 Bachelor of Fine Arts (Visual Arts)

Your studies will begin with you working with a variety of media and developing your own interests, ideas and art practice, and skills in visual analysis. You also study art history and theory units to support your studio practice and are introduced to modern, post-modern, and contemporary art. As you progress you will learn to contextualise your art practice through presentations, discussions and supported practical experience in display and exhibition. Later in your degree there are industry-based projects and international tours on offer to allow you to explore the creative avenues that will let you develop as an artist.

Why choose this course?
The digital world is a visual world. Today’s communication channels connect to audiences with all forms of visual expression, static and moving, traditional and experimental. In these evolving ways artists who can express themselves can forge a future career that is always pushing forward, always exploring the new. A QUT visual arts degree offers you the opportunity to get a broad experience of the contemporary art world. Visual arts at QUT can help you find your niche in the burgeoning local art scene and beyond, by supporting you to define and shape your creative identity. Through our unique open-studio environment, you will focus on contemporary art practices without being divided into separate media-specific areas, such as painting or sculpture, as in traditional art schools. Practise art across a range of media including video, photography, installation, performance and printmaking, as well as painting and sculpture. This distinctive cross-disciplinary approach encourages fluid, self-directed investigation, crucial to your arts practice. You can combine your studio training with study areas such as interactive and visual design, event management, entrepreneurship or business to equip you for a range of creative careers. We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and creative styles via portfolio and interview.

Real-world learning
Studying visual arts at QUT offers a range of advantages including a flexible degree structure, a unique experimental studio environment and a rigorous program of art history/theory subjects. With opportunities to work on industry-based projects and international tours, you’ll get a broad experience of the contemporary art world.

With our unique open-studio environment, you can practise art across a range of media

Daniel McKewen
Develop a meaningful practice

‘I make art because I can’t imagine not making art. Artists ask questions and start conversations that are really important for a healthy society. Studying at QUT was fundamental in my career, it taught me to constantly question and experiment in my art practice. I was free to explore all manner of topics, media and processes in my art making.’
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including video, photography, installation and performance, as well as printmaking, painting, drawing and sculpture.

You will benefit from substantial studio experience and training in your specialist area, with the option to pursue study areas such as graphic design, CGI, event management, entrepreneurship or business to equip you for a range of creative careers. Previous students have received prestigious Samstag Scholarships, Australia Council and Arts Queensland awards, art prizes such as the Queensland Premier's New Media Award and the Qantas Spirit of Youth Award, as well as the German DAAD scholarship and numerous international studio residencies.

Entry requirements

Prerequisites
You must successfully:
- submit a portfolio
- complete an interview.

Important dates

Thursday 1 August 2019
QTAC applications, intrafaculty change form, change of major or minor form and the QUT online registration form open.
5pm Friday 20 September 2019
All applications and application forms close. Requests for applications and registrations after this date will not be considered. Make sure you allow adequate time to complete each stage of your application before application closing time.

How to apply

Step 1
Apply through QTAC. Current Creative Industries Faculty (CIIF) undergraduate students changing course or major must instead submit an intrafaculty change form or change of major or minor form.

Step 2
Complete the QUT online registration form. You must have a valid QTAC number or current QUT student ID number to complete this step.

You must pay the non-refundable $70 application service fee via QUTPay. If you're applying via the Educational Access Scheme or the Centralised Assessment Selection Program, you are exempt from the fee.

Your application is complete once you reach the confirmation notice screen and receive your confirmation email.

Step 3
Attend your nominated audition and bring your supporting documents with you. You can select your audition time through the online registration form.

If you're not able to attend an interview, you can opt for a phone or Skype interview when you complete the registration form. If you select this option, you'll need to email your portfolio and supporting documents to ci@qut.edu.au by 5pm on Friday 27 September 2019.

Supporting documentation
Make sure you have:
- a printed copy of your registration form confirmation notice or email
- a printed CV of no more than 2 pages, outlining both formal and informal learning and experiences in the field of visual arts
- your portfolio

Portfolio and interview preparation

Visual arts portfolio and interview preparation (PDF file, 159.0 KB)
Visual arts portfolio template (PDF file, 204.6 KB)

Interview location and dates
We encourage you to attend one of the available interview times, which you can select through the online registration form. The time and date of your interview cannot be changed except in exceptional circumstances.

If you don't attend an interview, either in person or via phone/Skype, you won't be considered for a place in the course.

In-person interviews (Brisbane)
Date
Monday 30 September 2019
Tuesday 1 October 2019
Location
Z9, Creative Industries Precinct, cnr of Kelvin Grove Rd & Musk Avenue, QUT Kelvin Grove Campus

Phone and skype interviews

Date
Wednesday 2 October 2019
Thursday 3 October 2019

Portfolio and interview feedback
Due to the large number of applications received, we can't provide feedback to applicants.

