M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Painting
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Printmaking
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Sculpture
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in New Media
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Art Theory
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Interdisciplinary Art Practice
(Full time) G1510

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

The Visual Arts are part of the wider Creative and Cultural Industries, a sector that has known constant growth globally, over the last decades. It is a fast-changing field where innovation is at a premium. Like other creative fields, it is an area where the focus can be on self-development and personal creative endeavours, with comparatively little interest in art as a product, if the artist is so inclined. In Mauritius, the Visual Arts is an exciting sector that has known constant growth over the last few decades, with increasing professionalisation, from creation to display and consumption.

The objective of this programme addresses the needs of a category of local and potentially regional/ international students who have already completed an undergraduate course in the visual arts, and who want to develop the specialized skills and competencies required for a more sophisticated artistic production which can find its place in global contemporary artistic trends.

Competencies and Career Opportunities

This Master Degree **with Specialization** is aimed at students who want to focus on a specific medium such as Painting OR Printmaking OR Sculpture OR New Media OR Art Theory OR Interdisciplinary Art Practice (for those who want to be versatile art producers). The main reason for such a choice being the opportunity later to join academia as a lecturer in a particular area with a certain expertise. Career opportunities range from painter, printmaker, sculptor and new media artist, as well as curator and/or art critic. The course also caters for students who want to keep their options open and are more geared towards a professional career as independent artist working in various mediums

Students develop a strong experimental and creative approach that complements analytical and critical thinking in problem solving. They develop a deep awareness and appreciation of culture and its role in society across history and geography. They are sensitized to ethics and to sustainable development goals, apart from developing the pre-requisite communication skills, teamwork and leadership skills necessary for professional practice in the visual arts field.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the 2-year course the students will be able to:

- Demonstrate mastery of their chosen medium(s) OR field in line with the conceptual frameworks with which they affiliate.
- Communicate through visual art practices and theoretical concepts in innovative ways
- Engage with social, historical and ecological issues pertaining to the region through their works and develop informed critical discourses;
- Apply appropriate research methodologies and findings in the Visual and Fine Arts in their works and contribute fully to the cultural and creative economy of the island and of the region
- Choose further research in the field through an Mphil/PhD that would enhance the artistic and cultural sector as well as contribute to academic research.

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3. TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

Modules are conducted through blended (online and in class and in studio face-to-face) mode combining lectures, demonstrations, seminars, visits to exhibitions and both practical and theoretical workshops with a strong emphasis on student participation and interaction both online and in studio. The pedagogy takes into account the possible disruptions caused by the Covid19 pandemic or similar events, and can fall back on a fully online mode, if necessary.

The emphasis is on the development of an informed and mature level of discussion on art practice and its relevant issues in Mauritius, at the regional level and globally.

Apart from the development of a unique body of work for medium-based specializations, students will be expected to present papers in seminar discussions, write a variety of art-related long and short texts, and develop personal archives through photo and/or video and/or various types of hand-made artworks such as sketches and scaled- down models.

4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

General Requirements

- In accordance with the University General Entry Requirements for admission to Postgraduate Degree Programmes.
- Successful completion of a relevant undergraduate degree from a recognized higher education institution
- Or alternative qualifications acceptable to the Mahatma Gandhi Institute/ University of Mauritius.
- At least a second class or 50% whichever is applicable or
- A GPA not less than 2.5 out of 4 or equivalent from a recognized higher education institution.

Programme (Specific) Requirements

- Successful completion of an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts, Visual Arts or Applied Arts from a recognized institution.

- Submission of a Portfolio (either digitally or in an analog format, consisting of at least 10 artworks + sketches/drawings)

- Submission of a **Project Proposal** prior to the interview process. Assistance of lecturers of the different departments can be sought for the writing of the research proposal, prior to submission of the application.

Special Cases

The following may be deemed to have satisfied the General and Programme-specific requirements for admission:

i. Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 4 above but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations, which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.
ii. Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 4 above but who in the opinion of Senate submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.
iii. Applicants who hold a full practicing professional qualification obtained by examination.

