



Office of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Fellows

Maggie Benston Student Services    TEL 778.782.3042  
 Centre 1100    FAX 778.782.3080  
 8888 University Drive  
 Burnaby, BC  
 Canada V5A 1S6

report-dgs@sfu.ca  
 www.sfu.ca/Dean-  
 GradStudies

**MEMORANDUM**

ATTENTION: Senate    DATE 10 July 2014  
 FROM: Wade Parkhouse, Dean of Graduate    No. GS2014.21  
 Studies  
 RE: Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology

For information:

Acting under delegated authority at its meeting of July 7, 2014, SGSC approved the following curriculum revisions effective Summer 2015:

**Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology**School for the Contemporary Arts

MA Comparative Media Arts by Cohort Special Arrangements  
 Pre-requisite change to: FPA 827  
 Pre-requisite and grading change to: FPA 829

Harbour Centre 7410  
515 West Hastings Street,  
Vancouver, BC Canada V6B 5K3

TEL 778.782.8790

www.fcat.sfu.ca

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DEAN OF GRADUATE  
STUDIES OFFICE

## MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Wade Parkhouse, Chair of SGSC      DATE June 10, 2014  
FROM Philippe Pasquier, Chair, Chair, FCAT GSC      PAGES  
RE: Course Change for the School for the Contemporary Arts

On behalf of the Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology, I am forwarding for SGSC's consideration the following Course Changes from the School for the Contemporary Arts. These changes were approved by the FGSC at its meeting on June 5, 2014.

## Proposed Minor Course Changes:

FPA 827 (Practicum in Comparative Media Arts) and FPA 829 (Extended Essay in Comparative Media Arts) are considered the capstones of the new MA program, and we feel that it is important that the MA coordinator (the SCA faculty member who oversees the program and the practicum) and the course instructor of the Extended Essay (who would be selected by the student from faculty who have taught within the program) determine that the student is ready to progress into these courses. The criteria for entry would be all registered courses completed in the MA to that point with satisfactory grades (rather than simply enrollment in the program)."



Philippe Pasquier  
Chair, FCAT GSC

cc: Arne Eigenfeldt, Graduate Chair, School for the Contemporary Arts

/encl

PP/ld

**SFU**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE STUDIES & POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

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**Graduate Course Minor Change Form**

This form is for an SFU department or program to request a minor change to an existing graduate course. After approval and signature by the faculty graduate studies committee, this form should be forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies for approval by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC). SGSC will forward the approval to Senate for information.

DEAN OF GRADUATE  
STUDIES OFFICE**DEPARTMENT**

Department / School / Program Contemporary Arts	Contact name Arne Eigenfeldt	Contact email arne_e@sfu.ca
Please revise the following elements of the indicated graduate course: <input type="checkbox"/> Units <input type="checkbox"/> Title <input type="checkbox"/> Description <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-requisites <input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Rationale for this change: Clarification of prerequisites for gate-keeping purposes		

**CURRENT COURSE**

Please complete only the fields to be changed.

Course subject FPA	Number (eg. 810) 827	Units (credits) 4
Course title (max 100 characters) Practicum in Comparative Media Arts		
Short title (appears on transcripts, max 30 characters) Practicum Comp Media Arts		
Course description for SFU Calendar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> see attached		
Available course components <input type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input type="checkbox"/> Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practicum <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
Practicum work done in this class will involve children or vulnerable adults <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Grading basis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graded <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress / Complete <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
Prerequisites (if any) Enrollment in MA in Comparative Media Arts or permission of instructor		
This is combined with an undergrad course. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Course number and units: _____		
Additional course requirements for graduate students		

**REVISED COURSE**

Please complete only the fields to be changed.

Course subject	Number (eg. 810)	Units (credits)
Course title (max 100 characters)		
Short title (appears on transcripts, max 30 characters)		
Course description for SFU Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> see attached		
Available course components <input type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input type="checkbox"/> Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
Practicum work done in this class will involve children or vulnerable adults <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Grading basis <input type="checkbox"/> Graded <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress / Complete <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
Prerequisites (if any) Permission of MA coordinator required		
This is combined with an undergrad course. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Course number and units: _____		
Additional course requirements for graduate students		

**APPROVALS**

Faculty graduate studies committee name Philippe Pasquier	Signature 	Date June 9, 2014
Senate graduate studies committee name 	Signature 	Date July 10/14

## **FPA 827-4 Practicum in Comparative Media Arts**

### **Description:**

This course is an elective in the MA program. Students are placed with an arts organization in the region in order to carry out a specific project of finite length. This may be an organization that students identify themselves or that the MA program identifies. The student liaises with the organization with the supervision of a faculty member from the MA program. The practicum takes place at the organization. Organizations include artist-run centers, festivals of film, media art, and performance, nonprofit organizations with arts programs, galleries, museums, and arts publications. The student's labor time in the practicum should total approximately 120 hours, to be carried out over the course of a semester.

Projects are initiated by the student in consultation with the supervisor at the organization and the MA program supervisor. Projects can involve research, writing, organizing events, curating exhibitions and programs, public relations, media production, archiving, and related activities. The student submits a proposal that indicates the project's purpose, schedule, plans for documenting and reporting, and planned outcome. Final outcomes will vary depending on the placement. The MA program director and the supervisor at the organization approve the project, and they and the student agree on the grading criteria.

