Teaching and Learning Plan

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The Mission of the Adelaide Central School of Art is to deliver an independent, nationally-accredited and internationally-respected visual arts education, taught by leading practitioners in their field through a unique atelier model of learning and practice that nurtures the artistic and intellectual skills and professionalism of its graduates.

The Adelaide Central School of Art has the following aspirations and priorities:

- to stand for excellence in the education and training of a wide community of visual artists
- to be recognised for the quality and success of its graduates and teachers in the visual arts field
- to have a high reputation locally, nationally and internationally
- to be the institution of choice for future practicing artists.

To achieve these aspirations, the priorities of the School are:

- students and their learning experience
- its curriculum and approach to teaching
- the quality of its teaching
- providing high standard teaching facilities for students and staff.

Graduate Outcomes

Enable learning in an environment of creativity and excellence that empowers the individual to create works of art, maximising their skills, knowledge and commitment to the visual arts profession, and support them to become passionate and ethical members of society through practice-led teaching and learning based upon studio experience, supportive critique and reflection, and traditional, contemporary and innovative approaches to visual art.

To provide students with a structured learning environment that develops individual approaches based on traditional, contemporary and innovative visual art forms and a respect for cultural difference,

- Value students for the diverse aspirations, skills, cultural perspectives and experiences they bring to the teaching and learning community.
- Ensure courses develop the relevant knowledge, skills and breadth of vision necessary for students to become professional artists.
- Provide students with extensive technical and conceptual skills and knowledge to enable them to produce and realise works of art.

Provide students with a learning framework that fosters skills relevant to their scholarly aspirations.

- Supplement formal learning with extended learning opportunities in a cooperative atmosphere of informal exchange of ideas and peer-to-peer learning at all levels.
- Through the School’s exhibition spaces provide students with knowledge relevant to their career as a practising artist.

Ensure graduates are critically and conceptually informed and equipped to make careers as professional artists.

- Accept students with the potential ability to succeed in the courses in which they enrol.
- Provide students with the knowledge and critical appreciation of the history and theory of visual arts and diverse cultures to facilitate their participation in a thriving and inspiring community of visual artists in Australia and the world.
- Provide students with extended learning opportunities and extra-curricular opportunities including guest lectures, exhibitions and other scholarly or professional opportunities through the School’s associated programs, high profile gallery, Student Gallery and studios.
Provide students with knowledge and understanding of ethics, business and safe working practices associated with professional practice, employment and participation in the School and art community.

- Promote a sense of community, collegiality and professional courtesy amongst the staff and students who are viewed as emerging peers.
- Ensure students and staff are informed and comply with relevant legislation and guidelines for ethical research and for work involving life models and children.
- Provide student representation on the Academic Board and support the Student’s Association.
- Provide students and staff with information and reliable, accessible and ‘fit for purpose’ resources reflecting current ‘best practice’ relative to scholarship, professional expectations and Occupational Health and Safety standards.

Graduates are able to work independently and collaboratively in response to project demands to interpret, communicate and present ideas, problems and arguments in modes suited to a range of audiences.

- Provide studio teaching that incorporates extensive individual practice and collaborative projects, tasks and presentation of works, group critique and reflection through the interactions of teacher and student and between students for effective articulation of the creative process and communication with audience.

Course Design and Unit Content
To provide a curriculum characterised by rigor, excellence and engagement that empowers students to maximise their skills, knowledge, commitment to the visual art profession and to realise their full creative potential.

Courses provide graduates with the skills and knowledge necessary for practising as artists and with recognised awards that meet national standards.

- Focus teaching and curriculum on actively engaging students stimulating them to think independently, to make informed decisions and to develop problem-solving strategies in relation to their creativity.
- Generate a collaborative interaction of students and teachers for development, testing, application and discussion and refinement of ideas involving reflective practice based upon supportive critique in the studio setting and through practice-based learning.
- Ensure courses are designed to produce outcomes that meet requirements of the Australian Qualifications Framework.
- Use benchmarking, external evaluation of courses, and external assessment for award of degrees and feedback from the School’s learning and teaching review processes to inform quality and continuing improvement of the curriculum and the learning environment.

Course content stimulates creativity, ideas, intellectual enquiry and discovery across all disciplines.

- Integrate the curriculum to enable different course units to support the knowledge and skill acquisition gained from other units.
- Encourage students to explore creativity by providing diverse learning activities and studio based projects that are ‘open-ended’ and have capacity to develop skills and knowledge.

Teaching Quality
To provide a unique learning experience base on a faculty drawn from artist/practitioners who are outstanding teachers in the School’s atelier style model of learning and practice that is designed to produce graduates who are equipped to be professional practising artists within the local, national and international community.

Teaching and learning is practice-led and studio-based.

- Employ teaching staff who are actively engaged in professional activity in their specialist field, bringing relevance and current professional knowledge, breadth of artistic experience, diverse specialisation and individual perspectives to their teaching for the benefit of students.
- Use small class sizes and 17 week teaching semesters to provide a high level of interaction between staff and students and between students to achieve effective learning and studio experiences in the form of one-on-one instruction, group critiques or reviews and access to studio facilities.
Quality teaching draws upon professional and academic experience and knowledge, informed and revitalised by scholarship and professional practice.

- Ensure lecturers hold appropriate qualifications from recognised institutions or equivalent experience.
- Support the professional development of lecturers through appropriate external activities.
- Monitor assessment methods through moderation of results by the Head of the Department, senior faculty member or a practising professional external to the School.
- Ensure all lecturers complete an induction and comply with required teaching procedures such as providing students with a statement on assessment at the commencement of each unit.

Teaching is evaluated to ensure continuing improvement.

- Analyse evaluation instruments and regularly, review and implement strategies for systematic improvement.
- Lecturers reflect on student evaluation of their teaching through the unit survey.

Facilities and Support
Provide staff and students with an appropriate teaching and learning environment and space for them to exhibit their works to benefit their professional development as practising artists and for the School to engage in the public and the visual art community.

Provide lecturers and students with appropriate facilities, equipment and support that allow them to facilitate high quality teaching and learning within a collegial community.

- Develop the new site at Glenside with appropriate teaching and learning spaces.
- Provide spaces for staff and students to interact and share ideas and techniques.
- Invest in equipment and facilities that support the high standard of teaching.
- Ensure facilities and equipment comply with appropriate OHS standards.
- Provide avenues for students to access facilities of external organisations, including studios, galleries, libraries and membership of professional associations.
- Provide adequate and appropriate academic and personal support services.

Provide spaces for public exhibition of professional, graduate and student works.

- Support students to demonstrate their high level of professionalism and skill through the annual exhibition of works of graduating students.