

Your Program Requirements

This program guide defines the 20.0 credits required for the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Criticism & Curatorial Practice, including Major requirements (specific courses and course options), Arts & Science requirements and open electives.

Of the 20.0 credits required, the following applies:

- No more than 6.0 credits may be at the 1000 level
- At least 5.0 credits must be at the 3000 level or higher, including at least 1.0 credit at the 4000 level or higher
- At least 1.5 credits of Arts & Science courses must be at the 3000 or 4000 level

Reading Your Program Guide

Course Codes

Codes begin with a four letter subject code followed by four digits. The first digit indicates the year level of the course. For example, *GRPH-2004* designates a specific *Graphic Design* course at the *2000 level*. Generally, students complete 1000 and 2000 level courses before 3000 and 4000 level courses.

Course Weight

- 0.5 credit courses typically meet three hours per week for a 12-week term.
- 1.0 credit courses typically meet six hours per week for a 12-week term.

Major Requirements - Course Options

Although a specific number of credits are required from each category, you may choose to take additional courses from these lists as open electives.

Sample 4 Year Plan & Helpful Planning Information (at the end of this package)

The program is structured so that it can be completed in four years, by a student taking 2.5 credits per term in the fall and winter terms (a limited number of courses are also offered in the spring/summer terms). The sample plan will help you plan your courses.

In addition to general planning tips and suggested pathways, the helpful planning information can include recommended courses for your program and tips on meeting prerequisites for electives you may want to take.

If you want to accelerate your program progression, are attending part time or with a reduced course load, and require planning support, please contact **Student Advising** at ocadu.ca/services/academic-advising.

More Information

Your program and degree requirements are also reflected on your **My Progress** page within My OCAD U Records (Self-Service) at selfservice.ocadu.ca/student.

View course offerings (available sections), course descriptions, prerequisites and more in the **Course Catalogue** at selfservice.ocadu.ca/student/courses.

View **videos and guides** on program planning and registration at ocadu.ca/reg-guides.

Criticism & Curatorial Practice – 2024/2025 Program Guide

Major Requirements

Specific Courses:

Course Code	Course Title	Course Credit
GART-1040	Drawing Across Disciplines	1.0 credit
GART-1041	Form and Time	1.0 credit
CRCP-2002	Museums, Galleries, Alternates	0.5 credit
CRCP-2004	Criticism Practice	0.5 credit
CROS-2002	Contemporary Issues	0.5 credit
VISC-2016	Art History & Visual Culture	0.5 credit
CRCP-3001	A Question of Beauty: Reframed	0.5 credit
CRCP-3002	Curatorial Practice	0.5 credit
CRCP-3005	Cultural Agents	0.5 credit
Total Course Credits: 5.5 credits		

Course Options: Complete the identified number of courses from EACH of the categories below.

Course Code	Course Title	Course Credit
Category A – Choose ONE course from the list below:		0.5 credit
VISA-2002	History of Modern Art	
VISA-2003	History of Photography	
VISA-2006	Canadian Art: The Modern Era	
VISD-2001	History of Modern Design	
VISD-2010	Technologies of Writing	
VISM-2002	History of New Media Art	
VISA-3003	Contemporary Canadian Art	
VISA-3008	Conceptual Art Practices	
VISA-3014	History & Theory of Art Critic	
VISA-3016	Photography-Theory & Criticism	
VISA-3022	Historiographies of Art	
VISA-4022	Memory & Memorialization	
VISC-4008	Art and Design Activism	
Category B – Choose ONE course from the list below:		
IVCV-3001	Indigenous Brilliance in Art	
IVCV-3002	Sovereign Screen	
IVCV-4001	Global Views: Indigenous Art	
IVCV-4002	Issues in Inuit Art	
IVCV-4004	Indigenous Art and Activism	
IVCV-4005	Issues in Indigenous Curating	

Category C – Choose ONE course from the list below:		0.5 credit
VISA-2001	Art & Globalization 1250-1800	
VISA-3001	The Arts of Africa	
VISA-3012	Latin American Art	
VISA-3017	South Asian Art - The Sacred	
VISA-3018	South Asian Art: Modernisms	
VISA-3028	Art & Arch-The Islamic World	
VISA-3031	Modern East Asian Art	
VISA-3032	Art & Globalization 1800-Pres	
VISA-4001	Latin American Contemp. Art	
VISA-4006	Modern Korean Art & Society	
VISA-4015	Art of the Black Diaspora	
VISA-4024	East Asian Art: pre-1800	
Category D – Choose TWO courses from the list below:		1.0 credit
GART-1030	Curating: Nature & Culture	
GART-1032	Site & Intervention	
ASOC-2001	Art & Social Change I	
ASOC-2002	Making Gender:LGBTQ2S+ Studio	
ASOC-2003	Writer in Community	
PRPB-2006	Introduction to Publications	
ASOC-3003	Art & Social Change 2	
Category E – Choose ONE course from the list below:		0.5 credit
CROS-3018	Networks and Post-Digital Art	
CROS-3019	Complicated Bodies	
CROS-3020	Stories in Expanded Worlds	
CROS-3021	Land at the Centre	
CROS-3XXX	Untitled Studio Presentation (to be developed; not offered in 2022/2023)	
Category F – Choose ONE course from the list below:		0.5 credit
CRCP-3897	Field Placement	
CRCP-3898	Independent Study	
CROS-3001	Professional Practice	
CROS-3023	Learning in the Field I (Must be taken with CROS-3024 Learning in the Field II, which may fulfill another requirement as needed)	
CROS-3027	Art & Design Education Lab	
Category G – Complete requirements below:		
Level 1000/ 2000	Studio electives	1.0 credit
Total Course Credits: 4.5 credits		

