

# Fine Arts

## Undergraduate Degree Programs

**General B.A. 3 Year Fine Arts in Studio or Art History and Visual Culture or Film Studies and Visual Culture**

**General B.A. 4 Year Fine Arts in Studio or Art History and Visual Culture or Film Studies and Visual Culture**

**Honours B.A. Fine Arts in Studio or Art History and Visual Culture or Film Studies and Visual Culture**

**Honours B.A. Fine Arts in Studio & Art History**

**Honours B.A. Fine Arts in Studio or Art History and Visual Culture or Film Studies and Visual Culture (Arts and Business Co-op and Regular)**

**Joint Honours Fine Arts in Studio, Art History and Visual Culture or Film Studies and Visual Culture**

**Minor in Studio or Visual Culture in a Global Context**

**Fine Arts - Teaching Preparation Specialization**

**Professional Practice Specialization**

Our Fine Arts Department consists of 8 full-time faculty members and about 125 students, working together in East Campus Hall, an outstanding facility situated on the eastern edge of the university campus. This renovated structure provides nearly 30,000 square feet of space for studios, a digital lab, lecture halls, and art galleries (including the University of Waterloo Art Gallery) critique areas, workshops, offices, a digital resource library, and other facilities.

The Department of Fine Arts offers a full range of courses with concentrations in studio, art history, film studies and visual culture. Selection of Fine Arts as a major (or minor) normally occurs at the end of first term. Admission to the Studio specialization is by prerequisite *and* a portfolio review in the first year. Portfolios are not required for admission to the University but are created in first year under our instruction.

The **Studio Program** has 5 areas of concentration: painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking and digital imaging. Students are encouraged to take courses in at least two of these areas. The focus of the program is to develop technical and creative capacities and to understand the origins and cultural significance of art, within a university setting. In the final year of the Honours Studio program students work independently on individual projects. They are provided with their own studios, available 24 hours a day, and they present their work for critique by faculty members, visiting artists and fellow students. At the end of the year, the fourth-year Honours Fine Arts Studio students display their work in a group exhibition which consistently receives high acclaim.

The **Art History and Visual Culture Program** critically examines the role of the visual image in society. While there is a strong concentration on the modern era, courses that focus on pre-modern eras offer a firm foundation. The program draws upon the University's strength in visual culture in a variety of disciplines: the core courses are taught within the department of Fine Arts but students can also take relevant courses offered in English, Germanic and Slavic Studies, Drama (including Digital Arts Communication), Classics, and Architecture. In the final year of the honours program, students write an honours thesis carried out independently and supervised by a faculty member.

The **Film Studies and Visual Culture Program** examines the role of film and film history in the modern world. A study of relevant theory and criticism situates film within the wider context of visual culture. There is a strong emphasis on international cinema and the courses are taught by professors in a range of departments including Fine Arts, Germanic and Slavic, English, and Drama. In the final year of the honours program, students write an honours thesis carried out independently and supervised by a faculty member.

**Minor in Visual Culture in a Global Context** is a program that is open to students who are pursuing majors in other disciplines. The minor consists of a core of three courses that introduce visual culture and explore theories of visual culture, plus a selection of courses from a range of disciplines that are also associated with the Art History and Visual Culture and Film Studies and Visual Culture programs (see above).

The Fine Arts Department offers the **Fine Arts Teaching Preparation Specialization** which is excellent preparation for those students who wish to proceed to teacher's college and pursue a career in teaching.

## Courses in the Major

Acrylic and Mixed Media  
Advanced Ceramic Studio  
Advanced Studies in Greek Art and Architecture  
Advanced Studies in Roman Art and Architecture  
Advanced Studio Practice  
American Film  
Appreciation and Expression  
Art and Gender  
Art History and Visual Culture  
Visual Studies Across the Discipline  
Art of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century in Europe  
Art of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century in Europe  
Art of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century in Europe  
Art, 1780-1875  
Canadian Art from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century to 1940  
Central and East European Film  
Clay Studies  
Contemporary Art  
Contemporary Italian Film  
Costume Design  
Design for the Theatre  
Digital Imaging  
Experimental Drawing  
Expressive Drawing  
Figure and Anatomy  
Film and Television  
Film as Social Criticism  
Film Noir  
Film Studies Seminar  
Fine Arts Abroad  
Fine Arts Abroad - Preparation  
Fine Arts Internship  
First Nations' Art in Canada  
French Film After 1945  
German and Russian Film Pioneers  
German Film Classics  
German Filmmakers in Hollywood  
Global Queer Cinema  
History of Animated Film  
History of Art Academies  
History of Costume  
History of Film 1 (1895-1940)  
History of Film 2 (After 1941)  
Honours Art History Research  
Honours Art History Thesis  
Honours Film Studies Thesis  
Honours Studio Art History Research  
Honours Studio Practicum  
Honours Studio Thesis  
Hybrid Digital Media  
International Comics and Animation Film  
Medieval Art and Architecture  
Methods and Materials of Sculpture  
Methods in the History of Art  
Mixed Multiples  
Modern Art, 1874-1945  
Modern Art, 1940-1970  
Modern British Film  
Musical Theatre and Musical Film  
New Cinemas of East Asia (from 1985)  
Observational Drawing

The **Professional Practice Specialization** provides students with practical experience in the business of art, beyond the academic studio environment.