I need more information
Contact the Creative Industries Faculty for more information on our interview process. You can get in touch by emailing ci@qut.edu.au or calling 3138 8114.

When do I find out the outcome?

QTAC applications
Before the November offer round, we will update the preference information within your QTAC application to reflect your outcome. You'll be able to check this via QTAC's application services.

What information will I see on QTAC?
Within your preferences tab you will see one of the following statuses under the satisfied column:
- Met: You have met the minimum entry requirements to be considered for a place in this course
- Not met: You have not met the minimum entry requirements to be considered for a place in this course. You may want to review your QTAC course preferences.

Meeting the minimum entry requirements does not guarantee a QTAC offer for this course, as there are usually more eligible applicants than places available in the program. Most offers will be made in the November offer round. Further offers may be made in later offer rounds.

Intrafaculty change applications
Admissions will notify you of your outcome by email, sent to your QUT student email address from December.

Change of major or minor applications
The Creative Industries Faculty will notify you of your outcome by email, sent to your QUT student email address from late November.

Assumed knowledge
Before you start this course we assume you have sound knowledge in these areas
- English
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We assume that you have knowledge equivalent to four semesters at high school level (Years 11 and 12) with sound achievement (4, SA).

Course structure
Your course
To meet the course requirements of the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Visual Arts), you must complete the following:

- Two common units (KYB101 and KYB102) – 24 credit points
- Visual Arts major – 168 credit points
- Complementary studies – 48 credit points from the Situated Creative Practice Extension plus 48 credit points chosen from a minor or unit options (electives).

Year 1
- work with a variety of media and develop your own interests, ideas and art practice
- attend workshops for digital and traditional art-making skills
- develop skills in visual analysis
- discover the wide range of art practices both in the studio and in history/theory classes

Year 2
- further your skills in art practice using a range of media
- build on contemporary art studies
- develop skills in visual and textual analysis
- learn about national and international art
- learn to contextualise your art practice through presentations, discussions and supported practical experience in display and exhibition
- choose specific vocational training for a career as a teacher or art professional

Year 3
- consolidate your art practice and your understanding of its place nationally and internationally
- culminate your studies and practice in a public group exhibition
- specialise for your chosen arts industry role, prepare for a graduate teaching course or continue on to research studies

Study overseas
Study overseas while gaining credit towards your QUT creative industries degree with one of our worldwide exchange partners. Overseas study can be for one or two semesters (or during the semester break) and the units you take can be in a creative or non-creative discipline area, depending on how they match with your QUT course. Saving your electives for exchange will allow you the most flexibility. Find out more about studying on exchange.

Real-world facilities
Our open studio program focuses on interdisciplinary contemporary art practice combining experimental 2D, 3D, digital, spatial, and performance skills. Whether you are planning to become a professional artist, teacher or art professional such as an exhibition curator or arts manager, you will benefit from substantial studio experience while receiving training in your specialist area.

Careers and outcomes
Many of our graduates become highly successful practicing artists, represented by commercial galleries, and with strong careers in the commissioned and public funding sectors.

We provide grounding in art history and theory that equips you to communicate with clients, curators and employers. Graduates also pursue professional careers as curators, program officers or arts managers and are often employed by prestigious galleries and museums both in Australia and internationally.

QUT visual arts graduates are at the heart of innovative artist-run galleries across Brisbane. We foster a strong sense of community and entrepreneurialism. Our students have developed exciting experimental art spaces such as Boxcopy Contemporary Art Space and LEVEL ARI, and have also been the recipients of the prestigious Samstag Scholarships, Australia, Council and Arts Queensland awards, art prizes such as the Queensland Premier’s New Media Award and the Qantas Spirit of Youth Award, as well as the German DAAD scholarship and numerous international studio residencies.

Double degrees
- A double degree with business will broaden your skill set and make you stand out to employers, or give you the abilities to start your own creative enterprise.
- If you are looking to apply your creative abilities to education settings or the teaching profession you have some options. You can complete your visual arts degree first and then follow with a Master of Teaching in early childhood, primary or secondary education.* Or you can now undertake a double degree in secondary education at the same time as your visual arts degree.

*Check entry requirements for the Master of Teaching for specific teaching areas.

Fees
HECS-HELP
You may be eligible for HECS-HELP, a loan scheme to help you pay your course fees. If you are an Australian citizen or hold an Australian permanent humanitarian visa. For other conditions read the HECS-HELP information.

Student Services and Amenities Fee
You’ll need to pay the student services and amenities fee as part of your course costs. You may be eligible for SA-HELP, a loan scheme to help you pay your student services and amenities fee, if you are an Australian citizen or hold an Australian permanent humanitarian visa. For other conditions read the SA-HELP information.

This information has been prepared for Australian and New Zealand citizens and those with Australian permanent resident status. Some courses are not open to international students, and entry requirements and fee information may be different. For more information and to check if a course is available, international students should visit www.qut.edu.au/international. Last updated on: 26/11/2019.