**Agreements:** The student, the MA program director, and the supervisor at the organization sign a letter of agreement. Since the practicum is an unpaid work placement considered an assigned work experience required towards completion of the degree, students are covered by WorkSafe BC under Section 3(7)(a) Coverage registration No. 112786, "Work Experience Program." Students will need to file a Work Study Program Agreement with the Worksafe BC office at SFU. In some cases the project must be approved by the Ethics Review Board.

During the placement, the student reports biweekly to the MA program supervisor. At the end of the semester the student submits a report on the outcome of the project, with documentation of the project as an appendix. Responsibility for grading is shared by the MA program supervisor and the supervisor at the organization, who will also provide a brief written report on the student's performance and project.

### **Course outcomes:**

Students will be able to apply academic knowledge and skills in an arts-related workplace. They will learn some aspects of daily operations in an arts organization. They will be able to complete a finite project that serves a specific need for the organization, which should give them a basis for carrying comparable projects in future employment.

### **Prerequisite:**

Enrolment in MA in Comparative Media Arts or permission of the program director.

### **Grading:**

The supervisor at the organization will recommend a grade to the MA supervisor. It will comprise one grade for ongoing performance, which includes preparedness, efficiency,

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initiative, collegiality, resourcefulness, creativity, professionalism, and other criteria determined in the agreement and one grade for the final project, again based on criteria determined in the agreement.

By MA supervisor:

Proposal	10%
Biweekly reports	15%
Report on final project	15%

By supervisor at organization:

Ongoing performance	30%
Final project	30%

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## Graduate Course Minor Change Form

This form is for an SFU department or program to request a minor change to an existing graduate course. After approval and signature by the faculty graduate studies committee, this form should be forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies for approval by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC). SGSC will forward the approval to Senate for information.

### DEPARTMENT

Department / School / Program Contemporary Arts	Contact name Arne Eigenfeldt	Contact email arne_e@sfu.ca
Please revise the following elements of the indicated graduate course: <input type="checkbox"/> Units <input type="checkbox"/> Title <input type="checkbox"/> Description <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-requisites <input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Rationale for this change: Clarification of prerequisites for gate-keeping purposes		

### CURRENT COURSE

Please complete only the fields to be changed.



Course subject FPA	Number (eg. 810) 829	Units (credits) 6
Course title (max 100 characters) Extended Essay in Comparative Media Arts		
Short title (appears on transcripts, max 30 characters) Essay Comp Media Arts		
Course description for SFU Calendar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> see attached		
Available course components <input type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
Practicum work done in this class will involve children or vulnerable adults <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Grading basis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graded <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress / Complete <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
Prerequisites (if any) Enrollment in MA in Comparative Media Arts, FPA 821-4, Research Methods, and two electives		
This is combined with an undergrad course. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Course number and units: _____		
Additional course requirements for graduate students		

### REVISED COURSE

Please complete only the fields to be changed.

Course subject	Number (eg. 810)	Units (credits)
Course title (max 100 characters)		
Short title (appears on transcripts, max 30 characters)		
Course description for SFU Calendar <input type="checkbox"/> see attached		
Available course components <input type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input type="checkbox"/> Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum <input type="checkbox"/> Online <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
Practicum work done in this class will involve children or vulnerable adults <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Grading basis <input type="checkbox"/> Graded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress / Complete <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
Prerequisites (if any) Permission of the instructor, as well as FPA 821-4 and two electives		
This is combined with an undergrad course. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Course number and units: _____		
Additional course requirements for graduate students		

### APPROVALS

Faculty graduate studies committee name Philippe Pasquier	Signature 	Date June 9, 2014
Senate graduate studies committee name W. Parkhouse	Signature 	Date June 11/14

## **FPA 829-6 Extended Essay in Comparative Media Arts**

**Description:** This essay is the final project of the MA, and is completed in the fourth semester of the program. The extended essay builds on knowledge students have gained in coursework. It requires them to research in depth a topic in comparative media arts and develop and polish an original argument, with the goal of producing an essay suitable for publication. The length should be that of a typical academic journal article in the media arts, about 6000-7000 words. Students may also write a catalogue essay or similar non-academic publication, supplemented by an academic essay.

The object of study may be a single work or a group of works. Methodological, historical, and theoretical approaches should be clearly identified. In researching these, students should identify other scholars who work with similar objects of study and approaches: this is the intellectual company of the extended essay. Students should clarify in what ways their project both belongs to this company and contributes something original. The Research Methods course will have established methods by which to do this.

Students research the extended essay independently, but they develop and polish it in the Research Colloquium, FPA 822-4. In the colloquium they write the essay proposal and drafts, give and receive peer review, prepare to submit the essay for publication, and prepare to make a 20-minute public presentation of it at the culminating research symposium.

Students may enroll in the extended essay continuously beginning in the third (summer) semester if they wish, or they may enroll in it in the fourth (fall) semester only.

**Prerequisites:** FPA 821-4, Research Methods, three electives in the MA in Comparative Media Arts, and instructor's permission.

### **Grading:**

The essay is evaluated by the faculty member leading the Research Colloquium in the fourth semester and by one other faculty member appointed by the MA program supervisor. They jointly assign a grade of Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. A student who fails may be permitted a second and final attempt.