

Your Program Requirements

This program guide defines the 20.0 credits required for the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Drawing & Painting, 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.

Drawing & Painting – 2026/2027 Program Guide

Major Requirements

Specific Courses:

Course Code	Course Title	Course Credit
DRPT-1003	Painting I	0.5 credit
GART-1040	Drawing Across Disciplines	1.0 credit
GART-1041	Form and Time	1.0 credit
CROS-2002	Contemporary Issues	0.5 credit
DRPT-2016	Painting Studio	1.0 credit
DRPT-2023	Contemporary Painting	0.5 credit
DRPT-3022	Independent Studio Strategies	1.0 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
IVCV-1001	Turtle Island Visual Culture	
VISA-2002	History of Modern Art	
VISA-2006	Canadian Art: The Modern Era	
VISC-2016	Analyzing Visual Culture	
VISM-2002	History of New Media Art	
Category B – Complete requirement below:		
Level 1000/2000/ 3000/4000	INVC, IVCA, IVCD, IVCL, IVCV course	0.5 credit
Approved substitute:		
CROS-3021	Land At the Centre (taken in 2023/2024)	
Category C – 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	

Category D – Choose ONE course from the list below:		0.5 credit
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	
DRPT-3897	Field Placement	
Category E – Complete 2.0 credits from the options below, including at least 1.0 credit at the 4000 level:		2.0 credits
DRPT-4901	Thesis: Studio Research (1.0 credit) AND	
DRPT-4902	Thesis: Presentation (1.0 credit)	
OR		
CROS-4901	Open Studio Thesis: Research (1.0 credit)	
CROS-4902	Open Studio Thesis: Presentation (1.0 credit)	
Level 3000/4000	Studio Electives	
Total Course Credits: 4.0 credits		

Arts & Science Requirements:

Course Code	Course Title	Course Credit
Category F – Choose ONE course from the list below:		0.5 credit
ENGL-1003	The Essay & the Argument	
ENGL-1004	Essay and the Argument: ELL	
Category G – Choose TWO courses from the list below:		1.0 credit*
IVCV-1001	Turtle Island Visual Culture	
VISC-1001	Global Vis & Mat Cult: to 1500	
VISC-1002	Global Vis & Mat Cult: to Pres	
VISC-1004	Contemporary Art and Design	
Category H – Complete requirements below:		
Level 2000/ 3000/4000	Visual culture courses (IVCV, VISA, VISC, VISD, VISM)	1.0 credit*
Category I – 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 J – Complete requirements below:		
Level 2000/ 3000/4000	Breadth elective and/or visual culture courses (ENGL, HUMN, IVCL, IVCV, SCTM, SOSC, VISA, VISC, VISD, VISM)	1.0 credit
Total Course Credits: 5.0 credits*		

* Visual culture courses (IVCV, VISA, VISC, VISD, VISM) taken to fulfill Major requirements may also fulfill Arts & Science requirements. In this case, replace the credit value in this section with an open elective(s).

For example: If you take VISA-2002 as a course option for your Major, it will also fulfill 0.5 credit visual culture course requirement in this section. Replace this 0.5 credit with an open elective.

Open Electives:

Course Code	Course Title	Course Credit
Level 1000/ 2000/3000/ 4000 or higher	Open electives	5.5 credits
Total Course Credits: 5.5 credits		

Notes:

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		Drawing & Painting
<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): Take DRPT-1003, GART-1040 and GART-1041	2.5 credits
	Arts & Science: Choose one course from Category F option list	0.5 credit
	Arts & Science: Choose two courses from Category G option list	1.0 credit
	Open Elective(s): Choose two courses	1.0 credit
Year 2	Specified Course(s): Take CROS-2002, DRPT-2016 and DRPT-2023	2.0 credits
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category A option list	0.5 credit
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category B option list	0.5 credit
	Arts & Science: Choose two courses from Category H, I and/or J	1.0 credit
	Open Elective(s): Choose two courses	1.0 credit
Year 3	Specified Course(s): Take DRPT-3022	1.0 credit
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category C option list	0.5 credit
	Course Option(s): Choose one course from Category D option list	0.5 credit
	Arts & Science: Choose three courses from Category H, I and/or J	1.5 credits
	Open Elective(s): Choose three courses	1.5 credits
Year 4	Course Option(s): Choose 2.0 credits from Category E option list	2.0 credits
	Arts & Science: Choose three courses from Category H, I and/or J	1.5 credits
	Open Elective(s): Choose three courses	1.5 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 – Drawing & Painting

General Planning Tips:

- Open Electives can be fulfilled from across programs, allowing you to explore electives in other disciplines, as well as take additional Drawing & Painting courses to address your interests.
- When choosing Open Electives, we recommend you consider the courses in the Course Options categories as these courses are a good fit with your Major. If you take more courses than the minimum requirement to fulfill the Course Options category, these courses will fulfill Open Electives.
- In your third and fourth years of study, the experiential learning course options (**Category D**) 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 an artist, gallery, arts admin organization 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-3001 *Professional Practice* course provides information about the practicalities of an art career.
 - 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.

