Rules for the Degree of Bachelor in Visual Arts

(Degree code: 02224)

Purpose: to provide students with professional training in the visual arts in order to practice as professional artists or in art-related professions.

NB

- The last time students can register for this 4 year degree in Visual Arts is in 2010.
- In 2011 the 4 year degree will be replaced with a 3 year Visual Arts (plus Honours) Degree.
- Students registered for the 4 year degree have until 2016 to complete it. They also have the option to transfer to the three year (plus Honours) degree.
- Please note that the registration for year modules in the degree must also be according to semester dates as the closing dates for the BVA is in line with first semester modules.
- Prospective students must obtain prior permission from the Department of Art History, Visual Arts and Musicology before registering for the degree.
- The College of Human Sciences offers both semester and year modules.
- Students MUST consult the relevant chapter in Part 2 of the Calendar to determine whether the subject is being offered as a year module or as a semester module.
- Students MUST consult the Registration Information Brochure BEFORE registration.
- Students registered for this qualification may complete their degree according to the rules applicable at the time of registration provided that they register for the relevant modules, which replaced the previous modules.
- In addition to the normal study fees, a studio fee is payable for each module in Drawing, Painting, Sculpture and Visual Arts.

The Department of Art History, Visual Arts and Musicology gives guidance to students in Art History and Visual Arts. The practical subjects are taught through assignments executed by the student at home and submitted to the Department for evaluation and guidance. Specialized fields of study such as commercial art and industrial design are NOT included in the degree programme.

Students who have completed the BA degree may apply for admission to studies for the Postgraduate University Diploma in Visual Arts or MVA (Masters in Visual Art) degree (which is an extension of the BVA degree) or the Honours BA degree in Art History. Details of the postgraduate qualifications mentioned above, will be found in Section 3 of this Calendar and Part 1 of the Calendar.

A15

Admission requirements

To be registered as candidates for the BVA degree, students

(a) must have satisfied the provisions of Rule G13 in Part 1 of the Calendar (an abstract of this Rule appears in Section 1);
(b) IN ADVANCE, obtain written permission for admittance to the degree from the Department of Art History, Visual Arts and Musicology. Prospective students are required to submit a portfolio of art works or photographic/digital documentation thereof together with a completed questionnaire and record of personal details. The form may be down loaded from the Departmental website or obtained from the Departmental secretary. The permission form must be submitted together with the student's FIRST application for registration of the BVA degree (not at the time of the student number application). Students who wish to resume their studies after a period of absence must contact the department in this regard as they may be required to repeat modules if necessary.

NB

(i) Overseas students must take note of the compulsory requirements above.
(ii) All specialised Visual Arts modules including GAR1116, TWF111X, THF111E, PAT301F and PAT401J may only be taken by students registered for the BVA degree except for students registered for the BEd degree with specialisation in Art. Permission must still be requested from the Department.

A16

Duration of study and number of study units per year

(1) The BVA degree cannot be completed in under FOUR YEARS.
(2) On FIRST REGISTRATION and on RE-ENROLMENT at this University the number of study units for which a student may register is determined by ‘Number of study units per year’ in Calendar Part 1 as well as A4(3).
(3) When students are registered for Visual Arts and/or Art History on fourth level they may enrol for a maximum of seven modules, provided they are not restricted by ‘Number of study units per year’ in Calendar Part 1.

A17

Curriculum

NOTE THAT ANY REFERENCE TO COURSES I, II, III AND/OR IV INCLUDES THE EQUIVALENT IN MODULES.

The curriculum for the BVA degree comprises TWENTY-EIGHT modules, to be selected and taken as follows:

TWELVE year modules in Visual Arts and TWELVE semester modules in Art History are the major subjects.

In addition students must take TWO (12 credit bearing) modules on the first level: one module must be either AFL1053 or one of the languages currently offered in the College of Human Sciences which has not already been passed at Grade 12 level; the other module must be one of the following:

- TEX8126 – presented in Afrikaans and English
- ENN1503

This will greatly improve writing skills.

