

Diploma in STUDIO FINE ART PRACTICE & THEORY

Program At-A-Glance

YEAR ONE

FALL SEMESTER

- Visual Studies 2D/3D and Time-Based Studies I and II 9 hrs/week
- Drawing – Observation, Understanding and Interpretation I and II 9 hrs/week
- Contextual Studies I and II 9 hrs/week

WINTER/SPRING SEMESTER

- Visual Studies 2D/3D and Time-Based Studies III and IV 9 hrs/week
- Drawing – Observation, Understanding and Interpretation III and IV 9 hrs/week
- Contextual Studies III and IV 9 hrs/week

YEAR TWO

FALL SEMESTER

- Studio I and II ~20 hrs/week including workshops
- Theory I and II ~7 hrs/week
- + *Optional electives from part-time program*

WINTER/SPRING SEMESTER

- Studio III and IV ~20 hrs/week including workshops
- Theory III and IV ~7 hrs/week
- + *Optional electives from part-time program*

YEAR THREE

FALL SEMESTER

- Studio I and II ~20 hrs/week including workshops
- Theory I and II ~ 7 hrs/week
- + *Optional electives from part-time program*

WINTER/SPRING SEMESTER

- Studio III and IV ~20 hrs/week including workshops and final exhibition
- Theory III and IV ~ 7 hrs/week including major research paper
- + *Optional electives from part-time program*

Course Descriptions

VISUAL STUDIES 2D/3D & TIME-BASED STUDIES

Year 1 | Fall Term & Winter/Spring Term

Students will develop the means to formulate concepts and freely transform those concepts to visual form, while being analytical in all aspects of theoretical, formal and technical production. This course provides basic skills in the fundamentals of visual language and the interpretation of concepts fundamental to visual arts practice. Projects will encompass a wide range of approaches, set from a variety of sources, subject matter and disciplines. Over both fall and winter/spring terms, this course involves the following disciplines: drawing, painting, design in two and three dimensions, sculpture, printmaking, photography, video and performance. Building on skills introduced in the fall term, assignments in the winter/spring term will become more open-ended. During the second half of the winter/spring term, students will produce a major independent project.

DRAWING – OBSERVATION, UNDERSTANDING AND INTERPRETATION

Year 1 | Fall Term and Winter/Spring Term

Students will learn the fundamentals of visual perception in descriptive drawing through a series of exercises, workshops and projects initiated from observational study. This course introduces the principles of art and design, while promoting a disciplined work ethic through concentrated study. Projects over both fall and winter/spring terms will include life drawing, natural form, hand-made and machine-made objects, and perspective. Learning to draw in a lucid, free, direct manner will be encouraged. Gaining confidence and a command of the medium are the primary objectives of the course. Building on skills introduced in the fall term, while continuing to introduce new challenges and techniques, assignments and class discussions in the winter/spring term will also emphasize content, context and interpretation.

CONTEXTUAL STUDIES

Year 1 | Fall Term and Winter/Spring Term

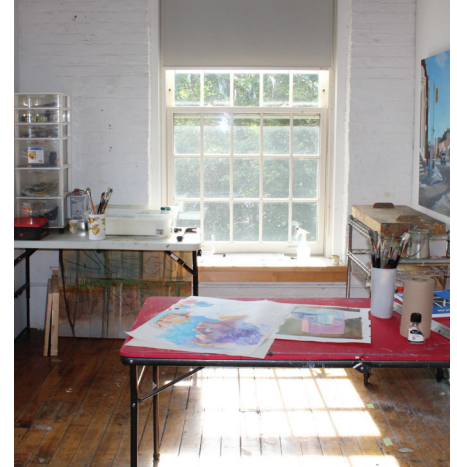
This course will provide an introduction to art history, theory and criticism. Projects and class topics are designed to broaden critical awareness of visual cultural experience. Assigned readings, lectures, seminars, class discussions and research assignments will include explorations of the impacts of archaeology, anthropology, gender, ethnic and class identity, psychoanalysis, philosophy and aesthetics on art discourse. As part of the course requirements, students will attend visiting artists' talks, guest lectures and field trips. The aim of the course is to help students contextualize their current educational and cultural experience, while drawing attention to the significance of artistic production nationally and internationally. Students will be given regular opportunity to discuss and reflect on content arising in the other courses in the program. At the end of the winter/spring term, students will submit a paper integrating all their learning in the program as a whole.

Course Descriptions

STUDIO

Years 2 & 3 | Fall Terms and Winter/Spring Terms

Students in the second year will pursue their own individualized studio practice. The subject, content or context of the work is not dictated, but students must be open to all forms of visual art expression and maintain a sustainable, ethical work practice. They will begin with a statement of intent, building off the goals and interests they have discovered in year one. The initial stages will continue to be experimental, exploring a variety of ideas and materials. With ongoing faculty guidance and support, students will develop a program of study that unfolds over years two and three, emerging into a thematic body of work and culminating in a final exhibition. This studio practice will represent at least 75% of students' time, including workshops, faculty facilitated group discussions and one-on-one tutorials.



THEORY

Years 2 & 3 | Fall Terms and Winter/Spring Terms

Following on from Contextual Studies in year one, lectures and seminars will continue, taking an interdisciplinary approach. Assigned readings, lectures, seminars and class discussions will cover a range of topics including the influences that queer theory, feminist theory, critical race theory, psychoanalysis and Marxist critical theory have had upon the interpretation of art history and contemporary art practice. In addition, students will be assigned individualized readings and will conduct independent research to support their studio practice. The course will include frequent gallery, museum and studio visits. Assignments will include research papers, and a major paper at the end of year 3, connected to the student's final exhibition.

UPON COMPLETION

Successful completion of the three-year Full-Time Studies in Studio Fine Art Practice and Theory program will result in awarding a ***Dundas Valley School of Art Diploma in Fine Art and Theory*** to the student.

Questions?

We're here to help! Feel free to contact us during regular business hours.

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