

Semester: 2011-3

FPA 812-5 Graduate Seminar in Contemporary Art & Theory

Section: D01.00

Location: SFU Woodward's, 4390

Time: Thursday 2:30 -5:20pm

Instructor: Dr Henry Daniel

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Office hours: Thursday 1.00-2.00pm.

Description/topics:

The graduate seminar for Fall 2011 is organized as an engagement with the issue of Practice-as-Research (PaR), Arts-based Research, or Research/Creation. Since the main focus of the School for the Contemporary Arts is on the production, presentation, and theorizing of contemporary art in at least six of its most common forms, (art and culture, dance, music, film and video, theatre, and visual art) we will contextualize these practices from both the artist's and theorist's perspectives through a range of critical/historical/methodological strategies. The aim is to allow the master student, as artist/scholar, to situate his or her work at the cutting edge of international contemporary art practices. This seminar will embrace the idea of the research colloquium where students engage each other in lively debate.

Assignments/Grading:

Assign. I	Research Presentation	30%
Assign. II	Final Paper Proposal with annotated bibliography	15%
Assign. III	Final Paper	35%
	Ongoing Participation	20%

NB: Please also suggest a date starting in Wk. 3 from the weekly schedule to present Assignment I. Students are also welcome to present draft outlines of their assignments for review at any point during the semester.

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General directions and areas of interest to be explored in the seminar:

1. Research methodologies [epistemology, ontology]; formulating ideas and theoretical constructs/concepts around your 'natural' and/or 'instinctive' habits.
2. Recognizing and assessing patterns in your artistic practices.
3. Exploring/critiquing/reassessing Interdisciplinarity.
4. Developing new directions in your creative practices.
5. Entertaining 'other' perspectives/options/approaches, i.e., challenging the 'academic norm'.