

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Creative Media
with effect from Semester A 2024/25**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title:	Thesis Project - Studio I
Course Code:	SM6300
Course Duration:	One semester
Credit Units:	3
Level:	P6
Medium of Instruction:	English
Medium of Assessment:	English
Prerequisites: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	SM5302 Studio II
Precursors: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Equivalent Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Exclusive Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This project-based course is the third 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)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Apply advanced media aesthetics and production techniques in the studio project		✓	✓	✓
2.	Demonstrate a creative project based on prior research findings and experiments		✓	✓	✓
3.	Design and explain work-in-progress for peer review and critique		✓		
4.	Discuss innovative aesthetics, ideas and/or production techniques based on the findings of CILO 2		✓	✓	✓
		100%			

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.

3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
Classroom critique/ Guided mentoring	Students will engage in presentation and reviewing production outcomes and considering new aesthetic means	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Guided mentoring	Students will engage in regular reports on project development and media experiments		✓		✓	
Independent study and practice	Students will develop a continuous studio practice for introspective review and path-finding	✓	✓		✓	

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: 100%						
Project (work-in-progress) Presentation	✓	✓		✓	80	
Written report			✓	✓	20	
Examination: 0% (duration: , if applicable)					100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Research-based Project (work-in-progress)	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.	<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 	<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 	<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 demand - Design and conduct research which is built on knowledge of theoretical frameworks 	<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 	<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
2. Written Report	Students should demonstrate ability to deliver a clear account of their thesis project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluative judgments about existing research and demonstrate application of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appropriate judgments about existing research and demonstrate application of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appropriate judgments about existing research - Weak ability to approach a text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marginal judgments about existing research - Poor ability to approach a text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fail to make reasonable judgments about existing research

		<p>strong critical thinking skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 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 	<p>critical thinking skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ability to approach a text or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools 	<p>or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools</p>	<p>or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fail to approach a text or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools
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Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Research-based Project (work-in-progress)	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.	<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 	<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; 	<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 demand – Design and conduct research which is built 	<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

		<p>and secondary levels based on demand;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design and conduct research which is firmly built on thorough knowledge of existing theoretical frameworks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design and conduct research which is built on thorough knowledge of existing theoretical frameworks 	<p>on knowledge of theoretical frameworks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -
2. Written Report	<p>Students should demonstrate ability to deliver a clear account of their thesis project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appropriate judgments about existing research - Weak ability to approach a text or a theme using a variety of theories and analytical tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

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

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	To be advised by individual advisors
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2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	To be advised by individual advisors
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