



EXPERIENCE MAP

Visual Arts



Photo by Cyndra MacDowall

**FUTURE FULL
OF PROMISE.**



University
of Windsor

VISUAL ARTS

MEDIA ART HISTORIES AND VISUAL CULTURE

VISUAL ARTS & COMMUNICATION, MEDIA AND FILM (STUDIO ARTS)

VISUAL ARTS & COMMUNICATION, MEDIA AND FILM (FILM)

INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS AND SCIENCE

EXPERIENCE.UWINDSOR.CA

Skills and Knowledge of Visual Arts Graduates

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Visual Arts – You, the developing artist, will benefit from excellent working space in our stunning new facility, an invaluable foundation of skills, supportive faculty and the opportunity to explore, share and realize individual creativity and expression. We offer in-depth studio practices and art history combined with exhibition opportunities and exposure to the cultural institutions of Windsor and Detroit. Choose from courses in drawing, painting, print media, photography, sculpture, BioArt, film production and integrated media (digital imaging, sound and video). Individual studio space is available to you during Year 4.

Media Art Histories and Visual Culture – This combined BA program probes the ways in which we see and understand the world around us. Study how art, architecture, and media technologies intersect to shape our understanding of our local and global cultures in both historical and contemporary contexts. Studio art classes combined with unique academic courses ranging from traditional art history to the visual culture of everyday life.

Interdisciplinary Arts and Science – If you're a highly motivated student who wants knowledge and skills that will familiarize you with the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, this elite program is for you. Design your program to match your interests and career aspirations. From here, consider a master's program,

professional school (medicine, optometry, dentistry, occupational therapy, naturopathic medicine, law, MBA, pharmacy), or teaching (with additional studies).

FUNCTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

- Expressing oneself confidently, assertively and purposefully through visual imagery
- Creating works of visual art using a variety of techniques, practices, and media
- Organizing visual information effectively using appropriate technological methods and software packages
- Developing visual literacy: the ability to understand the powerful role of images in contemporary media contexts and to convey one's own ideas and arguments thoughtfully through the creation of new images, works of art, film or architecture
- Designing, staging, managing, and overseeing effective visual campaigns and productions
- Analyzing and assessing works of visual art for formal/technical quality of expression; grouping and curating disparate works logically and meaningfully
- Understanding and evaluating the rhetorical function of visual advertising materials

Degree Title / Program	Minimum Average	Admission Requirements
VISUAL ARTS	70%	ENG. required.



- Courses of study specific to each program
- Activities and experiences that complement coursework (Outstanding Scholars, peer mentoring, VIP)
- Activities falling outside of the scope of set curriculum (Part-time job, clubs, volunteering, athletics)

Build your Skills and Experience

Your UWindsor experience is more than attending classes. It is a combination of academics, co-curricular activities, and extracurricular involvement. By making the most of all three elements of your university experience, you will maximize your opportunities to build your skills, broaden your personal network, and clarify your long term academic and career goals.

Career Planning Guide

Intentional career planning will help you prepare for your next step after graduation. It is a fluid, dynamic, and continuous process, meaning you can move on or return to an earlier stage at any time. You can even work through simultaneous cycles, like one for your long-term dream job and another for a summer job.



Explore Opportunities Using This Guide

Explore a selection of opportunities recommended for students in your program. This chart shows some of your many options – you don’t have to do everything on it or limit yourself to it. Engage in opportunities from each of the three categories to set yourself up for success:

- **Academics**
 - Your coursework
- **Experience**
 - Ways to get involved
- **Career**
 - Plan ahead for what’s next

HIP High-Impact Practice (HIP)

A HIP is an enriching educational experience that can be life-changing and often includes learning outside of the classroom while encouraging meaningful interaction and collaboration, such as:

- Co-op, internship or field experiences
- Research with faculty
- Culminating senior experience
- Capstone courses
- Service-learning
- Learning communities
- Study abroad

