

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

**Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.**

<b>Course Code and Number:</b> VA 395		<b>Number of Credits:</b> 3 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>													
<b>Course Full Title:</b> Special Topics in Visual Arts <b>Course Short Title:</b> Special Topics in Visual Arts															
<b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Humanities		<b>Department (or program if no department):</b> Visual Arts													
<b>Calendar Description:</b> Students gain in-depth knowledge and experience in an advanced studio technique, in a specific conceptual or theoretical approach to art production, or in a particular area of professional practice.  Note: This course will be offered under different letter designations (e.g. C-Z) representing different topics. This course may be repeated for credit provided the letter designation differs.															
<b>Prerequisites (or NONE):</b>		6 credits of VA or 45 university-level credits. Note: As of September 2025, prerequisites will change to one of VA 100, VA 110, or 45 university-level credits.													
<b>Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>															
<b>Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>															
<b>Antirequisite Courses</b> ( <i>Cannot be taken for additional credit.</i> ) Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>		<b>Course Details</b> Special Topics course: <b>Yes</b> <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: <b>No</b> <i>(See <a href="#">policy 207</a> for more information.)</i> Grading System: <b>Letter grades</b> Delivery Mode: <b>May be offered in multiple delivery modes</b> Expected frequency: <b>Annually</b> Maximum enrolment (for information only): <b>25</b>													
<b>Typical Structure of Instructional Hours</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tutorials/workshops</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supervised studio hours</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total hours</b></td> <td><b>45</b></td> </tr> </table>		Lecture/seminar	5	Tutorials/workshops	15	Supervised studio hours	25					<b>Total hours</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)</b> PLAR is available for this course.	
Lecture/seminar	5														
Tutorials/workshops	15														
Supervised studio hours	25														
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>45</b>														
<b>Scheduled Laboratory Hours</b> Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		<b>Transfer Credit</b> ( <i>See <a href="#">bctransferguide.ca</a>.</i> ) Transfer credit already exists: <b>No</b> Submit outline for (re)articulation: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, fill in <a href="#">transfer credit form</a>.)</i>													
<b>Department approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> May 9, 2023													
<b>Faculty Council approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> June 2, 2023													
<b>Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval</b>		<b>Date of meeting:</b> November 24, 2023													

**Learning Outcomes** *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate technical proficiency in visual art techniques and materials, as relevant to the topic.
2. Create artworks or projects that investigate themes, ideas and/or theories.
3. Collaborate effectively, respectfully, and creatively with diverse peers and community members.
4. Employ self-reflection, contextual analysis, and constructive feedback to evaluate creative works.
5. Critically analyze visual art and visual culture related to topic from inclusive, equitable, and diverse perspectives.
6. Formulate methods for generating, investigating, and responding to creative research questions.
7. Explain how contemporary practices related to the course topic are informed by historical contexts, techniques, and approaches, including non-Western and Indigenous practices.

**Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting** *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Assignments:	60%	%	%
Portfolio:	40%	%	%

**Details:**

Assignments include 20% critiques.

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Typical Instructional Methods** *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lectures, in-class exercises, independent projects, critiques, slide presentations, sketchbook assignments, demonstrations, readings, discussions.

**Texts and Resource Materials** *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. Open Educational Resources (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1.	Texts, journals, and visual resources reflect contemporary artists and practices; resources will vary by instructor and year to year.		
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

**Required Additional Supplies and Materials** *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

Supplies and materials vary by instructor. A list of required materials and equipment will be provided in class.

**Course Content and Topics**

- Special topic and studio practices introduction
- Special topic technical demonstrations
- Creative research strategies in relation to special topic
- Guest artist lecture
- Special topic lectures on form, material, and concept
- In-class student presentations
- In-class student critiques
- Examples of Indigenous artists/practitioners working in the special topic area
- Historical examples of the special topic, including non-western and Indigenous approaches when relevant

Examples of potential topics:

- Photo print techniques: how to integrate digital and analog photography and print making practices
- Forest bathing
- Illness, autopathography, and art-making practices
- Ecologies of art practice