

POSITION DESCRIPTION



HEAD OF VISUAL EFFECTS (PN 331)

WORKING IN THIS POSITION	
Division:	Teaching and Learning
Position Status:	Fixed Term – 6 Years
Classification:	Academic 3, Tier 3
Financial Delegation:	N/A
Primary Purpose of the Role: <p>Under the broad direction of and working closely with the Director, Teaching & Learning, the Head of Visual Effects will be working to develop and contribute to the delivery of industry-partnered, high quality, practice-based courses within agreed curriculum & resource parameters.</p> <p>The Head of Visual Effects will oversee and ensure the ongoing academic quality of all Visual Effects courses, whilst ensuring deep industry integration, practice, and resonance. This role will work deeply with partners to ensure ongoing relevance of curriculum and high-quality delivery. Further, this role will instigate industry engagement projects according to the school's corporate strategy.</p> <p>The Head of Visual Effects is responsible for representing the School in Visual Effects education matters and for recruiting, managing, and developing a team of discipline-specific lecturers. This role is expected to teach and fulfil all associated administration and will also provide the AFTRS Executive team with ongoing expert advice to shape and drive the School's strategic engagement with industry.</p>	

WORKING AT AFTRS
<p>AFTRS is a Commonwealth statutory authority, established by the <i>Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act 1973</i>. AFTRS is Australia's national Screen and Broadcast School, established to fuel and empower Australian creativity and storytelling. AFTRS is consistently rated as one of the top film School's in the world.</p> <p>We are values-led, which means we strive for Mastery; we encourage Daring; we believe in Merit; we practice Generosity and we work Together. Our commitment to these values means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are committed to the open-minded pursuit of excellence;• We are committed to working collaboratively;• We foster creativity and innovation;• We actively seek out diverse perspectives;• We behave honestly, with integrity, and without discrimination;• We are guided by a genuine respect for the ideas of others even if we disagree;• We act with care and respect in our day-to-day work and our dealings with others;• We trust and value everyone's participation and contribution to the School.

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KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

Visual Effects Courses

1. Work with the Director, Teaching & Learning, internal stakeholders, and industry partners to develop high-quality curricula that is experiential, student centred, accessible to diverse cohorts of learners that imparts knowledge and skills informed by current and emerging industry best practice, as according to AFTRS Learning and Teaching Plan.
2. Engage deeply with industry partners to ensure curricula is underpinned by best practice industry teaching and learning in a rapidly changing environment.
3. Supervise the academic quality and coherence of the delivery of Visual Effects courses in accordance with the agreed curriculum frameworks and academic governance structures and in consultation with stakeholders.
4. Provide academic advice and guidance to students on course delivery matters.
5. Collaborate across teams and ensure that Visual Effects course information is available to internal and external stakeholders.

Visual Effects Leadership

6. Provide discipline specific advice across the School to ensure that all AFTRS programs are reflective of best and evolving industry practice.
7. Oversee the implementation of Discipline Statements, Discipline Learning Outcomes, and other key Discipline Level documents in consultation with stakeholders
8. Undertake research in the area that aligns with the School's research priorities.
9. Actively manage a team including annual teaching workload conversations, ensuring that all Visual Effects teaching has been covered and that the School's Academic Workload Model is satisfied, as well as ensuring team is up to date with professional practice and cultural competency training.
10. Engage in and lead student recruitment activities.
11. Represent the School in industry and other events.
12. Actively seek new talent and develop an inclusive student recruitment strategy.

Teaching & Mentoring

13. Make significant contribution to the teaching and mentoring activities of the School across courses. This includes, but is not limited to, the preparation and delivery of lectures and seminars, the preparation of online material, marking and assessment as per the School's assessment policy, subject leadership duties, mentoring of students, the initiation and development of teaching materials and engage in outreach activities.
14. Pro-actively engage with students to deal with emergent issues in a timely manner.
15. Ensure excellence of teaching according to curriculum and AFTRS Learning & Teaching Plan.
16. Any other duties as required by the Director, Teaching & Learning.

KEY CHALLENGES & RISKS

1. Maintaining strong links to key industry partners and stakeholders to ensure ongoing relevance as a leading training/education provider to industry.
2. Ensuring AFTRS position as a market and industry leader amidst a competitive market.

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3. Developing student-centred courses that are flexible and accessible, maintain rigour and quality within established resourcing parameters and existing ASL.
4. Leading change, stepping away from current institutional models of curriculum design.
5. Keeping pace with technology to ensure ongoing student and industry relevance.

WORKING IN THE DIVISION

The Teaching & Learning team comprises teaching faculty and professional support staff who work together to deliver four course streams – online; short & industry courses; undergraduate (BA); and postgraduate courses (Graduate Diploma and Masters). The division is responsible for the design, development, scheduling, delivery, and continuous improvement of AFTRS curriculum to ensure that AFTRS is fulfilling its remit to provide industry with the highly skilled graduates it needs to thrive now and into the future.

AFTRS is one of only three fully self-accrediting Higher Education Providers. The Teaching & Learning division bridges its industry best practice curriculum with the highest level of academic quality assurance. Teaching staff drawn from industry and supported by ongoing professional development and a research program focussed on creativity and innovation, deliver courses that are future-focussed, industry current and, delivered according to AFTRS unique, practice-based pedagogy. Externally, the team works to ensure the ongoing strength of AFTRS' reputation for excellence through partnered research projects, conferences, symposia and International film and broadcast school networks.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Reports to: Director, Teaching & Learning

Direct Reports: Discipline Specific Lecturers

Indirect Reports: N/A

Key Internal Relationships: Course Leaders, Curriculum Manager, Governance Team and Compliance

Key External Relationships: Industry partners and stakeholders, TEQSA

SELECTION/CAPABILITY CRITERIA

Essential:

1. Substantial hands-on professional Visual Effects experience at a senior level and extensive current industry networks.
2. Proven industry leadership experience including strategic planning, team management and high-level staff recruitment and supervision.
3. Significant ability to build and maintain strong external partner relationships.

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SELECTION/CAPABILITY CRITERIA

4. Demonstrated understanding of current working practices and future industry trends within your discipline and ability to inform high-level strategy, including flexible course design and delivery models.
5. Experience training and mentoring in an industry context.
6. Demonstrated strong project management and finance skills.
7. Excellent communication skills including public speaking and influencing skills.

Desirable:

1. Professional Association membership (e.g., VES, ACM, etc.)
2. Tertiary qualifications in a relevant area.
3. Proven leadership qualities and skills in developing and delivering courses across all academic levels.
4. Demonstrated understanding of the latest approaches in teaching through practice.
5. Demonstrated ability to create employment opportunities for students.