

# Visual Arts

## Undergraduate Review

### Year 2 (2018) - FAR Implementation Report

(reviewed 2015/16)

#### Recommendation #1

- a) All VISA majors be required to take both of these Winter courses [VISA 1P95 (Intro to Digital Images and VISA 1P97 (Studio Now)], along with VISA 1P96 (Foundation Studio) - only the latter is now required for all students. The completion of these three courses would provide each student with a broad and interdisciplinary foundation from which to diverge into selected media practices, or from which they can merge into inter-media practices, later in the program.
- b) In their upcoming curriculum discussions, the faculty consider what media are not represented in course offerings and whether or not courses in these media might in some way be offered, to be accommodated within the present facilities. The faculty might consider meeting with students or student representatives in order to get a sense of what media students feel they do not have the opportunity to work with.

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. In addition to the curriculum review planned for spring/summer 2016, the Committee encourages the Department to undertake an ongoing process of curriculum review and revision.

#### Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by end of academic year 2016/17

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Schedule Department curriculum review to discuss the recommendation.	Chair	C		
Action #2 Review curriculum and make changes.	Dept & Program Committee	C	T	

**Comments 2017:**

The Department met last spring for an in-depth curriculum review. Student feedback was solicited as part of the process. It was unanimously decided that requiring all three courses would be too many 1st year courses. We made small alterations to 1P96 (Foundation Studio) to better represent studio needs and dropped 1P97 (Studio Now).

VISA majors are now required to take 1P95 (Digital Foundation) and 1P96 (Foundation Studio). The department feels this will give students a broad knowledge base more appropriate to upper level needs.

**Comments 2018:**

Full complement of HAVC faculty conducted History of Art and Visual Culture (HAVC) curriculum review Nov. 2, 2017. Studio Art (STDA) curriculum review conducted in in spring 2017, and spring 2018. Creation of 3M90 allows students to integrate media not represented in other coursework. Ongoing curriculum review (on target).

**Recommendation #2**

VISA develop clearer 3<sup>rd</sup>-year course paths.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee expects that the curriculum review referenced in response to Recommendation #1 will also address course pathways, with a view to improving the student experience.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving:	Department
Responsible for resources:	Department
Responsible for implementation:	Department
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by end of academic year 2016/17

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Schedule department retreat to discuss curriculum review to clarify 3 <sup>rd</sup> year paths	Chair	T	C	

**Comments 2017:**

The Department and program committee have reviewed the curriculum with a view to clarifying course pathways in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Submissions have been brought to UPC to make changes to the programs. VISA 3P11 was cancelled when the department felt it was not

integrated enough and one course, 3M90 will be offered on a trial basis to provide an interdisciplinary option for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students wishing to actively integrate writing, studio, digital, sound and/or animation, etc.

**Comments 2018:**

Full complement of HAVC faculty conducted HAVC curriculum review Nov. 2, 2017, made decisions for clearer 3<sup>rd</sup> year pathways. They stated: "VISA is trying to develop the HAVC major. We have found that there was a heavy number of classics courses populating our 3<sup>rd</sup>-year offerings which obscures or weights our major. We are moving away from periodization and towards thematic courses for various reasons including: keeping up with trends and changes in the field of art history & visual culture so that we remain on the cutting edge of the discipline; we are unable to provide a range of courses across *all* periods - that would require many more faculty - so we have proposed to re-vamp our course offerings in ways that support our collective and unique expertise, our aspirations to model a history of art and visual culture BA degree that is germane to a new generation of students and to continue offering contextual courses that support our studio majors."

As a result, CLAS crosslisted courses VISA 3P31, VISA 4P31, VISA 4P34 were delisted to clarify HAVC choices in 3<sup>rd</sup> year. VISA 2P98 will be discontinued as it does not fit in with the curriculum design. 3M90 has been successful (enrolments, student experience/art outcomes) and will continue to be offered yearly. A 3<sup>rd</sup> year Advanced Sound Design class has been proposed for additional 3<sup>rd</sup> year Studio Art options. (Proposed addition to UPC In 2018, implementation in 2019.) Studio classes have been moved in the schedule to align, so that students can more easily schedule courses (IE. Video Art in D2 occupies same time slot as Advanced Video in D3. Same alignment now occurs with all media based studio classes: photography, drawing, painting, video, animation).

**Recommendation #3**

VISA make a tenure-track hire for a specialist in photographic practice with a focus on contemporary photography.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be worthy of consideration, but realizes that it lies outside of the jurisdiction of the Committee. It is expected that the program will proceed through normal channels of advocacy for faculty resources.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**Comments 2018:**

July 1, 2017 a regular Chair was appointed, Donna Szoke. Chair submitted a proposal to convert Amy Friend's appointment as LTA to tenure track on Oct 5, 2017. Conversion was approved/signed Dec 1, 2017, tenure track appointment will begin on July 1, 2018.

**Recommendation 4**

VISA complete a program application for a BFA.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee believes that the Department is best positioned to determine appropriate strategies to move forward with this recommendation.

**Implementation Plan (3<sup>rd</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department  
 Responsible for resources: Department  
 Responsible for implementation: Department  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by end of academic year 2018/19

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Schedule department retreat to discuss application for BFA	Chair	D	D	

**Comments 2017:**

There is unanimous agreement amongst the faculty members in the Department of Visual Arts in this regard. The stumbling block is the administrative ability to make this happen. The reality is that collectively this Department has been staggering under an abnormally high administrative load for the past several years and added to that the department suffered a resignation in late summer of 2016. The department recently had two medical leaves, one maternity leave and two sabbaticals leaving only one tenured faculty member and one tenure track. This is delayed pending the return of the faculty complement expected in the summer of 2017.

