

## School of Fine Arts - *Preparing for Study*

The four-year study of Fine Arts at the University of Canterbury leading to the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) allows students to gain a general education in Fine Arts, a specialist education in one of the five areas of the Fine Arts, and a broad university education.

Students will have access to the full range of courses and other resources offered at the University. The programme is unique among New Zealand Schools of Art.

Fine Arts students are taught by staff who are practicing artists, designers, photographers, filmmakers, writers, and curators, and who have established reputations as teachers and practitioners in their fields.

Graduates of the School enter a variety of vocations within the art world and gain entry to the best international graduate programmes.

Visit the School of Fine Arts for exhibitions at the Ilam Campus Gallery throughout the year and for our Open Day.

### Fine Arts Intermediate

Studies for the BFA begin with the Fine Arts Intermediate Year. The Intermediate Year includes FINA 101 What is Practice?, FINA 102 Communities of Practice, and FINA 103 Studio Practice, plus two courses (30 points) in Art History and Theory at 100-level. A pass in all courses as part of the Intermediate Year is required before students can proceed to the level two studio courses.

The courses in Intermediate Year introduce the five areas of specialist study offered in the school. Teaching centres on specific (but open-ended) projects with a strong focus on Fine Art both as an end in itself and as a means to achieving particular and specialist art and graphic design objectives.

The Art History and Theory requirement introduces students to a wide range of approaches to the visual arts including the historical, critical, theoretical, and philosophical. This leads students to a more analytical understanding of their own practice and provides them with skills which improve their ability to articulate their ideas and enhance their ability to further their studies.

In studio courses, students work in studio groups between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday. Art History and Theory courses work into this schedule. Assessment is ongoing and forms the basis for determining entry to specialist courses in the second year. Entry to the 200 level courses is competitive and a pass in the intermediate year does not necessarily guarantee a student's first or second choice of studio course in the second year.

### Materials and Field Trips

For the Fine Arts Intermediate Year, students will need to pay a fee for course-related costs.

### Admission to the University of Canterbury

For general entry requirements for the University of Canterbury, prospective students should visit the website at <https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/enrol/eligibility/>.

### Admission to the BFA Degree Programme

Admission to the BFA is by portfolio and on meeting general entry requirements for the University of Canterbury.

The Fine Arts website also has some information on eligibility: <https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/schools-and-departments/school-of-fine-arts/how-to-apply/>.

To apply for admission to the BFA please submit the following:

- I. **Application Form:**  
Complete this application form and return to the School of Fine Arts Administrator by **15 November** along with a letter of introduction and a portfolio (see below).
- II. **Letter of Introduction:**  
In your own writing, please tell us why you want to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Take this opportunity to mention all of your achievements, awards and interests.
- III. **Portfolio\*:**  
The portfolio is 12 pages plus a one page written statement. This can be submitted in an A4 or A3 folder or as a single file PDF.
- IV. **Apply to enrol:**  
Apply to enrol at UC. Call 0800 827 748 or visit <https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/enrol/enrolment-process/> for more information.

*\* The portfolio is your opportunity to demonstrate two important areas. Firstly we need to see the level of your competency and ability in artmaking. Please make sure you include your best work. We also need to see aspects of your methodology to demonstrate how you arrived at your final work. Examples of preliminary sketches are important here.*

*We would like to see your work presented to us in the best possible way. We realise it is often impractical to provide us with originals. For that reason we suggest you photograph your work and present digital copies or prints, in colour. This can be presented in an A4 or A3 folder or in a digital format of 12 pages. You may decide to include a number of works on one page. If you are currently sitting or have sat NCEA Level 3 Visual Arts subjects, you should include this work as part of your portfolio.*

*If you choose to submit a digital portfolio, please provide a single file PDF of 12 pages either on a USB drive, attached to email, or shared via a reputable file sharing service (e.g. weTransfer or Dropbox).*

*Your written statement should demonstrate your ability to express, in writing, a critical understanding of how your work operates, the decisions that determined what you have produced, and what you are trying to address through your work. This should be submitted with your portfolio as no more than one A4 sheet.*

# School of Fine Arts

## Application for Fine Arts Intermediate course

To apply for admission into the Fine Arts Intermediate course you must complete this application form and return it to the School of Fine Arts Administrator by **15 November** and also Apply to Enrol at the University of Canterbury. This application form should be submitted alongside a Letter of Introduction and portfolio as outlined on our website and the accompanying form.

Family name (name you qualified for admission under): .....

First name(s): .....

Date of birth: .....

Address: .....

Telephone number(s): .....

Email: .....

Permanent home address (if different from above): .....

Last school or institution attended: .....

Have you ever previously been a University of Canterbury student?  Yes  No

Are you a New Zealand resident?  Yes  No

Have you already sat Bursary Practical Art or NCEA Level 3 Visual Art Examinations?  Yes  No  
(if yes, please fill complete details below)

Do you intend on sitting the NCEA Level 3 Visual Art Examinations this year?  Yes  No

Subjects: .....

## University Entrance Qualifications

Are you currently sitting NCEA Level 3?  Yes  No

Please list your highest qualifications at the time of this application. This may include internal examinations.

Subject	Mark(s)	Year

## Further Information (Compulsory)

If you have previously been enrolled at another tertiary institution, please attach an original academic transcript.

I hereby declare the information on this form to be true and correct in every particular and that no information which would have a material bearing on the application has been withheld.

Signature ..... Date .....

Complete this application form and return it to the School of Fine Arts Administrator either at the Fine Arts Reception, via post at University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, 8140, or via email at [creativeartsadmin@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:creativeartsadmin@canterbury.ac.nz) by **15 November**.

Applicants should expect to be advised of acceptance by the end of November. On a case by case basis, we may accept late applications. Please contact the School of Fine Arts Administrator at [creativeartsadmin@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:creativeartsadmin@canterbury.ac.nz).