

VISUAL ARTS

# Experience Map



**PROMISE**  
@uwindsor.ca



University  
of Windsor

VISUAL ARTS

VISUAL ARTS AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

MEDIA ART HISTORIES AND VISUAL CULTURE

INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS AND SCIENCE

EXPERIENCE.UWINDSOR.CA

# VISUAL ARTS

## SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE OF VISUAL ARTS GRADUATES

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

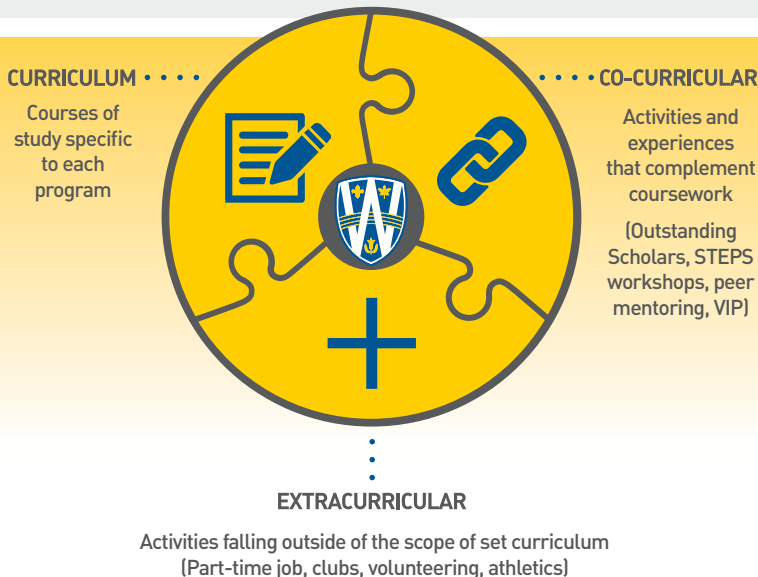
**Visual Arts** – You, the developing artist, will benefit from excellent working space in our stunning new facility, an invaluable foundation of skills, supportive faculty and the opportunity to explore, share and realize individual creativity and expression. We offer in-depth studio practices and art 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.

**Visual Arts and Built Environment (VABE)** – This cross-border program, offered in conjunction with the University of Detroit Mercy School of Architecture, combines the study of art and architecture and offers breadth of knowledge and experience in both disciplines. You'll receive a BFA in Visual Arts and a BSc in Architecture. You must be a Canadian citizen.

**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.

### 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



### 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.

# Experience Map

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is meant to help you explore various opportunities throughout the course of your UWindsor experience. It is intended to help you link academics, co-curricular, extra-curricular and career planning activities by suggesting some of the options available to you. This is to help you see what you can do, rather than what you are required to do!

## Academics



### First Year

- Take required courses including Contemporary Visual Culture and Studio Practice and Ideas courses
- Meet with the departmental undergraduate co-ordinator or an assigned faculty advisor to help you choose your courses and get you set on the right track
- Review degree course requirements through MyUWindsor portal and the Degree Audit Record System (DARS)
- 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

## Experience



- Join a club like the Visual Arts Society, 3D Print Club or UWSA
- Explore such free "SOCA Presents" events 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 the Volunteer Internship Program (VIP)\*
- Investigate research opportunities as part of the Outstanding Scholars program\*
- Research international student exchange opportunities for middle years, especially in the UK\*

## Career



- Create a list of things that you enjoy, areas in which you excel, and your skills
- 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.
- Meet with Career & Employment Services (CES) to develop a plan for your future years
- Consider taking an interest assessment to help you identify possible career paths
- Attend a CES workshop to learn how to find a summer or part-time job
- Become familiar with the mySuccess online job search tool
- Attend a CES resumé and cover letter workshop to get your resumé critiqued

## Middle Years

- 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\*
- 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
- Apply for entry into final year of Architecture at University of Detroit Mercy (VABE students)
- Start taking the required pre-requisites for graduate/professional school

- Join a professional association in your field such as the Ontario Association of Architects (for VABE students)
- Participate in the UWill Discover undergraduate research conference\*
- 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\*
- 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\*

- Research career fields and occupations
- Explore opportunities and meet employers through a job fair or employer information session
- Attend the Graduate and Professional Schools Fair to explore further educational opportunities
- Analyze the requirements for graduate or professional schools
- Make an appointment with Career & Employment Services to explore career options
- Create a LinkedIn profile and have it critiqued
- Take part in informational interviews through such sources as Ten Thousand Coffees