Arts & Science Requirements:

Course Code	Course Title	Course Credit
Category H – Choose ONE course from the list below:		0.5 credit
ENGL-1003	The Essay & the Argument	
ENGL-1004	Essay and the Argument: ELL	
Category I – Choose TWO courses from the list below:		1.0 credit
IVCV-1001	Turtle Island Visual Culture	
VISC-1001	Global Vis & Mat Cult: to 1800	
VISC-1002	Global Vis & Mat Cult: to Pres	
VISC-1004	Contemporary Art and Design	
Category J – Complete requirements below:		
Level 2000/ 3000/4000	Visual culture courses (IVCV, VISA, VISC, VISD, VISM) Fulfilled by VISC-2016 and Category A required for Major program - replaced with 1.0 credit open electives below.	(1.0 credit fulfilled)
Category K – Complete requirements below:		
Level 2000/ 3000/4000	Breadth elective course (HUMN, IVCL, SCTM, SOSC)	0.5 credit
Level 2000/ 3000/4000	Breadth elective courses (ENGL, HUMN, IVCL, SCTM, SOSC)	1.0 credit
Category L – Complete requirements below:		
Level 2000/ 3000/4000	Breadth elective and/or visual culture courses (ENGL, HUMN, IVCL, IVCV, SCTM, SOSC, VISA, VISC, VISD, VISM) Fulfilled by Category B and Category C required for Major program - replaced with 1.0 credit open electives below.	(1.0 credit fulfilled)
Total Course Credits: 3.0 credits		

Open Electives:

Course Code	Course Title	Course Credit
Level 1000/ 2000/3000/ 4000 or higher	Open electives	7.0 credits
Total Course Credits: 7.0 credits		

Notes:

A **studio elective** may be chosen from any of the following subject areas: ADVR, ASOC, BUSI, CRCP, CROS, CRWR, DIGF, DRPT, ENVR, EXAN, FABR, GART, GDES, GRPH, ILLU, INDS, INTM, INVC, IVCA, IVCD, LIFE, MAAD, PHOT, PRNT, PRPB, SCIN.

An **open elective** may be chosen from any of the following subject areas: ADVR, ASOC, BUSI, CRCP, CROS, CRWR, DIGF, DRPT, ENVR, ENGL, EXAN, FABR, GART, GDES, GRPH, HUMN, ILLU, INDS, INTM, INVC, IVCA, IVCD, IVCL, IVCV, LIFE, MAAD, PHOT, PRNT, PRPB, SCIN, SCTM, SOSC, VISA, VISC, VISD, VISM.

Senior undergraduate students in good academic standing may take graduate courses at the **5000 level** from any of the following subject areas: CADN, CRCP, DHEA, DIGF, INCD, SFIN. Inquiries regarding access to 5000 level courses should be directed to the student's Faculty Office.

Students who have completed a minimum of 4.0 credits and are in good academic standing may **declare a minor**. Only open electives and general Arts & Science courses may fulfill both degree and minor requirements, subject to the credit limits stipulated in this program guide. For more information on minors: ocadu.ca/academics/minors.

Sample 4 Year Plan		Criticism & Curatorial Practice
<i>Course offerings and scheduling vary by year; in some cases it may not be possible to follow the sample plan exactly as listed.</i>		
YEAR	REQUIREMENTS	COURSE CREDIT
Year 1	Specified Course(s): GART-1040, GART-1041 and CRCP-2002	2.5 credits
	Course Option(s): Choose two courses from Category G (Recommended: GART-1030 and one course)	1.0 credit
	Arts & Science: Choose one course from Category H option list	0.5 credit
	Arts & Science: Choose two courses from Category I option list	1.0 credit
Year 2	Specified Course(s): Take CRCP-2004, CROS-2002 and VISC-2016	1.5 credits
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category A option list	0.5 credit
	Course Option(s): Choose two courses from Category D option list	1.0 credit
	Arts & Science: Choose one course from Category K	0.5 credit
	Open Elective(s): Choose three courses	1.5 credits
Year 3	Specified Course(s): Take CRCP-3001, CRCP-3002 and CRCP-3005	1.5 credits
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category B option list	0.5 credit
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category C option list	0.5 credit
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category E option list	0.5 credit
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category F option list	0.5 credit
	Open Elective(s): Choose three courses	1.5 credits
Year 4	Arts & Science: Choose two courses from Category K	1.0 credit
	Open Elective(s): Choose eight courses	4.0 credits
Notes:		
Open electives, Arts & Science courses, and Year 3 and 4 requirements, may be taken in any order, subject to meeting course prerequisites.		
Ensure that overall requirements are met (minimum and maximum requirements for year level and Arts & Science).		

