

Lingnan University
B.A. (Honours) in Visual Studies

Course Title	: Special Topics in Visual Studies: Studio Practice
Course Code	: VIS3999
Recommended Study Year	: 3 rd and 4 th years
No. of Credits/Term	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Sectional Approach
Class Contact Hours	: 3 hours per week
Category in Major Programme	: Programme Elective
Prerequisite(s)	: N/A
Co-requisite(s)	: N/A
Exclusion(s)	: N/A
Exemption Requirement(s)	: N/A

Brief Course Description

The subject matter of these courses varies from term to term, most often in response to student demand. These courses complement the Studio Practice courses offered by visiting artists through the Visual Studies Artist in Residence Programme. Special topics courses in studio practice count as programme electives and give students an opportunity to enhance their grasp of practical techniques of art making. On account of the practical nature of these courses, enrollment is limited to 15 students. Examples of topics covered include photography, animation, drawing, and brush and ink.

Aims

The aim of a special topics course in studio practice is to enable students to build on the learning outcomes achieved through the Artist in Residence Programme, and to do so through further practical study of specific types of art making. Whereas the studio courses taught through the AIR are taught by visiting artists, the special topics courses in studio practice will be taught by full-time members of the Visual Studies staff.

Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to allow students to acquire some basic techniques of artistic production. Through such hands-on experience, students will gain a deeper appreciation of the complexities of the works and tendencies that they study in an historical and theoretical vein in other courses. While students will focus on a clearly defined set of techniques and materials (such as ink and brush or clay), their enhanced insight into artistic creativity will have implications for their understanding of a much wider range of practices. The course will also help students to recognize the deliberative processes in which artists necessarily engage. This course will thus introduce students to the practitioner's perspective on art.

The expectation is that students will complete a special topics course in studio practice:

- with significantly enhanced technical abilities;
- with the capacity to design and execute an artistic project;
- with the ability to reflect cogently on what has been achieved through the project in question;
- with the ability clearly to state how various assessments of their work are likely to inform their future work with the relevant techniques and medium/media;

- with an enhanced understanding of the relation between theory and practice.

Indicative Content

An introduction to basic techniques in one or more of the following broad areas:

Photography
Drawing
Western painting
Chinese painting
Brush and ink
Oil
Sculpture
Printmaking
Multimedia

Teaching Method

The course will be taught as a combination of guided practice, master class, and group discussion. The instructor will introduce students to various techniques through exemplification and case studies, and will help students to practise these techniques through the design and execution of a substantial project.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

Students' learning will be assessed by means of continuous assessment involving reading assignments, reports on exhibits, and the conceptualization of artistic projects. Students are expected to execute one such project. They will also write a reflective essay, referencing relevant scholarly sources, in which they articulate the aims of the relevant artistic project and assesses it in terms of a range of precise artistic criteria. Active participation is expected in this limited enrollment course, and students' will also be assessed on the quality of their contributions to group discussions.

Assessment

20% Participation
30% Continuous Assessment
30% Artistic Project
20% Paper discussing the aims and achievements of the artistic project and situating it in relation to the relevant art historical field

Required Readings

Will be provided to students to match the content of the course. While the focus will be on practice, there is an expectation that the course will involve a significant reading component.

Supplementary Readings

Will be provided to students to match the content of the course.

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3* hours of class contact and 6* hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.

* Numbers of hours are subject to adjustment for individual courses.