New Course Request

Check Appropriate Boxes: Undergraduate credit [ ] Graduate credit [ ] Professional credit [ ]

1. School/Division Herron School of Art and Design/Fine Arts
   2. Academic Subject Code HER

3. Course Number R599 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)
   4. Instructor varies

5. Course Title Studio Emphasis IV: Thesis Exhibit/Project
   Recommended Abbreviation (Optional) Studio Emphasis IV
   (Limited to 32 Characters including spaces)

6. First time this course is to be offered (Semester/Year): Spring/2009

7. Credit Hours: Fixed at 6 or Variable from _______ to _______

8. Is this course to be graded S-F (only)? Yes [ ] No [ ]

9. Is variable title approval being requested? Yes [ ] No [ ]

10. Course description (not to exceed 50 words) for Bulletin publication:
    P: Studio Emphasis III
    and in final semester towards M.F.A. Completion and public presentation of a final
    body of work, showing professional competence, documented by a written thesis statement.

11. Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at __________ or Variable from __________ to __________

12. Non-Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at 6 or Variable from __________ to __________

13. Estimated enrollment: 12 of which 100 percent are expected to be graduate students.

14. Frequency of scheduling: Every semester Will this course be required for majors? Yes

15. Justification for new course: Necessary culminating course in graduate study for degree program.

16. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library? Yes

17. Please append a complete outline of the proposed course, and indicate instructor (if known), textbooks, and other materials.

18. If this course overlaps with existing courses, please explain with which courses it overlaps and whether this overlap is necessary, desirable, or unimportant.

19. A copy of every new course proposal must be submitted to departments, schools, or divisions in which there may be overlap of the new course with existing courses or areas of strong concern, with instructions that they send comments directly to the originating Curriculum Committee. Please append a list of departments, schools, or divisions thus consulted.

Submitted by: Approved by:

Em. Nortkay Date 2.1.07 Date _____________________
Department Chairman/Division Director

Date _____________________ Date _____________________
Dean

Date _____________________ Date _____________________
Chancellor/Vice-President

Date _____________________
University Enrollment Services

After School/Division approval, forward the last copy (without attachments) to University Enrollment Services for initial processing, and the remaining four copies and attachments to the Campus Chancellor or Vice-President.

UPS 724 University Enrollment Services Final—White; Chancellor/Vice-President—Blue; School/Division—Yellow; Department/Division—Pink; University Enrollment Services Advance—White
Herron School of Art and Design

I. Course Title: **Studio Emphasis IV: Thesis Exhibit/Project (6 credits)**

Course Number: **HER R599**  
Proposed instructor: **Varies**  
Prerequisites: Must be in the final semester of course work for the M.F.A. in Visual Art and Public Life degree /or/ consent of the instructor.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND RATIONALE:

During this course, students plan, prepare, and complete work that constitutes the culminating experience of the program of study leading to the Master of Fine Arts in Visual Art and Public Life. Students in this course will be required to present a final body of work – entitled the thesis exhibit /or/ thesis project – showing professional competence in visual art, focusing primarily on the student’s declared area of emphasis. The final presentation of the student’s art, which will be a substantial body of work completed at a professional level of quality, will be documented and analyzed by a written thesis statement, also completed as part of the course.

III. EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The M.F.A. candidate is required to present a final body of work including an exhibition (or other significant public presentation of a major body of work), documentation of the exhibition, and completion of a written thesis showing a high level of professional achievement. The thesis project is a culmination of the entire graduate experience in which students develop professional expertise in their field as active studio artists including professional practice and research.

During the course:

- Students complete a substantial body of work focused on a cohesive theme, subject, or other cohesive organizing principle.
- Students acquire skills and knowledge in the planning, design, and installation of a body of work in an exhibition.
- Students gain knowledge and experience in marketing/promotion of an art exhibition.
- Students develop their skills in critical analysis and writing about works of art.
- Students acquire skill and experience in the professional documentation of artistic creative research.
Students develop skills in maintaining a professional studio practice, including experience in establishing and maintaining deadlines and a budget for the completion of the thesis project.

IV. COURSE CONTENT

The thesis project will culminate in a public exhibition or presentation of a final artwork (such as the installation a major public art work). A paper and slides or other documentation of the work are required. The culminating thesis project may be presented within Herron facilities or in another appropriate setting (e.g. public land, a commercial site, or a non-profit institution).

During the course, each student completes the following requirements:

Consult with the Graduate Advisory Committee:
The student in consultation with her/his Graduate Advisory Committee determines the thesis project. The Graduate Advisory Committee is comprised of three faculty members of Herron School of Art and Design. The chair of the Advisory committee must be a faculty member in the students’ studio discipline (e.g. Sculpture, Furniture Design, Printmaking). The two remaining members may be selected within the same discipline or another discipline within Herron. The selection is made by the student with the approval of the chair of the Advisory committee. An optional fourth member of the Graduate Advisory Committee may be someone from another academic unit at IUPUI /or/ from the professional field.

Thesis Project:
The thesis project is an accumulation of students’ graduate experience demonstrating professional competence in studio art. Requirements at the end of the semester will include a public exhibition, an essay paper of fifteen to twenty pages, and an oral review with the Advisory Committee, and documentation of the thesis exhibition.

