

The structure of the course is a continuous and iterative process where students sample images from everyday life encounter. Students will be encouraged to perform abstraction process to strip off most representational details of the images. Only abstract visual forms and features remain. The images will then undergo modifications in both analog and digital ways. Under the guidance of the teachers, students experiment with the sampled material using darkroom techniques, collage, montage, scratching, and printing to enhance the visual richness of the material. At the same time, students will be introduced simple programming techniques to extract features from the visual content and further manipulate them using generative process to produce images with stunning complexity. The subsequent images will re-cycle back to everyday use according to the students' design. It then forms an iterative loop that the visual material can go through another cycle of treatments. It will be the students' creative decision to pause at specific moment to submit the material for assessment.

Students in the course learn to manage the creative process by using alternative photographic techniques, illustration skills and computer programming concepts. The visual deliverables from the process can be source material for design, installation art, moving image content, etc. At the same time, students are expected to appreciate the value of crafts in handling traditional drawing material, technological device like camera, and intangible expression like computer coding. In the long run, the experience in this course will help students, when given a creative assignment, to formulate a proper strategy to approach the solutions in both an innovative and effective ways. Historical reference will be drawn from a variety of sources like experimental photography, illustrations, abstract painting, computational photography and digital graphics, to expose the students with a wider spectrum of creative works.

V.A. 2770 Objects and Environment (3,4,0)

Prerequisite: V.A. 1090 Introduction to Visual Arts II

An object is not merely a physical outcome of form and material, but also a complex interplay shaped by the creator and the users, under a matrix of social and cultural influences. And in return, they shape our space, our behaviour, and our identity. By going through a series of form-making and idea-generating processes, students should be able to observe the transformation of relationship between an object and its environment, and initiate an awareness of the human and spatial conditions.

This course will focus on how to generate 3D objects through a series of thinking and visualization processes, in the context of a given environment, which exemplifies the generic principles of product design. Via exercises and projects, students can play with fundamental spatial elements like form, materials, styles, senses, ambience, etc. At the same time, they will also examine the ways in which functionalities and messages can be interpreted and represented through 3D design. Students will work on simple materials, paper, cardboard, fabric and other handy materials to generate objects in a 3D environment under given conditions. Be it indoor or outdoor, playful or practical, the creative outcome will be a tangible object or construction that awakens and realizes the hidden potentials of its surrounding, both aesthetically and functionally.

V.A. 3020 Concepts in Contemporary Art (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: V.A. 1220 Introduction to Western Art and V.A. 1210 Introduction to Chinese Art

This course will concentrate on the study of art trends and art movements by thematic discussion. The study will emphasize on the concepts and theories of modern and contemporary trends from 1945 to the current decade with particular inclusion of the current development of New Asia Arts: the post-89 era in China, the modern and post-modern art of Asia Pacific region and Hong Kong. The course provides a platform to get to know with the historical and contemporary frameworks for discussing and analysing art, further more, student will learn to evaluate sources and ideas critically and make informed decisions about their relevance and worth.

Nowadays, Contemporary Art is a very complex concept according to various interpretational needs. By stressing the

analysis of works of art within thematic groupings rather than a linear historical introduction, engages students in actively considering how ideas, forms, materials, process, and purposes all contribute to meaning of Contemporary Art. In addition, students will be acquainted with the current international and local art scene in order to better understand the inter-textuality of concepts in contemporary art.

V.A. 3030 Painting: Creative Projects (3,4,0)

Prerequisite: V.A. 2490 Painting: Image and Interpretation

This is an advanced painting class, and it aims to nourish professional artist. There will be research studies, lectures, studio visits and artist talks to focus on current art and cultural issues. Students will work on independent studio projects with rigorous group critique sessions to evaluate individual artistic development. Tutorship will also be given through regular supervision sessions to assist individual artistic development. With the scheduling of special sessions for discussing and to reviewing the evolution in art especially in painting on the convergence of traditionalism and modernism, students will further investigate the problem of painting. This course is to nourish professional advancement for an art career. Students are expected to work on art pieces with self-initiated themes. The course is to give intensive training on painting and art studies, and students are expected to work on art pieces with self-initiated themes.

V.A. 3040 Creative Ceramics: Concept and Process (3,4,0)

Prerequisite: V.A. 2140 Ceramic Art: From Pinched Pot to Sculptural Form or V.A. 2320 Form and Function: Wheel-Thrown Ceramics

Ceramic art, with its origin in craft, has been propelled by artistic movements, which integrated traditional techniques and aesthetics into the creation of contemporary artwork. In this course, students will build on previously acquired ceramic skills by augmenting their ceramic knowledge through exposure to more advanced ceramic techniques and the viewing of high calibre ceramic artworks. It is also an exploration into the possibilities of ceramic material and techniques in artistic expression. Students have to tackle different problems in various projects with different approaches to ceramic art including a thematic project, in which students have to create within an assigned concept.

Using a variety of techniques, including paper-clay, advanced hand building and wheel throwing techniques, slip-casting and press-moulding, students will fabricate ceramic composite forms in non-functional approach. Image transfer and glaze test projects will also help students to develop their own messages on surface. Forms constructed range from abstraction to images of found objects, where the aesthetic consideration will be opened to personal creative expression. Emphasis will be placed on the development of concept and the transformation to three dimensional clay objects. Students are encouraged to create independent work exhibiting personal symbols and content. Students will further broaden their understanding of ceramics by visiting museums, galleries, and meeting artists at their studios. Additionally, through lectures and research, students will strengthen their historical knowledge of both traditional and contemporary ceramics, so that they can explore the issues of cultural identity and significance in their own work.

V.A. 3050 Installation Art (3,4,0)

Prerequisite: V.A. 2270 Intersculpt or V.A. 2730 Sculpture: Materials and Processes

Installation has been the most commonly used art form in contemporary visual creation since 1970s. It is a kind of integrated medium of expression which potentially triggers different sense such as sound, light, odour and other intangible sensible elements. The phenomenon of mixed media and interdisciplinary creation in contemporary art making has indicated strong initiatives to explore new creative space and language within an existing framework, and installation art is the most organic experimental area in this realm. Through the practice of installation art, students will utilize various forms of visual expression within space.