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5. PROGRAMME DURATION

	Minimum Years	Maximum Years
Master's Degree	2	4

6. MINIMUM LCCS CREDITS REQUIRED FOR AWARD

- **For each Academic Year:** As per University Regulations

Year I 42 LCCS Credits
Year II 30 LCCS Credits

F**or a Master`s Degree Award:** 72 **LCCS credits**

	Core modules	**Dissertation**	**Exhibitions**	**Electives**	**Total LCCS credits**
Master's Degree	42 credits	12 credits	12 credits		**72 credits**
Postgraduate Diploma	36 credits			12 credits	**42 credits**
Postgraduate Certificate					**30 credits**

Exit Points

The student can exit the Programme with a Diploma or Certificate, as follows:

- Students may exit with a Postgraduate Diploma in Visual Arts after having earned 48 LCCS Credits, with completion of Year 1 and completion the elective module on offer in Year 2.
- Students may exit with a Postgraduate Certificate in Visual Arts after having earned 24 LCCS Credits

7. ASSESSMENT AND DEADLINES

7.1 Examinations: For Theory modules: 70%; for Practical modules: 50%

7.2 Continuous Assessment: For Theory modules: 30 %; for Practical modules: 50%

7.3 Submission Deadline for Dissertation/ Research Project

	Semester 1		Semester 2	
Theory	1st Draft	Week 12 of 1st semester	Final Draft	Week 12 of 2nd semester
Practical	1st Display/ Viva Voce		Final Display/ Viva Voce	

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Students are required to submit an e-copy of their dissertation to their Project/Dissertation Supervisors through Google class at latest by 5.00 p.m on date specified in the Calendar of Activities.

The Google class will be created by the Project/Dissertation Supervisor.

The e-copy of the project/dissertation (main body i.e. Introduction up to the Conclusion or last chapter) should be uploaded on the Turnitin Platform, as a single PDF file in the appropriate class/assignment (final dissertation) provided by the Project/Dissertation Supervisor.

Artworks, videos, photos should be authenticated through image verification platforms such as Truepic, Google Image and others.

7.4 Dissertations / Research Projects

Modules MVA 5010 and MVA 6010/ 6012/ 6013/ 6014/ 6015 will be assessed by display of works / written texts and viva voce.

Choice of electives

The UoM/ MGI reserves the right not to offer a given elective module if the critical number of students is not attained and / or if there are resource constraints. Additional electives may also be offered depending on availability of resources.

Specialization, Exhibition and Viva Voce

The School of Fine Arts offers graduate students a choice of practical, ie, medium-based specialization with a Master of Arts in Visual Arts with specialization in **Painting** or **Printmaking** or **Sculpture** or **New Media,** as well as **Art Theory** and **Interdisciplinary Art Practice.** The choice of specialization are as follows: MVA 6010 or MVA 6012 or MVA 6013 or MVA 6014 or MVA 6015 or MVA 6017.

Art Theory specialization students start writing art-related texts right from the first year in the Curation Theory modules (which co-exist with and complement the Interdisciplinary Studio Practice modules) and can make use of the MVA 5101 digital video modules for the production of documentation for exhibitions and can do the same for photographic documentation through elective module MVA 5205 Photography in Year I. They are also given the opportunity to write and self-publish directly on the internet through the elective module MVA 5203 Blogging and Social Media for Art Writers.

Interdisciplinary Art Practice specialization is aimed at students who want to keep their options open in relation to the mediums that they explore and are more focused on professional careers as independent artists rather than on eventual academic employments that may require specialization at post-graduate level.

Graduate students (of Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture and New Media) are expected to produce a body of works with a minimum of 8 artworks or equivalent in their chosen medium of specialization and produce a final exhibition at the end of Year II within the MGI or at a location of their choice in consultation with the SFA as part of the 6012/ 6013/ 6014/ 6015 modules.

Graduate students opting for Art Theory as specialization will curate a solo or group exhibition of works by one or a group of artists, or any other type of exhibition acceptable to the SFA with the appropriate long format catalogue text (5000 to 8000 words), or alternatively produce an academic text on a topic acceptable to the thesis supervisor(s).

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Students who are not interested in any specific specialization and choose the Interdisciplinary Art Practice option are expected to produce a body of works with a minimum of 8 artworks or equivalent in various mediums and produce a final exhibition at the end of Year II within the MGI or at a location of their choice in consultation with the SFA as part of the MVA 6010 module.

