Visual Arts – Design

Level: Stage 2

Course length: Full year or Semester

Credit value: 20 Credit points
(Full year)
10 Credit points
(Semester)

Advice to students
This course assumes that the student has a strong background in the Visual Arts. Students may work in the Design area of their choice depending on resources and facilities. Students are expected to operate as ‘Practicing Designers’ negotiating their practical work and research based assessment tasks with the teacher. Students are also expected to work individually developing skills, and task content under the supervision of their teacher.

Success in Visual Arts-Design requires dedication and initiative. Students must be prepared and able to spend at least four hours per week on assessment tasks outside of structured lesson times. It is desirable for students to have experience in a range of media and possess sound drawing and aesthetic sensitivities.

There is an expectation that for success, students must participate in a number of external activities such as attending excursions, exhibitions, workshops, seminars and individually conducting primary-based research and interviews.

This is a subject requiring sound language and communicative skills involving considerable reading, research, analytical and written communication. Word processing skills are desirable.

Course overview
Visual Arts – Design aims to develop an understanding and appreciation of the relationship between past and present cultures and human achievement in the Visual Arts.

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: School-based – Centrally Moderated
• Folio 40%
  A maximum of 60 x A3 pages
  The folio/s document the development and production of a student’s practical pieces. It provides assessable evidence of their visual learning and aesthetic growth throughout the course.

Assessment type 2: School-based – Visit Moderated
• Practical 30%
  Two Practical works of design plus a practioner’s statement/s maximum of 500 words each.
  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/s.

Assessment type 3: External – Externally Marked
• Visual Study 30%
  A maximum of 20 x A3 pages
  Students produce one Visual study. They base their exploration and experimentation on critical analysis of their individual research and the works of other designers and individual research. 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 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.