**Comments 2018:**

There is still unanimous agreement amongst the faculty members in the Department of Visual Arts in this regard. The stumbling block is the administrative ability to make this happen. The reality is that collectively this Department has been staggering under an abnormally high administrative load for the past several years and added to that the department suffered a resignation in late summer of 2016. An October 2017 application to hire a tenure-track Professor has not yet been successful. As a result, we do not have the staffing power to complete our BFA application.

**Recommendation 5**

The university administration clarify, as soon as possible, the future relationship between MWISFPA [MIWSFPA] and Rodman Hall.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside the jurisdiction of the Committee. The Committee understands that the university is exploring options for the future of Rodman Hall. Key to this will be maintaining artistic, curatorial and research services to faculty, students and the community moving forward.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**Recommendation 6**

VISA consult with Brock’s Center for Pedagogical Innovation to guarantee consistency of learning outcomes across the program during VISA’s planned curriculum review in 2016-17.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee understands that the recommendation is closely related to Recommendations #1 and #2 and the Department’s responses to them.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department  
 Responsible for resources: Department  
 Responsible for implementation: Department  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by end of academic year 2016/17

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Departmental curriculum review	Chair/depa rtment	D	C	

**Comments 2017:**

VISA faculty are all in agreement about the necessity of conducting a curriculum review and it makes sense to consult the CPI as part of this process. This recommendation is delayed pending the return of the faculty complement expected in the summer of 2017.

**Comments 2018:**

Chair consulted with CPI on October 19, 2017. CPI supported curriculum review choices and proposed changes in Recommendations #1 and #2. Ongoing curriculum review (on target).

**Recommendation 7**

VISA 1Q98 (Intro to Visual Culture) and VISA 1Q99 (History of Western Art) be offered in face-to-face format.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted. The Committee believes that the Department is best-positioned to determine appropriate strategies to address the delivery of these courses.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department  
 Responsible for resources: Department  
 Responsible for implementation: Department  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by end of academic year 2016/17

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Departmental "History of Art/Visual Culture" (HAVC) members need to address this issue	Chair/depa rtment	D	C	

**Comments 2017:**

Of the three members who teach in HAVC, one is on sabbatical, one is on medical leave, and one recently returned to work but is on ½ medical leave. Action on this recommendation will have to await the return of all members of HAVC which should happen after July 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.

**Comments 2018:**

1Q98 and 1Q99 were offered face-to-face in the Fall/Winter school terms. The course have high enrolment. Sections of 1Q98 and 1Q99 will be offered online in Spring term to accommodate students that wish to take these course in distance education, etc.

**Recommendation 8**

VISA expand the curatorial component of the HVAC [HAVC] program.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside the jurisdiction of the Committee. The Committee understands that the recommendation is closely related to Recommendation #5.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**Recommendation 9**

VISA and IASC offerings be examined and coordinated to reduce repetition and duplication.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee expects that the curriculum review referenced in response to Recommendation #1 will also address repetition and duplication.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving : Department  
 Responsible for resources: Department  
 Responsible for implementation: Department  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by end of academic year 2016/17

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Department members need to meet to discuss the issue	Chair/depa rtment	D	C	

**Comments 2017:**

This is delayed pending the return of the faculty complement expected in the summer of 2017.

**Comments 2018:**

Chair met with Chairs of IASC department and GAME program to move VISA sections of 2P97 and 2P99 to Digital Media Lab (MIW 147) to unify content across departments and programs. Ongoing review of VISA and IASC offerings with an eye to differentiation.

**Recommendation 10**

VISA consider conducting Writing and Creative Practice workshops out of the Learning Commons.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be already in the process of implementation. The Committee expects that the Department will monitor progress on this initiative and make improvements as necessary.

**Implementation Plan (2<sup>nd</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department  
 Responsible for resources: Department  
 Responsible for implementation: Department  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by end of academic year 2017/18

Actions  On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Departmental members must review this initiative in order to make changes as necessary.	Chair/depa rtment	D	D	

**Comments 2017:**

Action on this recommendation will have to await the return of members of the Department which should happen after July 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.

**Comments 2018:**

Due to an exceptionally high administrative demand on faculty, we did not have the staffing power to complete this item.

**Recommendation 11**

The university and city improve directional signage to the MIWFPA [MIWSFPA] on Highway 406 and the downtown core.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside of the jurisdiction of the Committee. ARC expects that the Department and MIWSFPA will work through available channels of advocacy to implement this recommendation.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**Recommendation 12**

Temporary parking passes be kept on hand for program-specific short-term parking.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be current policy. No further action is required.



**Implementation Plan**

No further action is required.

**Recommendation 13**

VISA actively integrate the Walker Cultural Leader Program into their pedagogy.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be current policy. No further action is required.

**Implementation Plan**

No further action is required.

**Recommendation 14**

Creation of an MFA programme.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted at this time. The Committee understands that the possible establishment of the BFA would come first and that the graduate degree would be a future consideration.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**Recommendation 15**

One of the factors keeping the VISA Program from being rated as "Excellent" in quality is that it does not currently have either a national or international reputation. With its new facilities, its current strong faculty both in studio and HAVC, and with the recommendations identified by the reviewers, we feel that with the support of the university, the VISA program is well-positioned to promote and recruit in a more national and/or international scale.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be a comment. The Committee encourages the Department to build on its strengths and work towards national and international recruitments for its programs.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.