Visual Arts – Design

Course length: Full year or Semester
Credit value: 20 credits
10 credits

Advice to students
As students are working on their own projects in their choice of media and technique, this course is suited to students who have studied Design previously or those who possess sound drawing skills.

Students are expected to operate as ‘practising designers’ negotiating their practical work and research based assessment tasks with the teacher. Students are also expected to work individually developing skills in collaboration with their teacher.

Success in Visual Arts requires sound language and communication skills and involves considerable experimentation, research, analytical and written components.

Students must be prepared and able to spend at least four hours per week on assessment tasks outside of structured lesson times.

Course overview
Three broad areas of study are covered:

• Visual thinking:
  The development of visual ideas and concepts, communicating those ideas and solving problems in a visual manner.

• Practical resolution:
  The production of works of design that possess the ability to communicate ideas or concepts.

• Visual art in context:
  The knowledge, understanding and appreciation of art works produced during or in a particular time or place.

Assessment
From the three areas of study, students will demonstrate evidence of their learning through three assessment types:

Assessment type 1:
• Folio 40%
  The folio documents the development and production of a student’s practical work. It provides assessable evidence of their visual learning and aesthetic growth throughout the course.

Assessment type 2:
• Practical 30%
  Two practical works of design plus a practitioner’s statement.
  Students produce two practicals. A theme may be maintained across the works or the works may be unrelated. The origins of these practical pieces must be evident in the folio.

Assessment type 3: Externally marked
• Visual study 30%
  A maximum of 20 x A3 pages.
  Students produce one Visual Study in an area of their own choice. They base their exploration and experimentation, critical analysis and individual research on the works of other designers. The findings are presented in an A3 folio format with a maximum of 20 pages.

Pathways
Visual Arts – Design is highly desirable for tertiary studies in design, architecture, art history, visual arts, creative arts, media and photography.

Practical work produced is suitable for inclusion in art and design portfolios.

Further information
Subject fees are intended to cover the cost of basic consumable materials. However, since practical work undertaken varies greatly, students must be prepared to purchase some specialist materials.

Students must be prepared to participate in a number of external activities such as art exhibitions, workshops, seminars and individually conducting primary-based research.