



Deconstruct

Expand
parameters

Local Knowledge

Resolve

Department of Art Studies

Roundtable Discussion on Academic Program Review and
Visioning/15 February 2016

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Art Studies: the Discipline

The study of
art, broadly
conceived

Art history
Art Criticism
Art Theory and
Aesthetics

Art is a method
and process that
generates new
knowledge

Art
Production
Curation

+ History

Humanities Framework

- A “child” of the English Department in the 1950s
- Formalist orientation drawn from the University of Chicago

Art Studies

renamed in 1989 to broaden its scope and to focus on art

form of decolonisation

towards a “refunctioned” humanities



WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?

What does it mean to do art studies?

What do we do with Art History?

ROUND TABLES

Cluster meetings
(ongoing)

Preliminary syllabi

Proposals

FGDs
Alumni,
AB and
graduate
students

From:

What is Art
Studies

To:

What does it mean
to “do” art studies?

From a straightjacketing definition
to the stress on practice

+ Anxiety of identity

Do we still “do”
art history?

How do we
reshape “art
history”

We are not “career” art historians in the traditional Western sense.
We confront different contexts.
The methods of the old Art History may no longer be relevant to these contexts, e.g. periodisation, connoisseurship, etc



+ Crisis of “old” Art History

in the context of “New” Art Histories



Curriculum Framework

- Intent
- Content
- Approach
- Assessment

We agreed on a philosophical Framework/Roadmap based on current practice (“doing” art studies)

Deconstruct

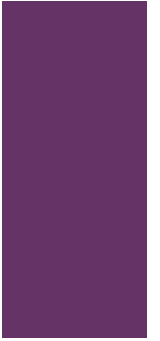
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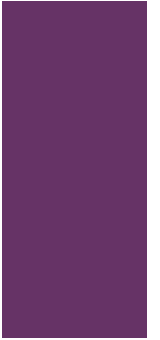
+ Deconstruct

- The problem of art
- It is not a universal given
- a postcolonial undoing and challenge to existing norms



+ Expansion of Parameters


- reconceptualisation of categories
- “diachronic” history to multiple contexts, space and time
- relationship with other disciplines and to determine implications of sharing methods with other disciplines, such as anthropology, area studies, visual culture, cultural studies, etc





Local Knowledge

- enlist other epistemologies
- foreground other contexts of knowing
- not simple celebration of the “indigenous”
- Western civilisation in crisis

- 
- faith in methods
 - Art history's intellectual intensity
 - Embrace lessons from shifts and turns, and crises
 - sympathies for the contemporary
 - commitment to the promise of transformation: Public Art Studies
 - The disciplines tradition of dissent

+ Resolve of Art Studies

+ Strong Core

Existing

Arts of the World Courses

Art Criticism, Theory, Aesthetics
Research (AS 199)

Philippine Art and Society

GE: Art and Society/Art Around Us

Ideal Art Studies
student/graduate
knows how to write,
strong in research

Critical cultural
workers

Committed to
scholarship

Public
Intellectuals
committed to
serve the
communities

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+ Strong Core

Changes

AS 50: Disciplinary introduction
AS 199a: Problem, Concept
AS 199b: Writing
Curatorship (Practicum)
GE: 33-36 units (minimum) with UWCP

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Plans for
AB Art Studies

Review
Interdisciplinary
“Minor” from
another field

Art History
Histories of Art?

Philippine Art
Strengthen

Honors Program

MOOC



What next?

Pilot AS 50

Workshop
And Field Work

Syncing
MA
Proposed PHD