

MMM 517 - Masters Dissertation

Course Title	Masters Dissertation				
Course Code	MMM 517				
Course Type	Required				
Level	Master (2nd Cycle)				
Year / Semester	2 (3 rd semester)				
Teacher's Name	-				
ECTS	30	Lectures / week	-	Laboratories / week	-
Course Purpose and Objectives	<p>Aim of the course and core objectives are to:</p> <p>Cultivate analytical and critical approach in selecting tools and techniques to comprehensively cope with art and design problems and solutions.</p> <p>Develop the ability to promote innovation and variety towards topics, which can cross boundaries in both inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary guises through creating concepts, designing visuals and writing research.</p> <p>Engage in the production of visual solutions and research papers, which will form the base of questioning and testing the areas of investigation.</p> <p>Apply, in a holistic manner, acquired knowledge in realistic problem solving situations.</p> <p>Develop professional approach in preparing, presenting and defending art and design solutions.</p>				
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carry out an independent piece of research on a development issue. - Address a specific theme in a scientifically sound, thorough and precise manner. - Gain insight into the different stages of the research process. - Enhance an ability to see the relationship between choice of research question, theoretical perspective, research design and choice of method. - Deliver a professional report presenting Master's thesis; - Defend the work conducted in front of an audience utilizing innovative presentation/display techniques. - Justify the selection of techniques and tools to solve the problem under 				

	<p>investigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Articulate and contribute to current research topics and support with the visual work produced. - Address the theoretical and historical influences of contemporary art and their contribution to individual approaches to research projects. - Produce a coherent and precise working methodology in respect to the visual and written work anticipated. - Propose appropriate media for the practical work taking into consideration its significance in terms of its aesthetic and pragmatic values. - Conduct a presentation on individual work in progress and /or final visual artworks, drawing upon ideas developed in the thesis/ written work. - Gain insight into the significance and influence of art as a means of shaping, educating and questioning stereotypical behaviours 		
Prerequisites	60 ECTS of Required and Elective Courses	Required	
Course Content	<p>Preparatory work for the Dissertation begins during the First semester of studies where students are asked to present research and a written proposal for approval. This requires the definition of an art and design problem or area of inquiry, research of case studies relevant to the thesis topic, and the initial mapping of a possible direction for a studio practiced activity.</p> <p>The dissertation is further prepared through the 2nd semester, where students begin to experiment with the visual part of their proposal. This is a visual proposal focused on an independent project on a single original topic, developed by the student working in conjunction with a team of advisors. Emphasis is placed on creative visual inquiry and the development of unique design that is conceptually strong and content rich in addressing a complex design problem.</p> <p>Students can enroll for their Dissertation after having completed 60 ECTS. The MA Dissertation represents the final phase of the thesis process. Having defined the art and design problem or area of inquiry, completed the necessary research, and finalized the visual part; the project is then documented in written and visual form.</p> <p>Although determining the exact length of the dissertation is not possible since the quality evaluation criteria lie within the dissertation content and depth, the expected extend is set around 5,000, excluding Tables of Contents, Annexes, Appendixes and References. When completed (with the consent of the Thesis Advisor). This is to be accompanied by a body of visual work according to the chosen investigation which will make up for the innovative mode of representation, appropriate to the interdisciplinary design nature of the MA</p> <p>The MA Thesis – written and part - must be submitted in three copies, 15 days before the examination period of the semester.</p>		

Teaching Methodology	Teaching for this course consists of individual academic supervision given over the semester. Students are obliged to select an academic advisor and meet regularly with throughout the semester. Student centred practical work, personal research, realization and manipulation in project work. The use of personal tutorials is an important and integral part of the teaching methodology.
Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Cresswell, Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches, Sage Publications, 2002 • Bennett, Design Studies; Theory and Research in Design, Princeton Architectural Press, 2006 • Wisker, Gina, The postgraduate research handbook: succeed with your MA, MPhil, EdD and PhD, Palgrave Macmillan, 2008 • Laurel, B (Ed)., Design Research: Methods and Perspectives. Cambridge MA, MIT Press, 2003 • The work of Art in the age of Mechanical Reproduction, by Walter Benjamin. Published by Prism Key Press 2010. • The Poetics of Space by Gaston Bachelard. First published as a paperback by Beacon Press books in 1969. • History Painting Reassessed-The representation of history in Contemporary art. Published by Manchester University press 2000. • The Originality of Avant –Garde and other Modernist Myths by Rosalind E. Krauss. First published by MIT Press 1985 • Modern Art in the Common Culture by Tomas Crow. Published by Yale University Press 1998. • J. Cresswell, Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed. • Wisker, Gina, The postgraduate research handbook: succeed with your MA, MPhil, EdD and PhD, Palgrave Macmillan, 2008. • Laurel, B (Ed)., Design Research: Methods and Perspectives. Cambridge MA, MIT Press, 2003.
Assessment	The Assessment methodology, which is mainly employed in this course and generally in the program is the one that is intended for learning. This is a continuous array of assessments used to help students learn. Additionally, periodic assessments is also used to verify that they did, in fact, meet prescribed academic achievement standards. Assessment, which is continuous and relies primarily in process is used far more than merely a source of evidence for grading, but also to build student confidence, motivation, and engagement in their learning. In other words, assessment isn't merely an index of the amount learned—it can also be the reason of that learning.



	Interim Presentations: 10%
	Final Presentation: 10%
	Research Paper: 50%
	Final Exam: 30%
	Total 100%
Language	ENGLISH