

SM5301A: STUDIO I (GAMES)

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Studio I (Games)

Subject Code

SM - School of Creative Media

Course Number

5301A

Academic Unit

School of Creative Media (SM)

College/School

School of Creative Media (SM)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This project-based course is the first 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.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 app.)		DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Develop an initial proposal for the studio project		x		
2	Discuss contextual research for the studio project with assigned advisor		x	x	
3	Design a finalized project proposal		x	x	x
4	Discuss new research agenda in response to issues raised with Advisor		x	x	

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Classroom workshop/ Guided mentoring	Students will engage in guided discussion of ways to identify the research questions and to draft proposal.	1	
2	Guest talks/Guided mentoring	Students will engage in contextualising the research through referencing established artists' approaches in relations to research themes.	2	
3	Classroom critique/ Guided mentoring	Students will participate in class-room Critique of artistic experiments and comparing methodologies.	3	
4	Guided mentoring	Students will engage in continuous studio practice for introspective review and path-finding.	4	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Draft proposal	1	20	-	Yes
2	Contextual research report	2, 4	40	-	Yes
3	Revised project proposal	3	40	-	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

0

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Research-based Project

Criterion

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.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-)

- 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

Good

(B+, B, B-)

- 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

Fair

(C+, C, C-)

- Comprehensive grasp of materials, able to explain key concepts
- Adequate content, fair ability to integrate various resources into primary and secondary levels based on demand
- 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

Marginal

(D)

- 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

Failure

(F)

- 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

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Game design and development, games as an art form, professionalism in art, gameplay aesthetics, creative portfolio

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	To be advised by individual advisors

Additional Readings

Title	
1	To be advised by individual advisors