Important Note

Students are advised to consult the "General Information to Students' booklet available at the Registrar's office of the University of Mauritius or at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute library for further details, or the website of the University of Mauritius.

8. LIST OF MODULES

Module code	Module Name	[1]L/T/P# (Contact Hours)	Self Study Hrs	Other Learning Hrs	LCCS Credits
	CORE MODULES (YEARLY AND SEMESTER				
MVA 5010 (Y)	Interdisciplinary Studio Practice/ Specialization Core / Curation Theory	60	120	180	12
MVA 5017	Critical Issues in Contemporary Art	60	120	180	12
MVA 5101	Experimental Video Art	50	70	60	6
MVA 5103	Research Methodology	30	60	90	6
MVA 6010 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Interdisciplinary Art Practice Option**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6012 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in Painting**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6013 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in Printmaking**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6014 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in Sculpture**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6015 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in New Media**	20 (individual directed	240	100	12

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		learning/ supervision)			
MVA 6017 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in Art Theory**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000	Dissertation	-	-	-	12
TO CHOOSE ELECTIVE(s)OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT					
Electives MVA 5202 MVA 5203	 Ephemeral Art Blogging and Social Media for Art Writers	50	70	60	6
Electives MVA 5204 MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement Photography	50	70	60	6

1. Contact Hours = L=(Lectures) + T= (Tutorials) + P[1]= (Practicals)
2. Offering of Electives would be subject to availability of resources and critical mass
   The Department reserves the right to offer additional Electives.

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9. PROGRAMME PLAN

Year 1 (Common to all Specializations)

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 5010 (Y)	Interdisciplinary Studio Practice / Specialization Core Curation Theory	60	120	180	12
MVA 5017 (Y)	Critical Issues in Contemporary Art	60	120	180	12
MVA 5101	Experimental Video Art[1]	50	70	60	6
MVA 5103	Research Methodology[1]	30	60	90	6
Electives Either MVA 5202	Ephemeral Art[2]	50	70	60	6
Or MVA 5203	Blogging and Social Media for Art Writers[2]	30	60	90	
SUBTOTAL					42

Year 2 Specialization in Painting

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6012 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in Painting**	20 (Individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation				12
Electives Either MVA 5204 ***Or*** MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement[3] Photography[3]	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

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Year 2 Specialization in Printmaking

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6013 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in Printmaking**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
Electives ***Either*** MVA 5204 ***Or*** MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement[3] Photography[3]	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

Year 2 Specialization in Sculpture

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6014 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in Sculpture**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
Electives ***Either*** MVA 5204 ***Or*** MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement[3] Photography[3]	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

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Year 2 Specialization in New Media

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6015 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in New Media**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
Electives Either MVA 5204 ***Or*** MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement[3] Photography[3]	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

Year 2 Specialization in Art Theory

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6017 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with **Specialization in Art Theory**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
Electives Either MVA 5204 ***Or*** MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement[3] Photography[3]	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

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Year 2 Interdisciplinary Art Practice Option

Module code	**Modules**	**L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)**	**Self-study Hrs/ Wk**	**Other Learning Hrs/Wk**	**LCCS Credits**
MVA 6010 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition in **Interdisciplinary Art Practice**	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
Electives ***Either*** MVA 5204 ***Or*** MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement[3] Photography[3]	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

[1]Modules taught and examined in Semester 1;
[2]Modules taught and examined in Semester 2;
[3]Module(s) normally run in Year 2 Semester 1, subject to availability of resources
[4]Modules(s) normally run in Year 2 Semester 2, subject to availability of resources modules carrying 6 LCCS Credits will be examined at the end of respective Semesters in which they are run.

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10. MODULE OUTLINE

Year 1

MVA 5010 (Y) Interdisciplinary Studio Practice / Specialization Core/ Curation Theory

Through one main project (or alternatively, a series of strongly inter-related mini- projects), the student will explore a field that presents both intellectual and aesthetic challenges. The outcome of this investigation will take the form of a corpus of works that share a common conceptual framework but which need not be limited to one media or technique. Interdisciplinary works that may include drawing, installation, electronic imaging, painting, performance, printmaking, photography, and video can form part of the submitted works.

