

City University of Hong Kong

**Information on a Course
offered by School of Creative Media
with effect from Semester A in 2012 / 2013**

Part I

Course Title: Thesis Project - Studio II

Course Code: SM6302

Course Duration: One semester (13 weeks)

Credit Units: 6

Level: P6

Medium of Instruction: English

Prerequisites: NIL

Precursors: NIL

Equivalent Courses: NIL

Exclusive Courses: NIL

Part II

1. Course Aims

This project-based course is the final installment of the 4-part Studio-Thesis requirement of the Master of Fine Arts program. Students will meet regularly and work closely with individual supervisors to initiate, research, prototype, produce and present their respective creative projects. The course will be conducted in the form of guided mentoring, small-group instruction and peer critiques. The main objective of the Studio-Thesis is to create an intensive platform for ideas exchange, media exploration and personal artistic development.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs
1.	Debug and finalize the creative project
2.	Produce an artist statement that theorizes one's creative practices in relation with a broader socio-cultural context
3.	Complete a creative portfolio that documents the creative process of the project
4.	Present the final project for peer review and critique
*5.	Discover innovative aesthetics, ideas and/or production techniques based on the final work

*Negotiated Learning Outcome (NLO) explicitly articulating the elements of Discovery oriented learning.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

TLAs	CILO No.
Guided mentoring/workshop	CILO 1
Guided mentoring	CILO 2
Guided mentoring	CILO 3
Presentation & critique	CILO 4
Guided mentoring	CILO 5

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.	Remarks
Final thesis project	CILO 1, 5	
Artist statement	CILO 2, 5	
Creative portfolio	CILO 3	
Thesis presentation	CILO 4	

5. Grading of Student Achievement:

Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

Examination duration: Nil

Percentage of coursework, examination, etc.:

100% coursework

Grading pattern: Standard (A+AA-...F)

Grading is based on performance in assessment tasks/activities

A. Final Thesis Project

Students should demonstrate ability to apply knowledge and skills to undertake independent research, build up argument and analysis. The threshold of 'discovery' lies in a student's proactively turning theory into praxis, to

transform course material into self-owned authorship.

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Grade Definitions	Description
A+	4.3	Excellent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Excellent grasp of materials, ability to explain key concepts, assumptions, and debates, demonstrating sound knowledge of the field – Rich content, exceptional ability to integrate various resources into primary and secondary levels based on demand; – Design and conduct research which is firmly built on thorough knowledge of existing theoretical frameworks – Evaluative judgments about existing research and demonstrate application of strong critical thinking skills – Strong ability to approach a text or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools – Strong organization of research findings with effective organization and procedural clarity at the same time demonstrating the importance of the process – Insightful suggestion of how the research findings may lead to future research
A	4.0		
A-	3.7		
B+	3.3	Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Firm grasp of materials, ability to explain key concepts and assumptions – Adequate content, strong ability to integrate various resources into primary and secondary levels based on demand; – Design and conduct research which is built on thorough knowledge of existing theoretical frameworks – Appropriate judgments about existing research and demonstrate application of critical thinking skills – Ability to approach a text or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools
B	3.0		
B-	2.7		
C+	2.3	Adequate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Comprehensive grasp of materials, able to explain key concepts – Adequate content, fair ability to integrate various resources into primary and secondary levels based on
C	2.0		
C-	1.7		

			<p>demand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design and conduct research which is built on knowledge of theoretical frameworks - Appropriate judgments about existing research - Weak ability to approach a text or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools
D	1.0	Marginal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loose grasp of materials, cannot explain key concepts - Weak content, with primary and secondary levels - Design and conduct research which is appropriate for the research objective - Marginal judgments about existing research - Poor ability to approach a text or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools
F	0.0	Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor grasp of materials - Inadequate content, without primary and secondary levels - Fail to design and conduct research which is appropriate for the research objective - Fail to make reasonable judgments about existing research - Fail to approach a text or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools

Note: All A+/A/A- grade assignment should comply with the highest performance of Discovery-oriented learning.

B. Artist Statement

This assessment will grade on rationality, clarity and fluency of argument and comment. The threshold of ‘discovery’ lies in a student’s ability to negotiate a position that is informed, defensible, and standing on personal insight.