Helpful Planning Information - Criticism & Curatorial Practice

General Planning Tips:

- When planning your courses, keep in mind that **Specific Courses** required for your Major focus on core concepts related to criticism and curating. **Course Options** support deepening and broadening the social, cultural, aesthetic, and political frameworks and contexts for an art/design/media criticism and curatorial practice, allowing you flexibility to direct your studies.
- There are **five required CRCP courses** at the 2000 and 3000 level: CRCP-2002 *Museums, Galleries, Alternates*, CRCP-2004 *Criticism Practice*, CRCP-3001 *A Question of Beauty: Reframed*, CRCP-3002 *Curatorial Practice* and CRCP-3005 *Cultural Agents*. There is also a **curatorial-focused elective** course at the 1000 level: GART-1030 *Curating: Nature & Culture*.
- In your first year of study, it is highly recommended that you take **GART-1030 Curating: Nature & Culture** and **CRCP-2002 Museums, Galleries, Alternates**, which are open to first-year students. These two courses provide a solid introduction to the criticism and curatorial fields.
- In your second and third years of study, you should complete the **Specific Courses** required for your Major (5.5 credits in total). This gives you flexibility in your fourth year to focus on thesis or independent study options, field placement opportunities, and/or complete a minor.
- In your third and fourth years of study, the **experiential learning course options (Category F)** provide opportunities for making connections and gaining professional experience, which assist in and can lead to future employment prospects.
 - A field placement provides hands-on experience in an area of interest with a gallery, publisher, magazine, artist/publisher or other setting of your choice. This requires personal initiative in approaching the organization of your choice for a placement, while the *Centre for Emerging Artists and Designers* provides assistance and advice.
 - The CROS-3023/CROS-3024 *Learning in the Field I/II* and CROS-3027 *Art & Design Education Lab* courses offer more support and structure while providing internship placements.
 - The CROS-3001 *Professional Practice* course provides information about the practicalities of an art career.
- Throughout your four years of study, you will need to complete required **Specific Courses, Course Options** and **Arts & Science Requirements**. The remaining **Open Electives** provide you with the opportunity to broaden your range of interests and knowledge and to undertake a minor. When planning your course selection, ensure that you have the necessary pre-requisites and level requirements.
- **Undertaking a minor** provides you with an additional field of study and an organizational focus for your elective choices. Popular minors for Criticism & Curatorial Practice students include Art & Social Change, Creative Writing, English, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and Indigenous Visual Culture. You can also use

your Open Electives to undertake a minor in another Faculty of Art program (such as Drawing & Painting, Integrated Media, Photography, Printmaking & Publications, Sculpture/Installation) to complement the more academic orientation of Criticism & Curatorial Practice.

- If you do not choose to do a minor, you should consider choosing your electives from the lists of Course Options as they are a good fit with your Major. If you take more courses than the minimum requirement to fulfill the Course Options categories, these courses will count towards Open Electives.
- It is strongly recommended to reach out to your Program Chair, at any year level, for more information on specific courses or pathways that will serve and enrich your individual interests.

Planning for Fourth/Final Year:

- Fourth year offers students the flexibility to undertake a thesis or independent study; gain professional experience through field placements; complete a minor; and/or take more courses in a specific area of interest.
- The independent study option (Category F) offers students the opportunity to work with an individual faculty member on a self-directed criticism or curatorial project. The independent study can be weighted at 0.5 or 1.0 credit.
- When undertaken in fourth year, the field placement (Category F) option can potentially lead to employment opportunities after graduation. As noted, the *Centre for Emerging Artists and Designers* provides support for field placements.
- Please note that a maximum of 1.5 credits can be taken in independent study and/or field placements.
- Students who want to focus on a more studio-based body of work have the option of taking the CROS 4901 *Open Studio Thesis: Research* and CROS 4902 *Open Studio Thesis: Presentation*. These intensive interdisciplinary thesis courses provide the opportunity to develop a major portfolio of work for future exhibitions, graduate school portfolios or various employment opportunities. CRCP-focused thesis projects have included publications, exhibitions, events, and community-led initiatives.
- Students can also elect to take a selection of courses in their fourth year from Course Options or from across the university to broaden their areas of expertise, and/or to complete a minor field of study. While students must complete 1.0 credit at the 4000 level, they can choose additional courses from 3000 or 4000 level offerings.

Planning for Specific Pathways:

- If you are intending to pursue a MFA program in Curatorial Studies or Studio Arts, you should consider undertaking an independent study or the CROS-4901 and CROS-4902 Open Studio thesis courses to develop a project/body of work that will prepare you for graduate programs.

- If you are intending to pursue a MA in Curatorial Studies or Art History / Humanities / Arts Administration, you should consider undertaking a Faculty of Arts & Science minor that strengthens your expertise in these fields of study.
- If you are intending to seek employment opportunities in the criticism writing, publishing, gallery, and curatorial fields upon graduating, you should consider taking at least one field placement.