

STUDIO INFORMATION, SEM 1 2019

BCOMM MEDIA PROGRAM (BP221) - STUDIOS

This information is for students enrolled in either **Media 3** or **Media 5** in semester 1, 2019

Updates and information about these courses/the studios are posted to this website: www.mediafactory.org.au/studios and canvas

You can email brian.morris@rmit.edu.au with any specific inquiries.

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DATES

24 Jan - Studio Pitch Book and Ballot opened

1 Feb - Ballot closes

6 Feb - Studio Allocations published

29 Jan (9am) – 5pm, 11 Feb (5pm) - [myTimetable](#) opens for preferences

12-19 Feb - RMIT allocation

20 Feb -18 Mar - Review and Adjust your timetable

4 Mar - Semester 1 classes begin

HOW WILL I BE ALLOCATED TO A SPECIFIC STUDIO?

Studio allocations are overseen by **Brian Morris**, and organised through an **online ballot system** accessed via www.mediafactory.org/au/studios.

Your ballot preference should be based on the Studio description booklet which contains an overview of the studios (this booklet will be emailed out and posted online at the mediafactory studios' website).

HOW DOES THE BALLOT WORK?

The ballot is a simple google form accessible at the mediafactory website url mentioned above. It asks you to express your preferences (from 1-3) for the studios you are most interested in. **There is no guarantee that you will get your first, second or third choice.** But we will use the preference information to do the best we can in allocating students to preferred studios. But we can't necessarily predict or control who will want to do what in a given semester and available spots are limited.

1. It is NOT first in first served. We look at each student's ballot equally
2. We reserve the right not to allocate students to studios led by staff who have taught them in a studio before.
3. If a studio is similar to one you've done before then it is advisable not to nominate it as a preference. Variety is important for everyone.
You will get to complete more than one studio in your degree. Don't feel that there is only one studio for you. Be open to being surprised about what you might enjoy and benefit learning about. You can't guess everything that is coming from a course title, description and outline. Value diversity in your degree experience as much as specialisation (just like employers do).
4. Please accept that some semesters you will be more fortunate than others in terms of getting your first, second or third preference. And remember that most of you will complete four studios over the course of your degree (Media 6 is not studio-based).
5. If you don't complete the ballot when it is open we will allocate you where there is availability.
6. Please ensure you select a different studio for each of your three preferences. If you select the same studio more than once this will render your vote invalid and you will be placed in a studio at the studio coordinator's discretion.

TIMETABLE CLASHES

University timetabling processes and policies (which are outside of the Media Program and School control) means that there are likely to be a small number of timetable clashes between studios and contextual courses and electives. If your studio has a clash with your Contextual Studies

lecture/screening a reminder that they are all recorded.

Electives:

If the elective you have selected clashes with the studio you are allocated then you will have to change the elective. Often you will be able to take it later in your degree (e.g. currently Media students have 5-7 different School elective spots in their degree).

THE JUDGES DECISION IS FINAL

No studio swaps are possible after the official allocation (and no requests to do so will be entertained). You are not permitted to reassign your studio within the Student Timetabling System.

Studio Leaders cannot let you into their studio so please don't ask them.

Only the Studio Coordinator (Brian Morris), can change allocations in *exceptional* circumstances. These circumstances do not include any non-University work commitments you have, the length of your commute etc.

WHAT HAPPENS IN THE STUDIOS THIS SEMESTER

This semester approximately 330+ students in the Media program (as well as some from the Professional Communication program), who are enrolled in the core Media courses go into the 'studio pool'. Each student in that pool will be allocated to **one of the 14 available studios** for the semester. Each studio has a different theme and research question as a focus. All studios investigate that research focus through the making of media objects, the details of which are specified through the Assignments that are the assessment tasks for the studio and course. Studios contain a mix of students from different year levels. Each studio has a limited number of places.

The studio *is* your course for the semester. **Most studios will generally have a 2 hour AND a 3 hour class on different days of each week** (i.e. 5 contact hours total per week for this 24 point course). A couple of studios may have a different class schedule due to their use of specific facilities or because they are a collaboration with another School. Each studio will use class times and days in different ways. You will be expected to spend an extra 13 hours per week on studio work (e.g. reading, researching and making) outside of the scheduled contact hours.

INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT PAST STUDIOS AND HOW THEY ARE RUN?

Check the studio archives at www.mediafactory.org.au/studios for information about past studios. Studios are not guaranteed to be repeated every semester or year. We also run (public) end-of-semester studio presentations and exhibitions held in Week 13 (same day as the studio pitches from staff), on an ongoing basis, to see and hear about the kinds of work your peers have been doing.

ASSESSMENT

All studios in semester 1, 2019 will share the same overarching assessment structure:

- Assignment 1 (20%) - due Wk 3
- Assignment 2 (40%) - due Wk 8
- Assignment 3a+3b (40%) - due Wk 12 (usually broken down in to 30 + 10% for final studio exhibition)

All studios involve some assessment based around collaboration given that this is a fundamental part of the vast majority of media-related work. Embrace that.

All studios are required to be a mix of theory and practice. The Media Program philosophy is that making and thinking theorising should be integrated. We don't do one without the other.

PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION STUDENTS - PLEASE NOTE

If you change your mind about your specialisation (i.e. Media/PR/Journalism/Advertising) after the ballot you will not have the same degree of choice in a studio as students who did ballot. Allocation will be at the discretion of the Studio Coordinator. This is in the interest of equity and fairness in relation to students who did enrol/did ballot/did/didn't get their first preference.

[End]