Planning for Fourth/Final Year:

- For your final year you have three options to culminate your degree:
 - **Option 1:** DRPT-4901 *Thesis: Studio Research* (1.0 credit) and DRPT-4902 *Thesis: Presentation* (1.0 credit). In this version of the program, you will spend the year preparing your studio research and developing a project/body of work for your culminating graduation exhibition.
 - **Option 2:** CROS-4901 *Open Studio Thesis: Research* (1.0 credit) and CROS-4902 *Open Studio Thesis: Presentation* (1.0 credit). In these courses you will be grouped with an interdisciplinary cohort from across the Faculty of Art, preparing your studio research and developing a project/body of work for your graduation exhibition.
 - **Option 3:** You will choose any 2.0 credits of 3000 and/or 4000 level Studio Electives in your area of interest, in order to culminate your degree and produce artworks for your graduation exhibition.
- If you intend to pursue a Master's program, you should consider undertaking thesis courses, as they build skills that can help prepare students for graduate programs.

- If you intend to pursue Art Teaching as a profession upon graduation, you are encouraged to take electives such as CROS-3027 *Art & Design Education Lab*, CROS-4007 *Art & Design Ed: Community*, CROS-3001 *Professional Practice*, and consider a field placement with an arts education institution.
- If you intend to pursue a career in arts administration, museum or gallery work, consider taking electives from the Criticism & Curatorial Practice program, such as CRCP-2002 *Museums, Galleries, Alternates*, CRCP-2004 *Criticism Practice*, CRCP-3005 *Cultural Agents*.

Planning for Specific Pathways:

- If you are interested in pursuing a focused aspect of the Drawing & Painting major, the courses from the following lists are recommended:

Figurative Stream:

- DRPT-2010 Contemporary Figure Painting
- DRPT-2014 Anatomy for Artists
- DRPT-2018 Anatomy: Structure & Movement
- DRPT-2022 Body & Land Intersections
- DRPT-4010 Advanced Drawing: Figurative I
- DRPT-4001 The Figure in Focus
- DRPT-3020 Drawing: Bodies in Context
- DRPT-3023 Positioning the Portrait
- DRPT-3014 Meta-Figure: the Body in Paint
- DRPT-3007 Painting: Portraiture
- DRPT-3006 Drawing: Face to Face
- DRPT-3018 Constructing Hybrid Bodies
- DRPT-3002 Intermediate Figure Drawing
- DRPT-3001 Figure in Place
- ASOC-3006 How Do We Look?
- HUMN-3016 Extraordinary Bodies
- SCIN-2008 Life Study for Sculpture I
- PHOT-3016 Portraiture and Representation

Abstraction/Non-Representational Narratives Stream:

- DRPT-2002 Abstract Painting
- DRPT-2005 Colour & Structure
- DRPT-3005 Intermediate Painting Workshop
- DRPT-3003 Representation, Memory, Desire
- DRPT-3008 The Language of Abstraction
- DRPT-3009 The Meaning of Materials
- DRPT-3010 Collage Methodologies
- IVCA-3001 Abstraction: Indigenous Views
- DRPT-3013 Beyond Pictorial Conventions
- DRPT-3025 Experimental Watercolour
- DRPT-4011 Painting in the Expanded Field
- DRPT-4017 Extreme Abstraction

Drawing Stream:

- DRPT-2003 Exploring Drawing Processes
- DRPT-2006 Drawing: Portraying Narrative
- DRPT-3002 Intermediate Figure Drawing
- DRPT-3006 Drawing: Face to Face
- DRPT-3019 New Dimensions in Drawing
- DRPT-4014 Advanced Drawing Studio

Site/Landscape Stream:

- DRPT-2019 Landscape: Culture/Site/Envir
- DRPT-2022 Body & Land Intersections
- DRPT-3004 Landscape to the Environment
- DRPT-3021 Landscape Studio
- SCIN-2007 Site and Time

Materials and Processes Stream:

- DRPT-2002 Abstract Painting
- DRPT-2003 Exploring Drawing Processes
- DRPT-2004 Techniques & Materials Now
- DRPT-2005 Colour & Structure
- DRPT-2007 Camera Art: Combining Media
- DRPT-2011 Materials and Processes
- DRPT-2013 Watercolour
- DRPT-2015 Painting and Digital Imaging
- DRPT-3005 Intermediate Painting Workshop
- DRPT-3009 The Meaning of Materials
- DRPT-3010 Collage Methodologies
- DRPT-3015 Paint & Digital: Collaboration
- DRPT-3017 Pixel Pusher
- DRPT-3025 Experimental Watercolour
- DRPT-3026 Paint & Digital: Production
- DRPT-4004 Painting & Digital Imaging 3
- DRPT-4005 Alchemy: Matter Spirit Paint
- DRPT 4011 Painting in the Expanded Field
- FABR-2001 Intro to Fabr: Dig. Bronze
- FABR-2002 Intro to Fabr: Metal
- FABR-2003 Intro to Fabr: Mouldmaking
- FABR-2004 Intro to Fabr: Plastics
- FABR-2005 Intro to Fabr: Wood

- Ensure that you review the course description and pre-requisites for all courses so you can plan correctly from year to year.
- For more information on specific courses or pathways, reach out to Drawing & Painting faculty and/or your Program Chair.