4.301 Introduction to Visual Arts
Azra Aksamija
MW 2–5 pm, E15-207
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 in ACT. Enrollment by HASS-D lottery.

4.322 Introduction to Three-Dimensional Art
Azra Aksamija
MW 9:30 am-12:30 pm, E15-207
U: HASS-A, HASS-E. Units: 2-4-6
Explores issues related to three-dimensional artforms, including installation, site environments, onsite fabrication, and the art object’s relation to the body. Introduces working with a variety of materials and techniques. In fall 2014, this course is focused on the concept of “fabric” both as a medium and as a framework to explore the complex cultural histories, meanings, and functions of clothing in an artistic exploration of connections and empathy across cultures.

4.341/342 Urban Revolts – Introduction to Photography & Related Media
Jesal Kapadia
TR 2-5 pm, E15-207
U: HASS-A, HASS-E, Units 3-3-6. G: Units 3-3-6.
As the urban changes, so do our media. Photography and urbanism emerged as parallel phenomena: one is always representing the other. The urban is becoming an image and the image represents the urban. Looking back at radical movements of resistance within the context of urban transformation and struggle, we will reconstitute the role of the image in our transforming present. Going beyond documentary and social media practices, we will trace the use of the camera as a witnessing device, as well as photography’s capacity as an experimental and aesthetic tool in the 20th century for the purposes of disrupting and transforming the ideological field of everyday life. Graduate students complete additional assignments.

4.344/345 Non-capitalist Life – Advanced Photography & Related Media
Jesal Kapadia
T 7-10 pm R 9:30 am-12:30 pm, E15-207
While market forces have attempted to control the power of photography and turn it into a disciplinary tool of authority and surveillance, or a commodity to be consumed and archived, the plurality of practices surrounding the medium have ensured that it functions on a more horizontal and poetic plane, to affirm our solidarities outside of the prescribed tempos of capitalist life. How can a photograph—a registration of individual or collective desire, of a burst of fancy—foster the notion of non-capitalist life? Graduate students complete additional assignments.

4.354/355 Introduction to Video and Related Media
Kelly Nipper
TR 9:30 am-12:30 pm, E15-070/E15-001
Covers advanced strategies of image/sound manipulation. Includes pre-production planning, refinement of digital editing techniques, visual effects, and post-production and audio. Context provided by regular viewings of contemporary artworks. Develops skills in media literacy and communication. Graduate students complete additional assignments.

4.361/362 Performance Art Workshop
Kelly Nipper
TR 7-10 pm, E15-001
U: HASS-A, HASS-E, Units 3-3-6. G: Units 3-3-6.
Performance is considered in relation to media and spatial structures imagined as settings for narrative movements. Students are asked to consider particular subjects or narratives as source material for experiments that transform an idea into visual form. Video functions as a basic tool while questions of perception in relation to sound and image and how they are altered by various devices are explored. Graduate students complete additional assignments.

4.532 One-Person Gestures: Prototyping Gustav Metzger’s domes on extinction
Gabriel Kahan
F 12-3 pm, E15-207
G: Units 3-3-3
The workshop will center on the ideation and prototyping of a Gustav Metzger project to be realized in Mexico City in 2015. The project is a self-destructive 10 year monument which challenges the visitor about themes of extinction, the auto-destructive/creative process of humans, living forms, and cosmological events, and how that relates to our existences. It will also explore themes of technology and its implications for the future of nature and the human species. In addition, the space will act as an educational center for children and youth in the communities around the site. We will explore how these messages can reach a wider audience with various media.