

Level I Design Studies Courses from 2009

Level I

Semester 1

<i>Subject/Catalogue No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Units</i>
DESST 1027	Human Environments: Design and Representation	6
DESST 1030	History of Settlements	3
	<i>+ choice of 1 Elective from below or an elective from outside the School (see note above)</i>	
DESST 1009	Art History and Theories IA	3
DESST 1032	Imaging Our World	3
DESST 1500	Landscape Narratives	3

Semester 2

<i>Subject/Catalogue No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Units</i>
DESST 1029	Construction and Design: Theories and Practice	6
DESST 1028	Natural and Urban Systems	3
	<i>+ choice of 1 Elective from below or an elective from outside the School (see note above)</i>	
DESST 1001	Special Topic in Design Studies IB (Topic: Design for Aboriginal Community)	3
DESST 1019	Art History and Theories IB	3
DESST 1026	Special Topic in Design Studies IC (Topic: Introduction to Urban Design)	3
DESST 1031	Special Topic in Design Studies ID (Topic: Advanced Graphic Design)	3

YEAR 1

SEMESTER 1

Imaging Our World

Cities are no longer just built, products are no longer just made, lives are no longer just lived, all are imaged. Imaging Our World is about the representation and communication of images with digital media. Both theory and practical work will explore these concepts through case studies and projects. Students will communicate their work through print and digital graphics.

Landscape Narratives

The course concentrates on introducing and equipping students with practical and theoretical skills and knowledge to sensitively design spaces, public and private. It is about 'reading' sites and places, about understanding the meanings and 'narratives' within places, experiencing places, engaging in the cultural discourse about places, and knowing how and where to design for spaces, as well as how to erect upon spaces. The course includes understanding stories/narratives within places whether told by nature or by culture, Indigenous and non Indigenous, Kurna/Aboriginal place-making cosmological ideas, topography (landform, microclimate, aspect, soils and vegetation), design styles, built structures and the articulation of public spaces. The course includes practical workshops where students construct their own collaborative and individual, site-specific interventions in places.

Art History and Theories IA

Impressionism and after: a critical view of European art from the time of Manet to the First World War. This course introduces students to the most influential ideas and theories in the art of the latter part of the 19th century, a time of renegotiation of the relationship between artists and the social context within which they work. Included in the study are the major artists and ideas contributing to the development of impressionism, post-impressionism, symbolism, fauvism, cubism, futurism, constructivism, posters and political art. The course aims to stimulate an awareness that familiarity with the history of ideas can aid each person in the expansion, structuring and enrichment of his or her own life. Development of the following skills will be brought into focus: clear-thinking, verbal communication, written communication, interpretation of written and visual material, and ability to work with historical research methods. Guest lecturers and excursions are incorporated in the course where appropriate. Use is made of a broad range of visual material.

SEMESTER 2

Art History and Theories IB

Art history and theories after World War I: modernism and beyond. The course introduces students to some of the leading ideas and manifestations of visual art from about 1920 to the present day. The term 'visual art' is broadly understood to include film, graphics, photography, posters, performance and the arts of process and idea, as well as painting, sculpture and architecture (although architecture is chiefly dealt with in other courses). Expressionism, dada, surrealism, modernism, abstract expressionism, op, pop and minimalism, art and technology, environments, happenings, performance, body art, conceptual art, process art, video, women's art, murals and photorealism are studied. Guest lecturers and excursions are incorporated in the course where appropriate. Use is made of a broad range of visual material.

Special Topic IB: Special Topic in Design Studies (Aboriginal Design)

This course explores Aboriginal culture, and in particular Kurna, Ngarrindjeri and Djab Wurrung countries, as to constructions of and relationships to habitat, architecture, landscape and environment. It includes meanings and forms consciously and unconsciously that express these constructions and relationships, and includes a 5 day field camp in June-July 2009 to specific Ngarrindjeri and Djab Wurrung landscapes to explore, immerse, appreciate, design and translate these meanings and forms.

Architecture, shelter, nomenclature, moeity, semi-sedentary patterns and occupancy relationships, cosmology and narrative, food harvesting and gathering, environmental manipulation and curatorship, design expression and unconscious activity, will be themes of inquiry. Assignment work includes readings, (hardcopy, oral, electronic) presentations and project work directly associated with the field camp investigations.

PLEASE NOTE: This is an intensive course that will be run over the mid-year break

Special Topic IC: Introduction to Urban Design

This course consists of lectures and tutorials which will introduce students to the role of Urban Design and its significance in City Making. The course will also utilise and develop hand drawing techniques as they apply to observation of City built form and places and their use in visual

communication. An emphasis will be placed on sketching and drawing as a key design tool in developing initial design ideas prior to use of digital media for presentation and detailed concept designing.

Workshop tutorials will involve assignments in creative thinking and visualising ideas using sketching, drawing and diagrams as design tools and a fundamental means of communication. Students will also work in teams on a range of City Projects to develop an understanding of Urban Design by observing, analysing and thinking creatively about future change in the urban realm using hand drawing techniques.

Special Topic ID: Advanced Graphic Communication

This course builds on the hand and digital graphics skills developed from previous course: Human Environment: Design and Representation (and History of Settlements). In essence, this course helps students to develop advanced graphics skills, judgement and confidence to face future communication challenges. The course emphasises on the following: (1) colour theory and the use of colour for presentation graphics; (2) development of advanced hand rendering techniques; (3) development of advanced SketchUp digital techniques; (4) further development of Photoshop skills for integrating hand and digital graphics; (5) development of workflow and confidence for switching between hand and digital graphics at will.

The lecture and tutorial session of each week builds on the knowledge and understanding of the lecture and tutorial session from the previous week. The knowledge and skills will be acquired through individual assignments leading to a final project which will be presented in large graphic display format at the end of the semester.