

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATIONS

ART THEORY AND CRITICISM (ARA315116)

These guidelines provide students, teachers and markers with details about what students have to do for the external assessment for this course.

This document does not repeat essential information found in other documents and must be read in the context of the course document (<https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/students/courses/the-arts/sdp315115-3/>).

The [TASC Frequently Asked Questions – Externally assessed folios](#), provides general information for all students and teachers about externally assessed folios, including a how-to guide for submitting folios and a link to the TASC Academic Integrity Guide.

The course Assessment Report located at (<https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/students/courses/the-arts/ara315116/>) addresses issues, strengths and weaknesses about the assessment of the previous year's display and should be read in conjunction with the guideline.

Markers will use a marking guide to mark the Major Study. TASC would strongly encourage teachers to use the marking guide to assess the Major Study internally.

The final Major Study must be electronically submitted by the student to their teacher for external assessment. Due dates for folio submission are available from the [TASC website](#).

The teacher cannot extend this published final "due to teacher date" however they may set an earlier deadline for internal assessment purposes.

The criteria to be externally assessed are:

- Criterion 1 Communicate using visual art language
- Criterion 2 Identify the social, cultural and historical contexts of visual art
- Criterion 3 Apply visual art concepts to discussions
- Criterion 4 Describe connections between visual art concepts and personal experience
- Criterion 5 Undertake a visual art inquiry

All elements of Criteria 1 – 5 are assessed.

MAJOR STUDY

To be eligible for an award in this course you are required to submit a Major Study. The Major Study is a substantial, written piece of research about an aspect of the history and theory of visual art.

You are required to describe, analyse, interpret and evaluate source material and then express your findings in writing. Your Major Study must NOT be simply a 'descriptive report'.

The Major Study should be between 4000 and 6000 words in length (excluding reference, reference lists and bibliographies).

ADVICE TO STUDENTS

You must:

- decide on a topic that considers an aspect of art, architecture and design, undertaken through a visual arts lens
- negotiate with, and seek approval of, the topic from your teacher
- undertake research using both primary and secondary sources
- describe, analyse, interpret and evaluate source material
- express your findings in writing
- keep drafts (more than three) of your Major Study
- ensure that all material submitted as part of your Major Study - except where the source of the information, images, ideas or words is explicitly acknowledged - is your own work
- have a Reference List a Bibliography and a List of Illustrations attached to the back of your Major Study
 - The Reference List contains the details (such as author, title, date, web-address etc.) of all the sources of information, images, ideas or words you reference (cite) within your Major Study.
 - The Bibliography contains all the sources of information, art works, images, ideas or words you examined during your research for the Major Study. The Bibliography will contain all the sources in the Reference List in addition to all the sources of information, images, ideas or words you examined in your research but did not end up using in your Major Study.
 - The Bibliography thus shows the full scope of your research, whether or not the sources were used and referenced (cited) in the final Major Study.
 - A List of Illustrations should name the illustrations that are included in the Major Study.
- not submit work which has been produced in another calendar year or has been submitted for assessment in any other course
- not include more than 10% of verbatim material from any of your minor assignments in your Major Study.

You are encouraged to:

- phrase your topic as a question or theme
- consult with your teacher about the topic areas that appeal to your individual interest
- carefully and logically plan the structure of your Major Study
- undertake creative and systematic research
- critically analyse, evaluate and interpret source material
- build on your knowledge of visual art acquired through your minor course assignments
- make use of local art facilities (such as galleries, tertiary institutions, libraries) and art communities (such as craft makers, artists, designers, illustrators.) This may be done locally, or via electronic communications with national and/or international artists
- use a broad range of primary and secondary sources (e.g. art works, magazines, books, galleries, forums, lectures, interviews, DVDs podcasts, blogs, and the internet)
- consult with your teacher and experts in your chosen field of research
- present your research to other students to improve your experience and confidence in communicating about your Major Study with an audience.

PRESENTATION

The final document will be presented to TASC via your teacher in electronic form as a PDF file.

Your Major Study may employ a wide range of writing approaches but must maintain your own voice. Suitable approaches may include the written characteristics of narrative, reportage, documentary, interview, creative response, analytical and formal stylistic approaches.

Your Major Study must be word processed using a type font that is easy to read and presented in single sided A4 format. You must include a word count on the first (cover) page.

Your Major Study should be approximately 5 000 words and should not exceed 6 000 words. Every word (including words such as 'the' and 'a') must be included in the word count. The Reference List, Bibliography and direct quotations are excluded from the word count.

INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

This course has some specific Delivery Requirements.

Formal consultation between you and the student must occur. Students will need your input: choosing the topic or theme during the planning stage; while conducting their research; when writing their paper; and, in the final submission process.

You may:

- encourage students to investigate something sparked by their curiosity, about which they think or feel strongly or that may be related to their future study
- encourage students to present their research to other students.

INSTRUCTIONS TO MARKERS

The criteria to be assessed through the Major Study are:

Criterion 1	Communicate using visual art language
Criterion 2	Identify the social, cultural and historical contexts of visual art
Criterion 3	Apply visual art concepts to discussions
Criterion 4	Describe connections between visual art concepts and personal experience
Criterion 5	Undertake a visual art inquiry

PENALTIES

Failure to provide either a Reference List, Bibliography or List of Illustrations will result in a penalty against Criterion 5.

Penalties will apply to poor referencing.