Thesis Exhibition:
The thesis exhibition may take place in the Herron School of Art Gallery or in a public setting within or outside of the university. Students will consult with the Advisory Committee to determine this location. Students will be responsible for:

- Determining the location of the exhibition
- Installation of the exhibition
- Promotion/marketing of exhibition
- Reception for the exhibition
Documentation:
Documentation consists of a comprehensive record of the thesis exhibition in slide or digital format. This documentation must be of professional quality.

Written Thesis:
The written thesis paper will include the following:

- Formal description of the work
- Formal and conceptual analysis of the work
- Interpretation of the work to include: a theoretical, art historical, social, cultural, cognitive, and technological context.
- Comprehensive evaluation of the thesis exhibition

The text of the thesis paper will document and analyze the development and resolution of the M.F.A. candidate’s artistic achievement during the M.F.A. program in a manner that communicates effectively to professional colleagues and other knowledgeable readers. The paper will include an analysis and interpretation of the work, and will provide sufficient historical and theoretical background information to portray how the candidate’s work relates to, builds on, and connects to the achievements of other artists. References to appropriate literature should be cited.

Oral Review:
Students will be required to defend the thesis exhibition with the Advisory Committee through an oral review process. The oral review process will include:

- Discussion of an artist statement that coincides with the exhibition
- Discussion of aesthetic and conceptual issues of the work

V. REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Each graduate student will develop a list of readings based on his/her own unique thesis exhibition/project. In order to complete the Written Thesis each student will be required to analyze his/her own body of art work in terms of: technique and materials; visual form; content including the relationship of their work to social, political or psychological issues; historical precedents; the relationship of their work to aspects of current art; and personal issues. All of these concerns contribute to the development of a personally authentic and cohesive body of work from which the graduate student will select representative examples to present in a public exhibition (or other substantial public presentation) to satisfy the culminating experience requirement.
VI. EVALUATION AND GRADING

GRADING CRITERIA AND GRADING SCALE

Each student’s work will be evaluated during this course: completion of art work; planning, design and installation of the final Thesis Exhibition/Project; completion of the Written Thesis statement.

OVERALL COURSE GRADES will be based on the following:

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Completion of art work:</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exhibition:</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<td>Written Thesis:</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Grade Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum %</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>98.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93.0</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>90.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<td>Less than 60.0</td>
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Note: Graduate courses completed with grades below C (2.0) are not counted towards degree requirements, but such grades will be counted in calculating a graduate student’s grade point average.

Incomplete. An incomplete grade in this course will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, such as a documented serious illness or injury. No one may have an incomplete simply to gain more time to complete course requirements.

Late Work: Projects and portfolios are due as specified unless an extension is requested and received at least two days before the due date. Projects and portfolios without an extension will be docked half a letter grade for each day late, including weekends.
CLASS PARTICIPATION

Consistent attendance is expected except in case of emergency or illness. More than two unexcused absences will result in a reduction of the course grade (1/2 a letter grade per absence). Class participation is more than just attendance. It includes consistent preparation, active listening, and contributing to discussions and projects. Your grade for participation will be based on the following criteria:

1. Preparation: Did you read the required material thoughtfully and critically? Did you come to class with questions to ask and issues to consider? Have you prepared artistic work for presentation in a timely manner? Graduate students will be called upon to start discussion with thought-provoking questions from the readings—write these down in advance.

2. Engagement: Do you ask questions of all members of the class? Do your questions close the conversation, or stimulate it? Are they deliberate and relevant to the discussion? Do you try to apply the material you have learned, relating and synthesizing information with previous discussions, readings, and experiences, as well as other classes and intellectual interests.

3. Courtesy: Do you listen to others as they speak? Are you considerate of opposing viewpoints? Do you contribute to an atmosphere of mutual respect?

Learning Disabilities

Accommodations will be given to any student needing accommodations because of disability, provided the student has registered with Adaptive Educational Services (AES) at IUPUI and completed the appropriate forms issued by that office. Students requesting disability-related accommodations should contact AES at (317) 274-3241. AES is located in Cavanaugh Hall (CA) 001E.

VII. Bibliography

See section V above for required and recommended texts, and individual weeks for additional articles and book chapters.

VIII. Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism undermine the very principles upon which higher education is founded. Any violation of the academic policies of IUPUI is forbidden and will result in a failing grade for the course and a letter to the Dean requesting further investigation.

Cheating: A student must not use or attempt to use unauthorized assistance, materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise, unless the instructor specifically has authorized such assistance. A student must not allow others to conduct research or to prepare any work for him or her without advance authorization from the instructor to whom the work is being submitted. A student must not collaborate with other persons on a particular project and submit a copy of a written report that is represented explicitly or implicitly as the student’s individual work. A student must not submit substantial portions of the same academic work for credit more than once without permission of the
instructor to whom the work is being submitted. A student must not alter a grade or score in any way.

Fabrication: A student must not falsify or invent any information or data in an academic exercise including, but not limited to, records or reports, laboratory results, historical documentation, and citations to the sources of information.

Plagiarism: A student must not adopt or reproduce ideas, words, or statements of another person without appropriate acknowledgement. A student must give credit to the originality of others and acknowledge an indebtedness whenever he or she: quotes another person’s actual words, either oral or written; paraphrases another person’s words, either oral or written; uses another person’s idea, opinion, or theory; or borrows facts, statistics, illustrative material, unless the information is common knowledge.

For further information on Student Misconduct, see the following section of the IUPUI Student Code of Conduct: http://life.iupui.edu/help/code.asp