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Grade Definitions	Description
A+	4.3	Excellent	- Rich content, excellent ability to interpret and integrate various resources
A	4.0		- Rigorous organization, coherent structure, systematic composition
A-	3.7		- Precision in argument, well defined and reasoned

			<p>points of view grounded in insightful interpretation of existing literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Readiness to respond to peer opinion and other views initiated in class discussion – Discussion shed light on new dimensions of the issue
B+	3.3	Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adequate content, sufficient ability to integrate various resources based on demand – Reasonable organization with balanced structure and composition – Clear elaboration of ideas that sticks to the point, with clearly differentiated issues, ability to interpret opinions independently – Sufficient responses to peer comments to sustain a discussion
B	3.0		
B-	2.7		
C+	2.3	Adequate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adequate content, fair ability to integrate various resources based on demand – Fair organization with adequate structure and composition – Relevant points made to the subject matter in question – Ability to respond to other statements and engage in class discussion
C	2.0		
C-	1.7		
D	1.0	Marginal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Weak content, limited use of resources – Poor organization, structure and composition – Relevant points to the subject matter, marginal ability to interpret opinions – Ability to respond to other comments in simple terms
F	0.0	Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Inadequate content, no/ irrelevant use of resources – No organization, structure or/and composition – Irrelevant points to the subject matter, no ability to interpret opinions – Fail to respond to other comments

Note: All A+/A/A- grade assignment should comply with the highest performance of Discovery-oriented learning.

C. Creative Portfolio

Students should demonstrate ability to utilize primary and secondary sources, execute creative ideas and projects. The threshold of ‘discovery’ lies in a student’s proactively turning theory into praxis, to transform course material

into self-owned authorship.

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Grade Definitions	Description
A+ A A-	4.3 4.0 3.7	Excellent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Work has strong affective quality and the articulation of personal styles and signature – Excellent appreciation, exploration and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium – Work raises questions and instill insights about the process of conception, creative strategization and production – Innovative exploration by combining knowledge from different disciplines (e.g. mathematics, psychology, physics, anthropology, etc.) to create an inter-disciplinary project – Efficient adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available with constructive adjustment
B+ B B-	3.3 3.0 2.7	Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strong appreciation, exploration and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium – Ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration – Proper adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available and constructive feedback/ suggestions
C+ C C-	2.3 2.0 1.7	Adequate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Basic appreciation and/or application of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium – Limited ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration – Adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available
D	1.0	Marginal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Marginal appreciation of the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the medium – Marginal ability to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Limited adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available
F	0.0	Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – No appreciation of the aesthetics and expressive qualities of the medium – Fail to create project/ work that demonstrate the processes of thinking and creative exploration – Minimal adjustment of plans and strategies in response to resources (time, space, equipment, etc) available

Note: All A+/A/A- grade assignment should comply with the highest performance of Discovery-oriented learning.

D. Presentation

This assessment will grade on content and fluency of presentation. Students should show their co-operation to conduct a well-organized presentation with their own argument and evidence from readings and notes. The threshold of ‘discovery’ lied in a student’s self initiatives to conduct additional research and to personalize theories for her/his personal daily experience.

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Grade Definitions	Description
A+	4.3	Excellent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Rich, informative content, excellent grasp of the material with in-depth and extensive knowledge of the subject matter – Rigorous organization, coherent structure, and systematic exposition with a strong sense of narrative – Superior presentation skills: distinct pronunciation, fluent expression and appropriate diction, exact time-management – Critical analysis with insightful comments opening up new issues, or suggesting the ability to theorize
A	4.0		
A-	3.7		
B+	3.3	Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adequate content with firm grasp of the material that informs the audience on a subject matter – Reasonable organization, balanced structure and composition – Good verbal communication: comprehensible pronunciation, fluent expression and diction, fair time-management
B	3.0		
B-	2.7		

C+	2.3	Adequate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adequate content with comprehensive grasp of the material demonstrating basic knowledge of the subject matter – Fair organization, weak structure and composition – Fair presentation skills: acceptable pronunciation, expression and diction, fair time-management
C	2.0		
C-	1.7		
D	1.0	Marginal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Weak content, loose grasp of the general ideas with some knowledge of the subject matter – Poor organization, structure and composition – Poor presentation skills: marginal pronunciation, expression and diction, poor time-management
F	0.0	Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Inadequate content, fail to identify the general ideas with knowledge of the subject matter – No organization, structure or/and composition – Poor presentation skills: marginal pronunciation, expression and diction, minimal time-management

Note: All A+/A/A- grade assignment should comply with the highest performance of Discovery-oriented learning.

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Art-making, professionalism in art, media art aesthetics, media production, creative portfolio

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

To be arranged

Online Resources

To be arranged