	First Year	Middle Years	Final Year
Academics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take required courses including Contemporary Visual Culture and Studio Practice and Ideas courses• Meet with the departmental undergraduate coordinator or an assigned faculty advisor to help you choose your courses and get you set on the right track• Review degree course requirements• Focus on core courses to learn which aspects of Visual Arts you want to focus on in later years• Begin looking into optional courses outside of Visual Arts/SoCA (in FAHSS or Sciences) to complete before Year 3• Receive peer mentorship from members of the UWindsor Visual Arts Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take required 200-level courses and check in with your faculty mentor or departmental academic advisor• Take a specialized 300-level course like Green Corridor, Curating as Cultural Practice, Bio Art or Sonic Arts• Look into completing your capstone research project in the final year of your honours program HIP• Make sure you are on the right track to complete all senior-level (400-level) requirement courses in Studio and Media Art History/Visual Culture• Consider taking courses in accordance with the Certificate in Arts Management or a minor• Continue taking the required pre-requisites for graduate/professional school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet with an academic advisor to go over degree requirements• Complete all required courses for your degree• Make sure all 400-level courses are completed in both Studio areas and Media Art History/Visual Culture• Apply to graduate through MyUWindsor Portal• Take a Visual Arts Independent Study course• Work with a faculty member on a research project or publication HIP• Complete required courses for Arts Management Certificate• Consider taking an internship course HIP
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Join a club like the Visual Arts Society, 3D Print Club or UWSA• Explore free SOCA Presents events such as professional artist talks, film screenings and music performances• Sign up for class visits to major art exhibitions at the Art Gallery of Windsor, the Detroit Institute of the Arts or the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit• Apply for a co-curricular experience such as VIP HIP• Investigate research opportunities as part of the Outstanding Scholars program HIP• Research international student exchange opportunities for middle years, especially in the UK HIP• Participate in the Bystander Initiative workshop to gain skills that will help you be an effective and supportive ally to prevent sexual assault on campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in the UWill Discover undergraduate research conference HIP• Volunteer or work with the Art Gallery of Windsor, Artcite, Arts Council Windsor and Region or a range of cultural organizations• Apply for student exchange HIP• Look into paid work study positions in SoCA or across campus, which are based on financial need• Look into paid research assistantship positions with faculty members who carry research grants HIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Become a teaching assistant or research assistant HIP• Conduct field research with faculty member HIP• Become a tutor for Students Offering Support (SOS) HIP• Work with a campus department to help produce artistic ideas for marketing or promotional videos• Complete a thesis and present work at thesis show (BFA students) HIP
Career	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet with your faculty advisor to discuss the best course of study to help you achieve your goals and make the most of your educational experience• Create a list of things that you enjoy, areas in which you excel, and your skills• Meet with a career advisor in Career Development and Experiential Learning (CDEL) for help developing a plan for your future years• Consider a career assessment workshop or appointment to help you identify possible career paths• Get involved with a part-time job, volunteer opportunity, campus group, or research assistantship• Attend CDEL workshops to learn how to find a summer or part-time job and write a resumé and cover letter• Drop in to meet with one of CDEL’s peer advisors to get answers to your career and job search questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research career fields and occupations with the help of a CDEL career advisor• Explore opportunities and meet employers through job fairs and employer networking events• Explore further educational opportunities by attending the Graduate and Professional Schools Fair and researching admission requirements for programs you are interested in• Attend CDEL’s Using Social Media to Leverage Your Career workshop• Create a LinkedIn profile and have it critiqued• Take part in informational interviews and use sources like LinkedIn and Ten Thousand Coffees to meet people in your targeted profession• Search job postings to learn what skills, knowledge, and credentials you will need for potential careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you are considering applying to graduate or professional school, be aware of early application deadlines• Meet with CDEL to prepare application documents like a resumé, cover letter, CV, or personal statement for jobs and education programs you are applying to• Attend an Interview Skills Workshop and Job Search Tips Workshop• Use InterviewStream to practice your interview skills online• Set up an in-person mock interview with a career advisor for professional school or job applications• Meet employers at the annual job fair in January• Compose a portfolio of relevant academic and work experience

Visual Arts

Life After Graduation

42

Number of Visual Arts
Graduates (2017)

92.5%

Employment rate of graduates 2
years following degree completion

(OUGS Fine and Applied Arts, 2014)



"My four years spent in the Visual Arts department contributed positively to my development as a person, an artist, and a citizen of Windsor-Essex County. Through my education, I was fortunate enough to meet a number of likeminded young artists, with whom I would collaborate for years to come. I have also witnessed the true dedication of SoCA's faculty members, some of whom I have remained in contact with for many years. Visual Arts at Windsor is a unique program and I am proud to call myself an alumnus."

Joshua Babcock – BA in Visual Arts [2010]



COMMON INDUSTRIES FOR VISUAL ARTS GRADUATES

- Academia and research
- Advertising and marketing
- Art/illustration
- Design industry

- **Education:** Public and private stream, tutoring
- **Government:** Research and policy development
- **Healthcare and counselling:** Art therapy
- **Media and journalism:** Criticism, visual production

CAREER TRACKS*

Advertising analyst
Architect
Art gallery manager
Art therapist
Arts administrator
Cinematographer
Communications specialist

Conservator
Creative director
Curator
Development officer
Entrepreneur
Graphic designer
Interior designer

Journalist
Lawyer
Marketing manager
Multimedia illustrator
Museum director
Photographer
Professional artist

Professor
Project manager
Research co-ordinator
Set designer
Studio co-ordinator
Teacher
Web designer

* Additional education and/or training required for some of the above careers.

CAREER-READINESS COMPETENCIES



Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Using strategic and creative thinking to make decisions and evaluate solutions



Teamwork and Collaboration

Working as a productive member of a group and collaborating with others to achieve set goals



Professionalism and Work Ethic

Demonstrating personal management practices and a high level of integrity and ethical behaviour



Communication

Appropriate and effective articulation of ideas and information to a range of audiences



Campus Resources

- Research scholarships and bursaries through the **Student Awards and Financial Aid Office**
- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** for help with academic assignments
- Explore mentorship opportunities through the **Connecting4Success (C4S)** and **Bounce Back** programs
- Improve study skills through the **Skills to Enhance Personal Success (STEPS)** program
- Get advice and support about your academic status by making an appointment with **Academic Advising**
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Look into the **Ignite: Work Study** program for on-campus employment opportunities
- Apply to **VIP** to get involved in a community service learning experience
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career Development and Experiential Learning**
- Consult with the **EPICentre** if you are interested in starting your own business
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Find support for Indigenous learners and broaden your understanding of Indigenous culture by visiting **Turtle Island**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services** and **Lancer Recreation**
- Receive confidential mental health counselling delivered by trained professionals at the **Student Counselling Centre**
- Seek personal support or learn more about sexual violence education through the **Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention Office**

Student Recruitment

Phone: 519-973-7014
Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860
Email: info@uwindsor.ca

School of Creative Arts - Visual Arts

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2829
Email: soca@uwindsor.ca

Career Development and Experiential Learning

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 3895
Email: careerservices@uwindsor.ca
experience.uwindsor.ca



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