Introducing Fourth Year
Graham Forsyth and Oliver Bown
The role of 4th year

Like 1st year, 4th year is a point of transition, preparation for the next stage in your career.
Beyond undergrad

Anne Younger, Australian Industry Group

From *ABC Big Ideas*, “What's happening to graduate employment”

In terms of recruiting graduates, employers said the most important thing was a fit with the work environment.

Joint second was (a) to have work *experience*, (b) the type of qualification.

*MESSAGE: type of qualification doesn’t come first.*

Where graduates were recruited, there actually was a high level of satisfaction with graduate recruits.

Where they were dissatisfied with graduates, it was in areas of teamwork and initiative and enterprise.
Beyond undergrad

Creative arts traditionally slower employment relative to other disciplines. But… Disruptive technologies are transforming industry, the mix that graduates need is changing all the time.
Nature of grad jobs changing. People do masters, second bachelors, change jobs more often.
More “start-up” thinking.
From *ABC Big Ideas*, “What’s happening to graduate employment”

Winners and losers?
Creative practitioners are booming.
Computerisation actually hit *engineers* badly.
Software companies are discovering that liberal arts thinking makes them stronger.
From *Forbes Magazine*, “That ‘Useless’ Liberal Arts Degree Has Become Tech’s Hottest Ticket”, 29/7/2015.
Beyond undergrad

Think of 4th year as a first professional work year to develop:

- communicating your ideas.
- managing a project (time, money, people, materials).
Overview of 4th year

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Overall structure of your degree
## Overview of 4th year (for single degree students)

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Overview of 4th year

Please note that:

Dual Award students in Media Arts or Design combinations do the 4th year in their last year, and don’t do the electives

Dual Award students in Fine Arts combinations don’t do the 4th year (but can apply)
Overview of 4th year

Semester 1

Honours Research Project A
ADAD4010

PEP ADAD4000

Elective

Semester 2

Honours Research Project B
ADAD4011

Elective
Honours Research Projects

Semester 1

Honours Research Project A
ADAD4010

PEP ADAD4000

Elective

Semester 2

Honours Research Project B
ADAD4011

Elective
Honours Research Projects

Honours Research Project A
ADAD4010
Honours Research Projects

Substantial individual projects that combine studio practice with research.

Building on the knowledge and practice developed over the past 3 years.

It’s about building:

• your practice and portfolio
• research as a critical part of how you approach practice.
Honours Research Projects

A strong intellectual toolkit for thinking about your practice: conceptualising and communicating your work.

A valued skill, important to achieving the outcomes required of a UNSW honours degree.

Whether you are looking for graduate employment, postgraduate research or are setting out on your own: being able to think through issues and constantly adapt.
Honours Research Projects

Research involves understanding the history of ideas, the application of knowledge, and analysing this knowledge in the context of your work.

Discussions, seminars and writing activities will assist in exploring and realising quality projects with a solid basis in contemporary practice.

Two cross-disciplinary research workshops per semester, teaching core writing skills.
Clusters

Clusters of 25 students, with two cluster leaders.

Clusters provide:

• **A context.** e.g., in Design a brief, in Fine Arts or Media Arts an area of focus.

• **A community.** Peers and cluster leaders.

More intensive than 2nd and 3rd year studios.

Supervisory component to the teaching.
Clusters are not skills focus
It’s your project!
Assessment

Initial project presentation: 20%

Studio project (presentation/exhibition): 50%

Research paper (written document): 30%
Assessment

Assessment criteria include:

• Contextualising your work with a knowledge of what’s been said and done before.
• Quality and clarity of communication.
• Analysis.
Continuity between A and B

Honours Research Project A
ADAD4010

Honours Research Project B
ADAD4011

Same shape, different size.
## Calculating Honours Class

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<tr>
<th>WAM</th>
<th>85</th>
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### Honours Research Project Weighted Average Grade

- **85**
- **75**
- **65**
- **50**
Proposed clusters

*Provisional*

**Media Arts**

**Mnemonic**
Tom Ellard & TBA

**Vitality**
Scott East & Steve Weymouth

**Fine Arts**

**Materiality**
Rochelle Hayley & Clare Milledge

**Identity-Post-Identity**
Lindsay Kelly & Gary Carsley

**Spatiality**
Paul Thomas & Grant Stevens

**Design**

**Health & Wellbeing**
Leong Chan & Wendy Parker

**The REAL project: Social impact and change**
Karina Clarke & Liz Williamson

**MADLAB: Design & the City - Urban Narratives & Experimentation**
Brad Miller & Ian McArthur

**Dementia & Memory**
Michael Garbutt & George Khut

**Critical Design Studio: Speculative Objects & Provocative Prototypes**
Josh Wodak & Rod Bamford
Professional Experience Project

Semester 1

Honours Research Project A
ADAD4010

PEP ADAD4000

Elective

Semester 2

Honours Research Project B
ADAD4011

Elective
Professional Experience Project

PEP ADAD4000
Professional Experience Project

ADAD4000 PEP A is your opportunity to work in the creative industries

- build confidence
- make connections
- learn about opportunities
- prepare for life after graduation
- experience is crucial

Artist Marilyn Schneider
Professional Experience Project

PEP is an opportunity for you to learn about the next exciting phase of your career in places like the MCA, Art Gallery of NSW, Biennale of Sydney, Animal Logic, Artspace, Carriageworks, ABC, FutureBrand, etc.
Professional Experience Project

- Many of the opportunities will be advertised on the PEP Moodle site
- Some will be one-off projects and others will be working with some of the biggest names around
- You can also discover your own opportunity for professional experience
Professional Experience Project

You can start thinking about your PEP now, and enrol any time from November through to the Summer session after 4th year. PEP Moodle site will be available from late October.

Website concept design by Peter Hong.
Recognise any of these companies?

Every one of these organisations employs our graduates. You could be one of them.
The Biennale of Sydney 2016 – Development

Outdoor advertising – static
Some new PEP Opportunities

Sydney Biennale 2016

• Cross disciplinary team of five students working with the young design firm ‘For the People’ who are doing the full identity design, graphics and animation for the 2016 Sydney Biennale.

• Working in their Surry Hills office on the design and development of an interactive media object that will be built for the Biennale.

• Several students will have the opportunity of working with international artists such as Chiharu Shiota on their projects

• 2-3 students will be working with Brown Council, one of Australia’s foremost performance artists on their project for next year Biennale.
Some the new PEP Opportunities

Studio Artes

- Studio Artes sets up pathways for artists with intellectual disabilities.
- Students will have the opportunity to work closely with professional Australian artists such as Leigh Rigozzi, Rosie Deacon, Meg Minkley and Harriet Body on innovative art classes as well as art exhibitions.

Image: Assoc Prof: Graham Forsyth
Where to find more information

Art & Design website:
under 'Current Students'

Email enquiries: artdesign@unsw.edu.au

Be careful to specify “4th year” or “honours projects” or “PEP” in the subject line.