio jewellery movement was born. At the core of the movement is a deep desire to establish values and identity through jewellery. In many ways, jewellery is the ideal art form to consider a person's values, and to explore the possibilities of utilizing or challenging traditional meanings.

In this course, students will be guided to develop a series of work that reflects their stance on contemporary issues. They will start by studying the traditional meanings of jewellery, and their connections to the underlying craftsmanship. Once these connections are made, they will look at how the studio jewellery movement pushed these apart, and used new ideas and materials to create a new set of language. The students will then reflect on their own perception, develop a series of jewellery, and present their work and research findings to the class.

VART 3255 Exhibition Design (L) (3,4,0)

Prerequisite: VART 2255 Design Thinking or VART 2257 Prototyping

Exhibition Design is potentially one of the most common, but also least recognized design-areas: despite the practice of exhibiting is found not only in museum- or gallery-exhibitions, but also in trade-fairs, showrooms, shops and various public institutions, there are not many programmes or courses dedicated to this specific area. Accordingly this course aims to equip students with the basic knowledge and skills for designing exhibits and displays for all kinds of situations, including the spatial arrangement of a site, the interior design for the space, exhibition-furniture and -graphics. However, it also intends to go beyond the professional practice of exhibit design, and explore the wider practice of exhibiting in general.

As this course aims at students who have already some experience in art-/design-related subjects, but not yet any systematic approach to Exhibit Design, the focus of the course will be on transferring knowledge, skills and personal experience from other subjects like Sculpture, Installation Art, Graphic Design and others, and to apply these in a new professional area that it sought for widely in many design-professions.

VART 3256 Furniture Design (M) (3,4,0)

Prerequisite: VART 2255 Design Thinking or VART 2257 Prototyping

Furniture Design is one of the oldest design-disciplines, having a history of roughly 40 centuries, and making this area something like a classic in itself. However, contemporary Furniture Design can also simply be seen as an applied approach to contemporary sculpture. This remarkable ambivalence of the subject allows for a rather wide range of approaches, and makes it a great area for experimentation in concepts, designs, materials, or crafting.

This course intends to equip students with basic knowledge and skills to work with the complex mix of technical, functional and aesthetical characteristics that is furniture design. It familiarizes the students with historical and theoretical aspects of furniture design, various materials for furniture making and respective crafting skills. This knowledge shall then be applied to develop one piece of furniture from its very first idea-stage to a finished object, that complies to a given class assignment as well as to a contemporary design approach.

VART 3257 Product Design (S) (3,4,0)

Pre-requisite: VART 2255 Design Thinking or VART 2257 Prototyping

Steve Jobs, founder and CEO of Apple, said that "Some people think design means how it looks. But of course, if you dig deeper,

it's really how it works."

Product design is a creative discipline, which combines art and technology, ideas and materials, to improve our daily lives, protect our health and create new opportunities for the industry. It is the intention of this course to exactly foster this kind of imaginative design ideas and solutions that will make the world not only a more beautiful, but also a better place.

For this purpose the course will extend students' knowledge of materials and processes – especially in applied technologies like 3D-printing – and support students to develop their ideas through several stages of exploration, testing and re-developing to ultimately come up with artefacts that are conceptually sound, technically and economically feasible, yet also e.g. ecologically sustainable.

Students will understand that the right choice of materials in combination with the appropriate processes in design and production are inseparably linked to the look and performance of any product.

VART 3305 Further Studies in Visual Arts Studies (Art History and Theory) (3,3,0)**VART 3306 Further Studies in Visual Arts Studies (Chinese Arts Studies) (3,3,0)****VART 3307 Further Studies in Visual Arts Studies (Visual and Material Culture) (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: To be specified by the course instructor

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.

VART 3315 Concepts in Contemporary Art (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: VART 2305 Art in the 20th Century I

This course will concentrate on the study of contemporary developments in the visual arts by thematic discussion. The study will explore art and artists from across the world and examine the linking of concepts and theories of contemporary trends from 1960.

The complexities of the contemporary art ecology will be examined through social, political and economic frameworks to encourage students to actively consider and interpret how ideas, forms, materials, process and purpose all contribute to meaning.

In addition, this course will examine the contemporary phenomenon of art fairs, the rise of the economic interests in contemporary art and the homogenization of art in the contemporary context. Examining and theorizing ideas of meaning and identity, this course will explore contemporary art from differing perspectives, to build a picture of how contemporary art functions in the local and global artistic environment.

VART 3316 Critical Studies in Lens-based Media (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: VART 2305 Art in the 20th Century I

Art historian Michael Fried in one of his recent book asks, "Why Photography Matters as Art as Never Before?" (2008). Lens-based media have been an artistic fever and enjoy huge popularity