**Exploration proposal flowchart (possible order)**

**Explain the focus and subject matter to be explored**

Focus is your theme, topic or concept. (eg aging)

Subject matter is what we’re actually going to see. (pictures of your baby sister, mum and nan)

1. Explain your focus, or grand theme.
2. Explain your motivation.
3. Describe your subject matter. Nail it down – exactly what, within your grand theme, are we going to see?

Example:

*My focus and subject matter throughout the design process will be based on my immediate environment. I plan to focus on where I live, St Kilda. I always have had a connection with the environment. Throughout the design process, I will focus on the* ***urban landscape, architecture and the people*** *of St Kilda.*

**Conceptual possibilities and ideas to be explored**

Conceptual possibilities are ideas you are going to explore within your theme. In unit 3 you need to **explore** a range, **develop** them to a greater or lesser extent, and **refine** the best ones. Here you need to clearly explain at least four possibilities.

1. Conceptual possibility one – clearly describe your most exciting idea or direction
2. Conceptual possibility two – clearly describe your second idea or direction
3. Conceptual possibility three - (this one might be based on aesthetic qualities…)
4. Conceptual possibilities four -(this one might be based on …)
5. Any more you might outline briefly

Example from Studio Arts student, Mireille Stahle:

*Conceptually there are many different paths that I would like to explore in relation to insects, as they relate to us in so many ways. When I encounter an insect, I see them as a complete set of moving layers, interconnecting and moving over each other. I hope to explore the psychological and physiological responses that humans encounter when they are faced with an insect such as Dynastes Hercules....*

.*..... It would be fascinating to explore the way that insects have influenced our day to day life. I am also interested in exploring the many patterns and layers of shell on an insects exoskeleton. I would also like to explore the concept of rebirth that comes with adaptation and exposure to harsh habitats and experiences.*

**The art form(s) to be explored**

Clearly define your artform. Art forms include painting, printmaking, sculpture, drawing, photography, multimedia, textiles and ceramics.

Explain why you have chosen it:

1. What is your artform?
2. What experience do you have in your artform?
3. Explain your motivation for choosing this artform
4. Describe the qualities of your artform and how these relate to your ideas.
5. Explain what your artform can do well.
6. Explain how it all relates to your ideas

Below is an example from Morgan Koegel:

*The choice to work in film and photography was obvious to me. After studying Media as a Unit 3/4 last year, I was inspired to continue with this art form in Studio Arts. I feel that I have the resounding knowledge and filmmaking skills to explore my ideas fully. The decision to explore my theme through photography stems from my love of the frozen image. I adore the intimacy of black and white photography, the ability to capture and preserve a single moment in time. I feel passionate and comfortable with both art forms.*

**Sources of artistic inspiration and how this relates to the student's own ideas**

You are advised to include at least two artists as inspiration in your exploration proposal. It is important that you discuss how these sources of inspiration relate to your own ideas.

1. identify your influence
2. Describe the work
3. Identify and describe the aesthetic qualities/ideas
4. Identify what aspects of their work you’re going to use

Below is an example from Camilla Counsel:

*My artistic influence is derived from many different artists such as Daniel Zeller. Zeller's intricate and finely detailed work represents an aspect of illusion in the space around us. This will be a strong factor in my exploration of the topic. Zeller's work evokes a sense of mystery and confusion through the use of detail. It represents an area of space that, from a distance, may appear quite empty; however, upon closer inspection it is finely detailed. This is a technique and an aesthetic quality that I would like to explore throughout the design process.*

**Aesthetic qualities to be explored in relation to the student's own ideas.**

In this criterion, you are required to discuss how various art elements and design principles will be employed to create an aesthetic quality. Overall, what do you want people to feel when they look at your work.

1. Identify your desired aesthetic qualities.
2. Explain how they relate to your ideas
3. Identify your main art elements and principles
4. Describe what you’re going to do with element one (colour)
5. Explain the effect it will have
6. Describe what you’re going to do with element two (shape/line/whatever)

Explain the effect it will have

1. And again, element/principle three… (that should be about enough)
2. Explain how it all relates to your ideas

Below is an example from Camilla Counsel

*Aesthetically, I am aiming for my work to exude a sense of menace and ambiguity. I want my work to be visually challenging as well as unsettling for the viewer, opening up the possibility of multiple meanings. To achieve this, I will explore various art elements and design principles such as tone, colour, shape, balance and space. Colour will be restricted to a monochromatic palette of dark shadows and light. This will hopefully capture a sense of ambiguity and uncertainty. Shapes will be undefined and fairly organic in nature and placed in asymmetrical compositions to create an unsettling atmosphere. Both negative and positive space as well as enclosed and empty spaces will be employed to heighten the mood of the work.*

**Materials and techniques to be explored and developed and how this supports the communication of ideas**

Examples of techniques include carving, modelling, casting, photomontage, intaglio and relief printmaking.

Examples of materials include paper, brushes, copper plates, palette knives, oil paints, gouache, charcoal and watercolour

1. Intro sentence outlining what you’re going to use
2. Identify equipment and materials. Be specific.
3. Explain why you made these choice

Explain techniques. Step by step

Explain why you’re making choices

Identify the limitations you have to work with.

Explain what effect limitations will have.

Explain how it all relates to your ideas

Below is an example from Morgan Koegel:

*I aim to experiment with a range of materials and techniques throughout the design process. Film requires a range of materials, from the equipment needed during the filming process to the intricate programming of the editing process. During the production process I will need a tripod, extra batteries and tapes. To edit my film, I will use Premiere Pro. Premiere Pro will allow me to manipulate time and image to any desired effect and will be effective when using a large number of sounds and images simultaneously. I would like to focus largely on time manipulation, angles and shot sizes during both the production and post production period. Equally important are the props and models. I intend to work with interesting actors who can bring their own experience to my exploration of adolescence. Subtle prop placement, costume and set decisions will all be factors that I will need to consider.*

Below is an example from another student

*I will explore a range of materials and techniques throughout the design process. I plan on exploring various drawing techniques- in particular, cross hatching, tonal rendering and contour line drawings. I will need to experiment with a range of media, such as charcoal, ink, pastel, coloured paper, wood and canvas, and possibly the introduction of found objects to create a textural effect that may make my work more interesting.*

**The inclusion of a work plan**

You are required to include a timeline or plan that clearly sets out how you will undertake the proposal. You need to work out for yourself your tasks and deadlines.

1. Make a table with all the weeks of the semester and some space for your plans
2. Write down what you will do, specifically, each week. Photographers should be planning at least a shoot a week.
3. Make sure you have specific deadlines for exploring each conceptual possibility, all your materials, new techniques, your aesthetic qualities and for writing annotations
4. Allow time to develop ideas further, towards the end of the semester.

**Use of appropriate art language and terminology**

It is important that you use appropriate art language and terminology when writing your exploration proposal. Reading other students' proposals (such as the one below) will enable you to gain a better understanding of the language required