The Fine Arts Department also takes part in the **Fine and Performing Arts Option** which allows students to gain theoretical and applied experience across a wide range of Fine and Performing Arts including Drama, Fine Arts and Music.

### Why Fine Arts at Waterloo?

Our program has the following features:

**We are small enough to be personal.** We are able to follow the individual progress of our students and give them many opportunities to get to know their professors in informal gatherings. These are organized by the students and by faculty and may include receptions for visiting artists, openings of exhibitions, field trips to galleries in Toronto, New York and Chicago, and participation in the Society of Fine Arts (S.O.F.A.).

**Our programs are distinctive.** We require no portfolio for admission into the first-year studio courses. For admission into the Studio major or minor program, students must have successfully completed the first-year studio courses and have presented a portfolio of work from these courses for review. This allows us to know our students, their technical skills and their individual direction.

**Fourth year projects.** Our fourth-year courses allow students, with the help of a faculty advisor, to work on independent projects. This involves the creation of a sophisticated body of work for studio students, or the research, writing and presentation of a major paper for art history and visual culture or film studies and visual culture students. This is an intensive experience with group faculty critiques, meetings with visiting artists and scholars, as well as informal discussions and gallery visits.

**Our faculty is varied and distinguished.** Our faculty have strong national and international profiles as artists, historians and critics, and each brings a different approach to their practice. Consequently, our students are exposed to a wide variety of approaches and techniques. Equal gender balance has traditionally been maintained, as far as possible, since the beginning of the program in the 1960s. The faculty are also deeply committed to teaching and to bringing out the best in their students. Exceptional sessional faculty complement our regular teaching staff.

**Visiting artists program.** The department's visiting artist program has several artists and scholars who participate each year. Each visitor presents a talk on their work and has individual and group critiques with undergraduate and graduate students. The visiting artists program brings further diversity to our program.

**Courses abroad.** Optional courses abroad are regularly offered. These include trips to England, Mexico, India, France, and Italy. In addition to enhancing the Fine Arts experience, these courses greatly enrich a student's overall undergraduate experience.

**First-class facilities.** Our department has a complete wood shop, a ceramics studio with several electric kilns, a sculpture studio including welding facilities, a computer lab, a photography darkroom, a printmaking studio for intaglio, lithography and woodblock, as well as large painting/drawing studios, gallery/critique areas and lecture theatres fully equipped with the latest computer and audio visual equipment. The studio facilities are available to students outside regular class hours and students have access to them 24 hours a day.

### Co-operative Programs in Arts

Honours Fine Arts students may pursue co-operative education through:

**Arts and Business Co-op** - a direct entry program through which students complete their honours major and core Arts and Business courses in areas such as accounting, economics, languages, history, political science, business management, and leadership training. Five paid work terms alternate with academic terms on a four-month rotation. All students spend eight months on campus during their first year.

There are four optional specializations available for Arts and Business Co-op students:

- Digital Arts Communication
- Global Engagement
- Human Resources Management
- International Trade

### MFA Program

The Fine Arts department also offers a Masters degree in Fine Arts Studio.

Oil Painting  
Painting  
Philosophy of Art  
Photography  
Plays on Film  
Principles of Sculpture  
Printmaking  
Religion in Popular Film  
Renaissance Art, 1300-1500  
Scenic Painting  
Senior General Art History Project  
Senior General Film Studies Project  
Senior Seminar in Film Concepts  
Studio Fundamentals  
Studio Practice  
Survey of Greek Art and Architecture  
Survey of Roman Art and Architecture  
The Cinema of Science Fiction  
The New Hollywood  
Thematic Approaches to Religion in Film  
Time-based Media  
Topics Course in Museums, Galleries, Curatorship  
Topics in Art History  
Topics in Film Studies  
Topics in Fine Arts Experiential Learning  
Topics in Fine Arts Experiential Learning  
Topics in German Film  
Topics in Studio Practice  
Visual Culture in Theory  
Women and Film  
World Cinema and Visual Culture

### Careers

Here is a small sample of positions held by graduates who majored in Fine Arts:

Art Consultant in Education  
Art Director  
Art Historian  
Art Therapist  
Computer Animator  
Conservationist  
Curator  
Director of Animation Firm  
Director of Video Firm  
Elementary & Secondary School Teacher  
Film Archivist  
Film Maker  
Film Producer  
Film Programmer  
Gallery Director  
Graphic Artist  
Interior Designer  
Jewellery Designer  
Librarian & Slide Librarian  
Marketing Manager  
Researcher  
Sales Consultant, Art Supplies  
Web Designer

**For more information about Fine Arts, Please visit:**

[www.finearts.uwaterloo.ca](http://www.finearts.uwaterloo.ca)

**For admission information, questions about your application, or to arrange a campus visit please call:**

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