## Final Year

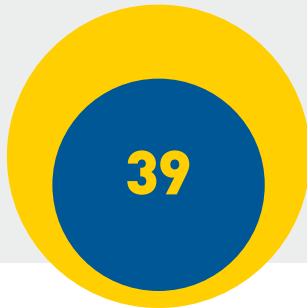
- Meet with faculty and academic advisor to review degree requirements
- Complete all required courses to fulfill degree audit
- Make sure all 400-level courses are completed in both Studio areas and Media Art History/Visual Culture
- Apply to graduate through MyUWindsor Portal
- Take a Visual Arts Independent Study course\*
- Work with a faculty member on a research project or publication\*
- Complete required courses for Arts Management Certificate
- Consider taking an internship course\*

- Become a teaching assistant or research assistant\*
- Conduct field research with faculty member\*
- Become a tutor for Students Offering Support (SOS)
- Complete a thesis and present work at thesis show (BFA students)\*
- Work with a campus department to help produce artistic ideas for marketing or promotional videos

- Consider applying to graduate or professional school. Be aware of early application deadlines
- Meet with Career & Employment Services to prepare such application documents as a resumé, cover letter, CV or personal statement
- Attend an Interview Skills Workshop and Job Search Tips Workshop
- Set up a mock interview for professional school or job applications
- Meet employers at the annual job fair in January
- Compose a portfolio of relevant academic and work experience

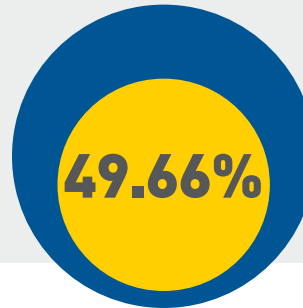
## LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

2016



Number of University of Windsor graduates from Visual Arts programs in 2016.

2013



Percentage of Canadian university design, music, performing, fine and applied arts graduates who continued their studies post-bachelor degree. (National Graduates Study 2013)



### 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       | Conservator         | Journalist             | Professor             |
| Architect                 | Creative director   | Lawyer                 | Project manager       |
| Art gallery manager       | Curator             | Marketing manager      | Research co-ordinator |
| Art therapist             | Development officer | Multimedia illustrator | Set designer          |
| Arts administrator        | Entrepreneur        | Museum director        | Studio co-ordinator   |
| Cinematographer           | Graphic designer    | Photographer           | Teacher               |
| Communications specialist | Interior designer   | Professional artist    | 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

- Critically analyzing problems, thinking creatively, and making appropriately reasoned decisions
- Appreciating the importance and function of context to work through problems
- Effectively criticizing/evaluating texts and images in terms of formal choices and techniques



#### Teamwork and Collaboration: Working as a productive member of a group and collaborating with others to achieve set goals

- Organizing and leading groups; facilitating change and understanding among group members
- Leading and interacting with colleagues who reflect different backgrounds, learning styles, and approaches
- Overseeing contributions to a project, determining outcomes, planning details, delegating, and completing tasks



#### Professionalism and Work Ethic: Demonstrating personal management practices and a high level of integrity and ethical behaviour

- Maintaining high levels of concentration and detail
- Managing time, materials, and resources to meet deadlines
- Exercising unusually high levels of emotional intelligence



#### Communication: Appropriate and effective articulation of ideas and information to a range of audiences

- Preparing and delivering visually aided presentations and reports using sophisticated technologies
- Expressing oneself through a variety of creative means
- Communicating effectively and efficiently in writing, sound, and images to convey messages



## CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** on the main floor for help with academic assignments
- Improve study skills through the **Skills To Enhance Personal Success (STEPS)** program
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Explore mentorship opportunities through the **Connecting4Success (C4S)** and **Bounce Back** programs
- Apply to the **Volunteer Internship Program (VIP)** to get involved in the community
- Look into the **Work Study** program for on-campus employment opportunities
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career & Employment Services**
- Consult with the **EPICentre** if you are interested in starting your own business
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services, Lancer Recreation** and the **Student Counselling Centre**

### Recruitment Office

Phone: 519-973-7014  
Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860  
Email: [info@uwindsor.ca](mailto:info@uwindsor.ca)

### School of Creative Arts – Visual Arts/VABE

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2829  
Email: [art@uwindsor.ca](mailto:art@uwindsor.ca)

### Career and Employment Services

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 3895  
Email: [careerservices@uwindsor.ca](mailto:careerservices@uwindsor.ca)  
[experience.uwindsor.ca](http://experience.uwindsor.ca)



University  
of Windsor

**PROMISE**  
@ [uwindsor.ca](http://uwindsor.ca)