

# SM4712A: GRADUATION THESIS/PROJECT

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## Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Graduation Thesis/Project

### Subject Code

SM - School of Creative Media

### Course Number

4712A

### Academic Unit

School of Creative Media (SM)

### College/School

School of Creative Media (SM)

### Course Duration

Two Semesters

### Credit Units

0-6

### Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

### Medium of Instruction

English

### Medium of Assessment

English

### Prerequisites

Nil

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

Nil

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

SM4712A Graduation Thesis/Project is a research or project-based and process-oriented work. It is a self-initiated and self-managed project of the student's study in SCM to be completed in their final year. The result could either be a written

dissertation (Thesis) of the student's chosen research topic, a creative project that involves technical and media production (Project), and/or a combination of both.

A dissertation is a document that includes: an abstract, a list of keywords, a clearly stated research problem, a comprehensive literature review demonstrating a thorough and accurate knowledge of the problem, and a description of the original conclusions reached in the thesis. The document must also include footnotes and a full bibliography. Students who complete a creative project must also submit a research-theoretical text describing the motivation, creative concept, precedents, research conducted, scientific ideas/methods used/explored, and a general summary of what they have achieved through the thesis/project. The creative project should be a work of art in any medium (film/video, animation, game design, sonic art, interactive installation, software/generative art, photography, conceptual art, performance art, script/story etc.) that uses and/or explores artistic/scientific ideas or methods.

This course aims to provide the student with an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills learned through previous coursework and experience, and to synthesize this material in the form of a unique, research-based discovery. Such a substantial project should be initiated by the student and built upon the student's cumulative technical and theoretical expertise. The independent nature and relatively larger scale of the project allows the student to practice independent planning, organizational, and time management skills.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 DEC-A2 DEC-A3 app.)			
1	Articulate the individual learning experience in the form of a carefully reasoned proposal for a graduation thesis		x		x
2	Design a rational research plan for the intended thesis		x	x	
3	Manage a research process in an open-minded way, accompanied by creative problem solving			x	x
4	Assess the validity and effectiveness of an action plan			x	x
5	Extend thesis ideas in a written, creative, and/or technical work of defensible quality			x	x
6	Demonstrate sophisticated critical/analytical skills to understand the research process and to adjust research plans and strategies accordingly			x	x
7	Understand ethical dilemmas in the research process and demonstrate a commitment to high ethical standards		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	Stage 1	- Proposal writing - Initial consultation with faculty adviser(s)	1, 2, 6, 7	
2	Stage 2	- Build the art work prototype based on the ideas.	1, 3	
3	Stage 3	- Workshops and tutorials, as designated, on the thesis process and thesis content - Consultation with adviser on progress	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	
4	Stage 4	- Thesis writing and/or creative and/or technical production - Consultation with adviser on progress	3, 5, 6, 7	
5	Stage 5	- Oral defence - Revision of project based on advice received	4, 5, 6, 7	

**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?	
1	Proposal & prototype	1, 2, 3, 4	30	to be assessed by GT advisor in Sem A	Yes
2	Final draft	3, 4, 5	10	to be assessed by GT advisor and one SCM faculty in Sem B	Yes
3	Theoretical text	2, 3, 4	20	to be assessed by GT advisor and one SCM faculty in Sem B	Yes
4	Oral defence & Final thesis/work	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	40	to be assessed by GT advisor and one SCM faculty in Sem B	Yes

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

100

**Examination (%)**

0

**Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)**

0

**Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)**

0

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)**

**Assessment Task**

1. Idea development proposal

**Criterion**

ABILITY to EXPLAIN the methodology and procedure

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

High

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Significant

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Moderate

**Marginal (D)**

Basic

**Failure (F)**

Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

2. Prototype

**Criterion**

CAPACITY for SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING to create a working prototype based on the RESEACH done in the proposal

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

High

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Significant

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Moderate

**Marginal (D)**

Basic

**Failure (F)**

Not even reaching marginal levels

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**Assessment Task**

3. Theoretical text

**Criterion**

ABILITY to EXPLAIN the methodology and procedure

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

High

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Significant

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Moderate

**Marginal (D)**

Basic

**Failure (F)**

Not even reaching marginal levels

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### **Assessment Task**

4. Oral defence & Final thesis/work

#### **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
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**Additional Information for AR**

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

**Part III Other Information**

**Keyword Syllabus**

Nil

**Reading List**

**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Nil

**Additional Readings**

Title	
1	Nil