The Program in Art, Culture and Technology (ACT) is an academic department and research center which facilitates artist-thinkers’ exploration of art’s broad, complex, global history and conjunction with culture, science, technology, and design via rigorous critical artistic practice and practice driven theory. Undergraduate offerings include a concentration within the BS in Architecture degree program and a HASS minor and concentration. The graduate program grants a Master of Science in Art, Culture and Technology (SMACT).

spring 2013 course offerings

MIT program in art, culture & technology

4.301 Introduction to Visual Arts
TR 2–5 pm
Section 1, E15-001: Gediminas Urbonas
Section 2, E15-207: Angel Nevarez
U: HASS-D, HASS-A. Units: 3-3-6
An introduction to artistic practice and critical visual thinking. Prerequisite for advanced classes in Art, Culture and Technology and the foundation for a concentration or minor in Visual Studies. Enrollment by HASS-D lottery. Lab fee $110.

4.314/315 - Adv. Wkshp in Artistic Practice & Transdisciplinary Research: Cinematic Migrations
Renée Green, Howie Chen
M 7-10pm, T 9:30 am-12:30 pm, E15-001
U: HASS-E, HASS-A. G: H-Level. Units: 3-3-6
Desire for cinema perhaps existed before its creation. A multi-faceted look at cinema’s transmutations over time, the emergence of cinemas around the world on local and national levels, and the global migrations of those cinemas. Explores how cinema has been transformed in and by online video and television, spatial installations, performance and dance, and an expanding range of formats and portable devices, as well as the theory and context of how cinema is categorized, disseminated, and analyzed. Lab fee $110.

4.320/321 Introduction to Sound Creations
Florian Hecker
MW 9:30 am–12:30 pm, E15-001 and E15-095
U: Units 3-3-6. G: Units arranged.
Investigates specific compositional developments of post-war modernity and electro-acoustic music as well as other non-musical disciplines related to the psycho-physics of hearing and listening from both contemporary and historical perspectives. Encourages an aesthetic appreciation of sound and a critical awareness of the ways in which sound as an artistic practice is performed, produced and distributed. Lab fee $110.

4.332/333 Advanced Seminar in Networked Cultures and Participatory Media – Sustainable Communities, Radical Gardens and Techno-Ecologies
Gediminas Urbonas
TR 9:30 am–12:30 pm, E15-283A
Examines the ways in which sound as an artistic practice can be leveraged to develop creative tactical responses and potential future practices within societies forced to cope with a deepening ecological crisis. We will study the role of artistic interventions and tactical tools to support civic agency and participatory action as well as transform, disrupt, or subvert changing ecological, biopolitical, and social conditions in critical ways. Lab Fee $110.

4.341/342 Introduction to Photography and Related Media – Archives/Techne/Love
Jesal Kapadia
MW 2:5 pm, E15-054 and Photo lab
Engages with photography’s multiple histories, its relevance to art, affect, science and technology, and traces the use of the camera as a witnessing device. Students will receive instructions in b/w film exposure and development, 35mm, digital SLR cameras and equipment. Projects will be continuously presented and discussed in a critical forum, with weekly lectures, readings, screenings, visiting professionals, group discussions, and a field trip. Production time outside class is essential. Lab Fee $185.

4.343/344 Advanced Photography and Related Media – From Image to Event
Jesal Kapadia
MT 7-10 pm, E15-207
Examines the power of photography to creatively re-signify the separate sphere normally assigned to art, bringing it closer to the core materialities that effect our everyday lives – housing, health, food, work, social justice. Combines lectures, readings, hands-on photo shoots, visiting professionals, group discussions, individual reviews, and a field trip. Assignments are geared towards shooting a roll a week, alongside walking in the city as an aesthetic practice. Graduate and advanced students are encouraged. Production time outside class is essential. Lab Fee $185.

4.350/351 Introduction to Video & Related Media
Angel Nevarez
TW 7-10 pm, E15-001
Analyzes structural concepts of time, space, perspective, and sound, building on the art historical legacy specific to the moving image and video. Practical instruction in Final Cut Pro, lighting, video capturing and editing, and montage. Lab fee $185.

4.367/368 Studio Seminar in Public Art/Public Sphere – Spatial Cultural Identity
Antoni Muntadas
MW 9:30 am–2:30 pm, E15-283A
Focuses on the production of art for public spaces. Explores new ways of understanding ‘spatial cultural identity’ considering art and architecture as public devices. Lab fee $110.

MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology
more information
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