

U.L. 1121-2 University Life (0,*,*)

This course aims at (1) equipping students with the key and essential skills for University learning, (2) building and consolidating a teaching and learning relationship through informal small group interactions between lecturers and students, (3) inculcating the principles of mind-stretching learning and thinking in students from a broad and yet stimulating perspective, and (4) promoting a sense of community and commitment to ethical principles. It consists of three elements: (1) academic skills workshops on personal transformation and university information resources; (2) co-curricular learning; (3) mentoring sessions; and (4) academic integrity online tutorial.

V.A. 1080 Introduction to Visual Arts I (3,4,0)

This course focuses on heightening students' aesthetical and cultural awareness as well as facilitating them to develop 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 be ready to execute the creative ideas with appropriate media and problem solving skills in the up-coming stage of V.A. 1090 Introduction to Visual Arts II.

V.A. 1090 Introduction to Visual Arts II (3,4,0)

Prerequisite: V.A. 1080 Introduction to Visual Arts I
This course emphasizes on the organization and execution of the creative ideas which students developed in the course of V.A. 1080 Introduction to Visual Arts I. Students have to (1) explore different ways of categorizing the creative ideas from individuals; and (2) debate, negotiate and comprise on various possibilities of artistic feedback and eventually come with a unanimous decision for a team project in response to the specified topic. In this second stage of development, wide varieties of visual art forms covering two-dimensional, three-dimensional and time-based media will be investigated and be experimented through a series of integrated seminars and hands-on workshops. Students are expected to employ appropriate artistic skills and teamwork strategy to execute the creative project for a final showcase.

V.A. 1100 Major Themes in Arts of Asia (3,3,0)

Instead of a survey in Asian art history, this course aims to introduce students to comparative approaches to major themes in the arts of Asia: from gardens in Suzhou and Kyoto, to contemporary architecture in Kuala Lumpur and Shanghai; from Japanese to Korean TV drama; from the sensibility of contemporary art in Taipei and Beijing, to the narratives of Indian temples reliefs and Japanese *mangas*. It will also explore how arts in Asia are used to establish cultural identities, and create marketable images within a globalized context.

The course comprises a variety of classes including lectures, museum visits, web-based resources, case studies and team-working research projects to help you explore differences and similarities of the arts in Asia. A presentation of course work (visual analysis, interpretative texts, PowerPoint presentations) will form the assessable output.

V.A. 1210 Introduction to Chinese Art (3,3,0)

Hong Kong visual arts students should have an appreciation of Chinese cultural heritage and the recent developments of Chinese visual arts, not only to enrich their own artistic production, but also to intellectually challenge them to organize knowledge gained from the course and to use their analytical skill to explain Chinese visual arts in the conditions that produced them.

The course presents Chinese art as expression of material culture, belief systems, politics, elitist emblem, self-cultivation, identity, community and changing worldviews. Structuring in a chronological and thematic manner, this course begins with

Late Neolithic material cultures and ends with contemporary artistic expressions. The broad survey provides students with knowledge and understanding of the cultural, social, and stylistic significances of Chinese visual arts under changing historical conditions.

V.A. 1220 Introduction to Western Art (3,3,0)

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the key developments in the history of Western 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, over a two-session period and linked with theory to form a comprehensive analytical survey of the canon of Western Art History 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 Western 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. As the required parallel course to V.A. 1210 Introduction to Chinese Art, the courses combine to synthesize understanding of visual art from a global perspective.

V.A. 1510 Introduction to Drawing (3,3,0)

Drawing is a fundamental tool for art training as well as for all kinds of art practice. As preliminary sketch during the development of any art- or design-work or as an artistic medium of its own right the ability to draw is essential throughout the scope of creative work.

The learning of drawing is not only on technical skills. This course will also enable students to use drawing as means for visual expression. Through experimental drawing studies students will acquire the experience of transforming a visual experience into a two-dimensional creative work. They will go from realistic drawing to works of self-expression.

The course will include studies on form, proportion, spatial relationship of objects and pictorial structure. Students should be able to work critically and selectively to explore ways of representation. Various kinds of drawing media will be used and explored in classes to broaden the scope of drawing expression.

V.A. 1530 Introduction to Painting (3,3,0)

This is a studio art course open to non-major students of all levels as it is an introduction subject on painting for all beginners. It introduces students to the learning of methods, materials and skills in painting with emphasis on studio practice. Students have opportunity to learn the concepts of colour, composition and value and familiarize with them through a series of home assignments and class exercises. A solid foundation of practical as well as technical approaches to painting is provided.

Knowledge of art and art appreciation is an important component of "whole person" training. This course also aims to open up students' mind and vision on art through practical work as well as appreciation. Alongside with studio exercises for painting practice and lectures given on art appreciation, critiques and tutorial sessions will also be scheduled for students to acquire in-depth understanding of painting in practice and theory.

V.A. 1550 Chinese Art Studio (3,3,0)

The aim of the course is to provide students who is supposed to have no prior knowledge of Chinese painting with an elementary yet substantial training of *guohua*, literally national painting. This will be done with dual emphases on the techniques and artistic concepts of *xieyi* (free hand) painting and Chinese calligraphy.

The course will begin with a comparison between Chinese painting and Western counterparts, which offers a basic understanding of two visually similar but intrinsically discrete arts. The second part of the course will examine the mode of expression of *xieyi*, which is characterized by the improvisatory and spontaneous painting technique with the bold and calligraphic brushwork. Focus will