

**Australian Council of the Deans and Directors of Creative Arts
[DDCA]**

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Feedback on draft updated ANZSRC Fields of Research

The Australian Council of Deans and Directors of Creative Arts (DDCA) congratulates the ANZSRC Review Committee on its work to date to better reflect creative arts research in the new ANZSRC structure. We particularly applaud the inclusion of three new four-digit codes to represent Music, Performing Arts and Creative Writing. We see FOR 19 as the representative code for all creative arts practice research and as such, the proposed model while containing much needed advances, does create some difficulties and contradictions, particularly in relation to proposed FOR 1902.

In recommending our suggested revisions we have been particularly mindful of the importance of methodological approaches to research as expressed as a principle of ANZSRC field delineation.

As with our original submission to this review, we have consulted with our member peak bodies ASPERA, ACUADS and AAWP, and, in the absence of a disciplinary peak body for music practice researchers, have consulted with our member music research institutions across the country to inform our responses. DDCA's full list of members can be found at: <https://www.ddca.edu.au/members>

FOR 1901

Because of its strong connection with practice, Curatorship, should be listed under 1901 rather than its current location in 2102.

The inclusion of Educational Studies is a welcome addition but its listing under 1901 Art Theory and Criticism is rather confusing given that every creative arts discipline connects with educational research. It is suggested that it is included as a six-digit category in each four-digit code. This is particularly stressed in Music (1906) where music education has a long history of research in this area.

FOR 1902

There is strong opposition from members of DDCA, ASPERA and ACUADS about the proposal to move the current highly practice focused FOR 1902, Film, Television and Digital Media, into the more theoretical and 'observational' FOR 2001. While 1902 does contain screen studies, and has connections with 2001 (e.g. 200212 Screen and Media Culture), 1902 is more predominantly used for screen arts/screen practice. This has a very different methodological approach to work in FOR 20 and peer reviewers in this code are less skilled than those in FOR 19 to assess creative practice research. A similar justification exists for the retention of each of the proposed six-digit fields identified within 1902.

Where theoretical considerations are strongly associated with the practice of the art form, e.g. Cinema Studies, they should remain in 1902. This provides the same consistency as is applied in other creative fields e.g. performance studies, dance studies, ethnomusicology, and music theory.

The proposed move of computer gaming and animation to 08 fails to recognise that the existing codes in 08 relate to software development whereas research in 190202 is artistic and should be assessed under that field.

The technology-heavy screen codes (e.g., visual effects) are also appropriate to 19, not 20 as they employ very different ontological and methodological approaches that would likely suffer if relocated to FOR 20.

The proposed relocation of electronic media art to FOR 2001 is also inappropriate. 190203 'Electronic Media Art' is an internationally long recognised *artistic* discipline undertaken by media *artists*. It is defined by the artistic exploration of aesthetic concepts using new and established digital technologies. The vast majority of successful applications using this code have come from this media art group. Therefore, for 190203 a new 1905 code should be established, rather than it being moved to 2001.

DDCA reiterates its earlier suggestion for renaming 1902 "Screen and Digital Media". Field names such as 'cinema', 'film' and 'television' are considered 'old-fashioned' terminology, and need updating as is evidenced for example by 'Screen Australia' which includes all forms of screen content.

FOR 1903

Following the logic that FOR 19 is the location for practice based research, it is curious that Professional Writing and Technical Writing are proposed for inclusion in 2001. These are writing practice codes, not 'language and communication' studies per se. These also belong in FOR 1907.

FOR 1904

DDCA welcomes the creation of specific four digit codes for Performing Arts, Music and Creative Writing and have made recommendation for the code structure related to Music and Creative Writing in comments on FOR 1906 and FOR 1907 respectively below.

We acknowledge that the proposed structure includes recommendations made by DDCA in FOR 1905, namely that Installation Art should be moved from 190504 to 190502, resulting in: 190502 Fine Art (including Painting, Sculpture and Installation); and 190504 Performance Art. However, proposed changes to create a new FOR 190414 'Live Art and Performance Art' prompts reconsideration as this field contains two internationally long-recognised *artistic* disciplines undertaken by performance *artists*. DDCA recommends that 190414 should be moved to 190504, and 190504 renamed 'Installation, Live and Performance Art'.

FOR 1905

As indicated in our response to FOR 1904 above, we suggest renaming of 190504 in response to the proposed changes to 1904, which will ensure that this tradition of Visual Art is appropriately reflected in 1905. DDCA suggests that the terminology 'Lens-based practice' is now somewhat out of date in relation to photography where work is undertaken without a 'lens' and therefore suggests that this field be renamed Photography and lens-based practice. We also suggest that 190502 specifically recognises the growth of printmaking as a research field in Fine Arts. We therefore suggest the following structure for FOR 1905:

FOR 1905 Visual Arts

190501 Crafts

190502 Fine Arts (incl. Sculpture, Printmaking and Painting)

190503 Photography and Lens-based Practice

190504 Installation, Live and Performance Art

190599 Visual Arts not elsewhere classified

FOR 1906

DDCA welcomes the introduction of a new four-digit code for Music. The current proposed four-digit structure largely reflects the views of DDCA membership in this discipline but we suggest some modifications to better reflect research practice in the discipline. The inclusion of 'theory' in 190601 creates some confusion and sets up an unhelpful dichotomy between 'practice' and 'theory'. Further the American Society for Music Theory encompasses Music History under its definition of Music Theory and this approach would be familiar to many working in this field. There is strong objection to the proposed move of Music Therapy to FOR 2401 Allied Health. This proposed shift also introduces an internal inconsistency in FOR 19 as the new proposed structure in FOR 1904 Performing Arts contains field for Psychological and Therapeutic Studies in Creative and Performing Arts. It is therefore suggested that Music Cognition and Therapy, which includes music psychology and performance science, is included as a specific six-digit code in 1906.

As indicated in our comments to FOR 1901, Music Education has a long historical association with practice and we therefore suggest the inclusion of a new six-digit code to reflect this research.

We therefore suggest the following coding for FOR 1906:

190601	Music Composition and Improvisation
190602	Music Performance
190603	Music History and Culture (ethnomusicology, musicology, popular music studies, certain intercultural music topics, certain music and the environment topics, musical identity studies/auto-ethnography, community music, musicians' careers)
190604	Music Recording
190605	Music Theory and Analysis
190606	Music Technology
190607	Music Cognition and Therapy (including music psychology and performance science)
190608	Music Education and Pedagogy (including Community Music)

FOR 1907

DDCA welcomes the introduction of a new four-digit code for Creative Writing. As a new code it currently appears 'underdeveloped' in terms of its underlying six-digit field structure. We therefore suggest a six-digit field structure that takes account of different fields in Creative Writing and incorporates Screenwriting and Scriptwriting rather than play writing. The rationale for this recommendation is the exponential growth of Screen and Script writing research and its recognition as a form of Creative Writing and not just for film. We also suggest the inclusion of Digital Writing and re-iterate our recommendation for renaming of 1907 as Creative and Professional

Writing. This renaming would then allow for the inclusion of Technical and Professional Writing as fields.

1907 Creative and Professional Writing

190701 Prose, Essay and Creative Non-Fiction

190702 Poetry

190703 Scriptwriting and Screenwriting

190704 Digital Writing

190705 Site-Based Writing

190706 Journalism

190707 Professional Writing

190708 Technical Writing

We thank the ANZSRC Review Steering Committee for the opportunity to provide feedback on this proposed draft on behalf of DDCA Members.