In the second semester the focus will be on an advanced level of work in studio production with weekly group meetings to discuss process-based art production. Rather than think in terms of the specificity of a particular media, the conceptual underpinnings and social ramifications of art making will be brought to the fore so that students develop a contextually relevant practice. Each student will be assigned to a supervisor. Students who want to focus on a particular medium will be encouraged to do so through appropriate supervision.

Art theory specialization students will be expected to write 2 essays (of approximately 5000 words) or a number of strongly inter-related short texts in relation to a topic in the field of visual culture. Alternatively, the student can choose to produce a short documentary of approximately 12 to 15 minutes on a visual culture-related topic instead of a written paper.

Continuous Assessment: 50 %
Portfolio, exhibition and presentation of works produced: 50%
For Art Theory Specialization, submission of a Written Portfolio: 50%

MVA 5017 (Y) Critical Issues in Contemporary Art

A critical and aesthetic inquiry into a specific set of issues in contemporary art and culture. Students encounter theoretical models that are key to an understanding of contemporary cultural practice as well as key to an understanding of cultural analysis. The module will benefit from the input of a variety of stakeholders – art historians, critics and artists will lecture or collaborate with students on collective projects throughout the academic year. Students will be encouraged to investigate specific issues in contemporary art, especially as pertaining to the transposition of global issues to the local context. The module explores elements of contemporaneity in art, architecture, and visual culture, with particular emphasis on new methodologies. Topics include public/private sphere issues, cultural production, notions of self and identity, gender, and ecology.

Continuous Assessment: 30 %
Written Examination: 70 %
The examination will be an open-book examination.

MVA 5101 Experimental Video Art

An alternative approach to mainstream use of the video medium, this module encourages creative and deconstructive approach to film-making. Students are encouraged to re- appropriate the medium and to find ways of integrating experimental video into their art making practice.
Art Theory specialisation students can make use of this module to develop skills in documenting and archiving material in video format.

Continuous Assessment: 50 %
Portfolio, exhibition and presentation of works produced: 50%

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MVA 5103 Research Methodology

This module serves to acquaint or re-acquaint the research student with various methodologies and academic writing conventions relevant to his or her area of study. The various aspects of carrying out research in visual arts related fields, such as developing appropriate research questions, planning of research, literature review, philosophical and contextual grounding of research, hypotheses, methodology, presentation of findings, documentation and referencing, etc, will be core content of this module.

Continuous Assessment: 30%
Research Portfolio: 70%

Year 2
MVA 6010 Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Interdisciplinary Art Practice

The implementation of a curated exhibition of the student's works and catalogue essay (2000- 4000 words) presented in a professional gallery or alternative context agreeable to the SFA. The final project will consist of a professional exhibition with two major components: a substantial essay on the subject of the exhibition and its appropriate contextualization, and the implementation of the curatorial project. A final review and a viva voce will be conducted by Examiners at the end of the semester, at the site of the exhibition (or through adequate video and photographic documentation). Each student will be assigned to a supervisor.

Assessment:
Exhibition content and curatorial concept: 50 %
Display /organization/ viva voce: 30 %
Essay: 20%

MVA 6012 Curatorial Studies Exhibition with specialization in Painting

The implementation of a curated exhibition of the student's works and catalogue essay (2000- 4000 words) presented in a professional gallery or alternative context agreeable to the MGI. The final project will consist of a professional exhibition in the field of **Painting** with two major components: a substantial essay on the subject of the exhibition and its appropriate contextualization, and implementation of the curatorial project. A final review and a viva voce will be conducted by Examiners at the end of the semester, at the site of the exhibition. Each student will be assigned to a supervisor.

Assessment:
Exhibition content and curatorial concept: 50 %
Display /organization/ viva voce: 30 %
Essay: 20%

MVA 6013 Curatorial Studies Exhibition with specialization in Printmaking

The implementation of a curated exhibition of the student's works and catalogue essay (2000- 4000 words) presented in a professional gallery or alternative context agreeable to the MGI. The final project will consist of a professional exhibition in the field of **Printmaking** with two major components: a substantial essay on the subject of the exhibition and its appropriate contextualization, and implementation of the curatorial project. A final review and a viva voce will be conducted by Examiners at the end of the semester, at the site of the exhibition. Each student will be assigned to a supervisor.

