

Archived: September 9, 2021

Art, Design and Performing Arts Programs

Visual Art (BA)

Location Offered:

Nanaimo

Credential:

Bachelor Degree

Options:

Major, Minor

Program Length:

4 Years

The Program

Vancouver Island University offers an opportunity for undergraduates to study Visual Art as a Major or Minor in a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree. Both options provide an opportunity for students to complement their degree in Visual Art with courses in other disciplines, including Business, Marketing, Theatre, Biology, History, Psychology, Anthropology, Education, Sciences, Media Studies and Creative Writing.

The BA Major offers a professional focus on all aspects of studio art, as well as academic classroom experience. Students may take this degree with a wide variety of electives or they may combine this Major with a Minor in another discipline. The latter may be appropriate to an individual student's academic and/or career goals, enhancing their preparation for a competitive job market. Both options strengthen employment or postgraduate study opportunities and equip students with technical, critical thinking, visual literacy and career adaptability skills.

A BA Minor in Visual Art may be combined with a Major or a Minor in another academic discipline and is appropriate for students contemplating a number of professional choices.

In years one and two, the BA Major and Minor in Visual Art emphasize art-making in a broad range of media with associated techniques and provide a conceptual foundation within the context of contemporary art and art history. In years three and four, the curriculum broadens into greater emphasis on interdisciplinary content, contemporary working methods and cultural theory.

Note: All students enrolled in Art or Design studio courses offered within VIU's Art and Design department must complete mandatory safety training session(s) before they will be allowed to use the department's facilities. Each student must purchase and use safety equipment as specified by the department and sold through the VIU Campus Store.

Program Outline

Requirements for a Major

Students must fulfill all the Institutional B.A./B.Sc. requirements as outlined in the Calendar, including Degree English Requirements and courses listed below:

| Year 1 | Credits |
|---|----------------|
| ARTS 101 - (Drawing I) | 3 |
| ARTS 110 - (Contemporary Art: Concepts and Terminology) | 3 |
| ARTS 111 - (History of Western Art I) | 3 |
| ARTS 112 - (History of Western Art II) | 3 |
| ARTS 120 - (Two-Dimensional Design) | 3 |
| ARTS 121 - (Three-Dimensional Design) | 3 |
| Degree English Requirement | 6 |
| <i>Six</i> elective credits | 6 |
| Total Credits | 30 |

| Year 2 | Credits |
|---|----------------|
| ARTS 212 - (Survey of European and American Art From 1900 to the Present) <i>or</i> , ARTS 216 - (Art of West Coast First Nations I) | 3 |
| Select <i>twelve</i> credits of Studio ARTS electives. | 12 |
| <i>Fifteen</i> elective credits | 15 |
| Total Credits | 30 |

| Year 3 | Credits |
|---|----------------|
| ARTS 301 - (Advanced Drawing I) | 3 |
| ARTS 302 - (Advanced Drawing II) | 3 |
| ARTS 310 - (Cultural Studies in the Visual Arts) | 3 |
| Select <i>six</i> credits of upper-level Studio ARTS courses. | 6 |
| <i>Fifteen</i> elective credits | 15 |
| Total Credits | 30 |

| Year 4 | Credits |
|---|----------------|
| ARTS 430 - (Art Careers/Curatorial Practices) | 3 |
| ARTS 484 - (Advanced Studio: Multi-Disciplinary) | 3 |
| ARTS 486 - (Graduating Project) | 3 |
| Select <i>six</i> credits of upper-level Studio ARTS courses. | 6 |
| <i>Fifteen</i> elective credits | 15 |
| Total Credits | 30 |

Requirements for a Minor

Students must fulfill all the Institutional B.A. degree requirements, including Degree English Requirements and courses listed below:

| Years 1 and 2 * | Credits |
|--|----------------|
| ARTS 101 - (Drawing I) | 3 |
| ARTS 112 - (History of Western Art II) | 3 |
| ARTS 120 - (Two-Dimensional Design) | 3 |
| ARTS 254 - (Painting I) | 3 |
| ARTS 301 - (Advanced Drawing I) | 3 |
| ARTS 302 - (Advanced Drawing II) | 3 |

* ARTS 102, 111 and 121 are highly recommended.

| Years 3 and 4 | Credits |
|--|----------------|
| ARTS 310 - (Cultural Studies in the Visual Arts) | 3 |
| ARTS 354 - (Painting III) | 3 |
| ARTS 384 - (Two- and Three- Dimensional Studies) | 3 |
| ARTS 484 - (Advanced Studio: Multi-Disciplinary) | 3 |

Note: For Independent Studies courses offering advanced study check the online calendar list of Independent Studies courses.

Please see course descriptions for prerequisites. Students must take Art courses in the correct sequence.

Admission Requirements

- Students entering first year courses must come to the Art Department Portfolio/Interview Session with a portfolio that meets the Application Portfolio Requirements. Students will be advised of the status of their application as soon as possible following their interview with the Selection Committee. For interview dates, please contact the Admissions office, 250-740-6400.
- Admission to upper-level courses is based upon a portfolio review by the Art and Design review committee. All students seeking admission to 200-level and above studio courses must submit their portfolios by March 15.

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