



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Studio Research Development

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
VIS	8001	78526	2, 2008	ONC	2.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOART
Academic org:	FOA005
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	100300

STAFFING

Moderator: Kyle Jenkins

RATIONALE

This is the first course of the research component of the MVA degree in which the candidate is expected to produce a body of work which includes a written dissertation. This body of work is expected to make a significant contribution to the discipline, and represent a substantial development in relation to the candidate's prior practice, demonstrating artistic, intellectual and critical rigour of a high standard.

SYNOPSIS

The visual research methods within this course will involve a literature search, the refinement of the candidate's topic and identification of appropriate methodologies to be undertaken. It will include a comprehensive review of relevant secondary sources, and where possible primary sources, and the preparation of a well developed preliminary body of work.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. define their chosen dissertation topic;
2. present a well developed preliminary body of artwork relevant to proposed dissertation topic;
3. present a thorough review of existing literature related to their chosen dissertation topic;
4. define methodology of research appropriate to their chosen dissertation topic.

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Both the visual studio and written research topics will be determined by the candidate according to admission requirements and refined in consultation with the supervisors.	50.00

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| 2. | The dissertation component can be made up of: 25% dissertation comprising a research submission of a maximum of 15,000 words (75% studio based research); OR 35% dissertation comprising a research submission of a maximum of 20,000 words (65% studio based research). | 50.00 |
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TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Private Study	315.00
Seminars	13.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
PRES. OF DISS. DEVELOPMENT	100.00	100.00	03 Nov 2008 (see note 1)

NOTES

1. Assessment Description: Seminar presentation of dissertation and studio research work in progress. Students will be advised of the assessment date. This assessment item is aligned with Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the student's responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration. For this course, normal class attendance consists of 3 hours per week.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:

To successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.

- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit Dissertations/Projects after the due date without prior approval or documented medical circumstances, then a fail grade will be given.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade, a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
There is no exam for this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course. However, if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted by a date set by the examiner.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) All Faculty of Arts assignments must be lodged in the Faculty Assessment Centre on the Ground Floor of Q Block no later than 12 noon on the due date. (c) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience. (d). Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (e) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (f) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete-Makeup). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study. (g) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).
- 10 Students are strongly advised to maintain regular contact with their supervisor.
- 11 Early in the semester, the student and his/her supervisor must decide on specific objectives for the course. This would typically involve such activities as writing a first draft of the

literature review, writing a first draft of the method section, completing data collection, or other research activities as specified by the supervisor.

- 12 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon knowledge and skills that they can reasonably be expected to have acquired before enrolling in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students will be required to present a seminar on their proposed dissertation including visual research methods and studio based research.
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