

Short Course on Research in Visual and Performing Arts

Faculty of Graduate Studies University of the Visual and Performing Arts

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Why a Short Course?

The Short Course on Research in Visual and Performing Arts is designed for those who wish to pursue a research degree in creative arts and allied disciplines. The 12 week long course aims to provide a wide range of research topics, aiming to cultivate various research and writing skills pertaining to creative arts research. The course emphasizes the importance of epistemological shift in the recent research paradigms and offers applicants to rethink about new ways of conducting practice-based-research and knowledge generation in the field of visual and performing arts. Starting from the basic tenants of traditional research models, this course will introduce innovative research practices and writing methods to develop a full fledge research proposal in order for creative artistes and researchers to achieve their higher degree qualifications.

Topic areas to be covered:

1. Research Methods, reading and Academic writing
2. Formulating and developing a research proposal
3. Composing and designing a research presentation
4. Presenting and communicating a research to an audience

Course Details

Target Group	Undergraduates / Graduates / Teachers / Researchers / Creative Artists
Entry Requirement	A Degree from recognized University / Diploma or other professional qualifications
Credits	4
Duration	14 weeks
Medium of Instruction	English / Sinhala
Venue	5 th floor, Administrative Building, University of the Visual & Performing Arts
Delivery of Lectures	During Sundays (8.30am-1.00pm)
Application Procedure	Duly filled application form and the copies of the relevant certificates should be handed over to the Assistant Registrar of the Faculty of Graduate Studies
Selection Criteria	Basic Degree / Diploma / or professional qualifications*
Application Fee	LKR 300.00
Tuition Fee	LKR 35,000.00 (by two installments)
Commence on	May 5, 2019
Apply Before	April 10, 2019
Maximum Student Intake	25 students per session
Mailing Address	Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of the Visual and Performing Arts, 21, Albert Crescent, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka
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Web	http://vpa.ac.lk

**Students who are registered for a Degree program and have not completed their candidature can apply for this Course. However, they should provide a letter of confirmation of their studentship by the HOD of the relevant Department.

Course Content

Week	Topics	Sub Topics
1	Reading methods and note taking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading methods • Reading a research paper and identify key ideas • Note taking methods and note taking templates • How to summarize an article
2	Reflective writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is reflective writing • Reflective writing and research • Reflective writing and data
3	What is research?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and knowledge generation • Research and philosophy • Epistemology and knowledge • Arts and epistemology
4	Formulating a research question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a research gap • What is a research question • What is hypothesis
5	Research methodologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is method and what is methodology • Why we need methodology • Various types of methodologies • How to tailor a methodology for a research
6	Practice-based research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is arts-based-research • Epistemological shift in creative arts research • Why practice-based-research • Knowledge generation in creative arts practice
7	Writing a literature review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a literature review • How to develop a literature review • Structuring a literature review
8	Writing an abstract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why an abstract • How to write an abstract • Essential components of an abstract
9	Formulating an analytical and/or theoretical framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why theory? • Theory, philosophy and research • How to back up the research with a Theory/theories
10	Referencing and creating a bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why reference? • Referencing styles • How to do in-text referencing • How to prepare a bibliography
11	Writing a research proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a research proposal • How to structure a research proposal • Different types of research proposals
12	How to present your research?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to prepare an effective PowerPoint presentation • How to communicate a research to a non-expert audience • How to use physical components and voice to talk to an audience
13	<i>Submitting the research proposal</i>	
14	Final presentation & evaluation	In this final week (14), students will be presenting a 10 minute presentation developed throughout the course with a PowerPoint presentation. Five minute Q and A session will be allocated for each student. Their presentation skills will be assessed through a presentation rubric.