Assessment:
Exhibition content and curatorial concept: 50 %
Display /organization/ viva voce: 30 %
Essay: 20%

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MVA 6014 Curatorial Studies Exhibition with specialization in Sculpture

The implementation of a curated exhibition of the student's works and catalogue essay (2000- 4000 words) presented in a professional gallery or alternative context agreeable to the MGI. The final project will consist of a professional exhibition in the field of **Sculpture** with two major components: a substantial essay on the subject of the exhibition and its appropriate contextualization, and implementation of the curatorial project. A final review and a viva voce will be conducted by Examiners at the end of the semester, at the site of the exhibition. Each student will be assigned to a supervisor.

Assessment:

Exhibition content and curatorial concept: 50 %
Display /organization/ viva voce: 30 %
Essay: 20%

MVA 6015 Curatorial Studies Exhibition with specialization in New Media

The implementation of a curated exhibition of the student's works and catalogue essay (2000- 4000 words) presented in a professional gallery or alternative context agreeable to the MGI. The final project will consist of a professional exhibition in the field of **New Media** with two major components: a substantial essay on the subject of the exhibition and its appropriate contextualization, and implementation of the curatorial project. A final review and a viva voce will be conducted by Examiners at the end of the semester, at the site of the exhibition. Each student will be assigned to a supervisor.

Assessment:

Exhibition content and curatorial concept: 50 %
Display /organization/ viva voce: 30 %
Essay: 20%

MVA 6017 Curatorial Studies Exhibition with specialization in Art Theory

The implementation of a curated exhibition (either solo or group) and long form catalogue essay (5000- 8000 words) presented in a professional gallery or alternative context agreeable to the thesis supervisor. The final project can consist of a professional exhibition in any art-related field with two major components: the substantial essay on the subject of the exhibition and its appropriate contextualization, and the implementation of the curatorial project. Alternatively, a topic related to Art/ visual culture can be agreed upon right at the beginning of the academic year. A final review and a viva voce will be conducted by examiners at the end of the semester. Each student will be assigned to a supervisor.

Assessment:

Curatorial concept and Display: 40 %
Catalogue essay: 40 %
Viva voce: 20%

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MVA 6000 Dissertation

A dissertation of 10,000 -14,000 words (14,000 -18,000 for Art Theory specialization students) on a topic chosen with the help of the School of Fine Arts. The topic which can be about any aspect of Mauritian and/or Global visual culture (painting, sculpture, printmaking, film, video, popular culture, visual media, etc) that the students find worth investigating, especially if it has a direct bearing upon his/her own art production or theoretical concerns. The dissertation should be original and research based.
Draft Dissertation to be presented viva voce in Semester I and Final dissertation viva voce in Semester II.

Written Thesis: 80%
Final Viva Voce: 20%

Electives

Year I

MVA 5202 Ephemeral Art

Sculpture has grown beyond its traditional limitations. Students are encouraged to look at how particular contexts and circumstances require works of art that are less permanent but more demanding in terms of a contextual-awareness.

Continuous Assessment: 50 %
Portfolio, exhibition and presentation of works produced: 50%

MVA 5203 Blogging and Social Media for Art Writers

The internet has revolutionized the way we access information about contemporary art. This module develops the relevant skills and analyzes the format of blog-writing, and other social-media related formats, that enable the self-publication of art writing for Art Theory specialization students.

The student will produce a portfolio of texts and images as well as videos / podcasts of his/ her art writing and art documentation.

Assessment: 100 % online portfolio

MVA 5204 Art and social engagement

In reaction to the very limited modernist notion of the artists in his studio/ivory tower, contemporary art encourages an art of social rapport whereby the student can, if he/she chooses this elective, integrate an element of social engagement by initiating collective/collaborative ventures that may include the socially under-privileged.

Continuous Assessment: 50 %
Portfolio, exhibition and presentation of works produced: 50%

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MVA 5205 Photography

Contemporary Photography as a means to document/ experiment and as a medium on its own and to convey concepts and ideas in contemporary artistic production. Students will be advised to look at contemporary photography in Africa and the Global South in terms of how it has pushed the boundaries and perception of the medium.

Continuous Assessment: 50%
Portfolio, exhibition and presentation of works produced: 50%

* This Programme has been reviewed in 2022

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