The additional two 12 credit-bearing BA modules on either second or third level can be chosen from the following:

MCT328J : Music technology-digital Audio (Music in World Cultures Today 328)
All the study units in the curriculum below are practical in nature, with the exception of those in Art History and the BA subject under (e) of the first year – see A19 and A20 in connection with practical work.

**NB**
- The CODES appear under the syllabus for the relevant subject.
- Students are strongly advised to follow the advice given in the various modules.
- All Visual Arts modules are year modules
- All Visual Arts modules bear 24 credits each, except for BA modules and all Art History modules, which bear 12 credits each, giving a total of 480 credits for the degree as a whole.

The curriculum is as follows:

**FIRST LEVEL**
- GAR1116 : Drawing (Drawing 1116)
- TWF111X : Painting (Painting 111)
- THF111E : Sculpture (Sculpture 111)
- ARH111G : Visual literacy (Art History 111)
- ARH112H : Art today (Art History 112)

**SECOND LEVEL**
- GAR211A : Graphic processes (Graphic processes 211)
- VAR211D : Visual arts 1 (Visual Arts 211)
- VAR212E : Visual arts 2 (Visual Arts 212)
- ARH211K : Art and ideology 1 (Art History 211)
- ARH212L : Art and transcendence (Art History 212)
- ARH213M : Art theory and criticism 1 (Art History 213)
- ARH214N : Art and patronage (Art History 214)

**THIRD LEVEL**
- PAT301F : Professional art practice (Professional Art Practice 301)
- VAR311G : Visual Arts 3 (Visual Arts 311)
- VAR312H : Visual Arts 4 (Visual Arts 312)
- ARH311N : Art and ideology 2 (Art History 311)
- ARH312P : Art, craft and design (Art History 312)
- ARH313Q : Art theory and criticism 2 (Art History 313)
- ARH314R : Popular visual culture (Art History 314)

**FOURTH LEVEL**
- PAT401J : Professional art practice (Professional Art Practice 401)
- VAR411K : Visual Arts 5 (Visual Arts 411)
- VAR412L : Visual Arts 6 (Visual Arts 412)
- ARH411R : Contemporary international art (Art History 411)
- ARH412S : Contemporary South African art (Art History 411)

Students, whose curriculum, as a result of the transitional arrangements, comprises fewer than 28 modules (or the equivalent), must register for and pass additional modules from the undermentioned list of subjects in order to complete their curriculum.

- MCT328J : Music technology-digital Audio (Music in World Cultures Today 328)
- MCT329K : Music Technology – MIDI (Music in World Cultures Today 329)
- COM2036 : Integrated organizational communication (Communication Science 2036)
- COM304B : New Media Technology (Communication Science 304)
- WLL2602 : Film, literature and society (Communication Studies and Languages 2602)

**A18**

(1) Students may register for a PRACTICAL module on the second, third or fourth level only if they have passed or been exempted from the preceding modules in that subject.

(2) Subject to A18(1) students may register for Visual Arts 5 AFTER they have passed Visual Arts 1 – 4, all first-level modules, Art History (first and second-level modules), Graphic Processes (GAR211) and Professional Art Practice (PAT301F).

**A19**

Attendance at Workshops
Students are expected to attend two workshops at one of the approved centres of the University.

Workshops are normally conducted at least twice a year, for a period of approximately 3–5 days each, in the following cities:

- Cape Town
- Durban
- Pretoria

Further details are sent to the students early in the year.

Students are strongly advised to attend all days of each workshop presented for their particular modules as these are important modes of tuition – see A17 and A19 for details.

Please note: these practical subjects demand much of a student’s time and the equipment and materials required are expensive.

The University will not be responsible for any loss of, or damage to student work.

The Department reserves the right to retain the student’s practical and written work for study material, teaching purposes or for exhibitions.

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**A20**  
**Admission to the examination in, and requirements to pass practical modules**

1. To be admitted to the examination in any module, the student must have completed the prescribed number of assignments to the satisfaction of the Department of Art History, Visual Arts and Musicology.

2. The examination in all modules in Visual Arts takes the form of a portfolio submitted at the end of the academic year. The candidate’s examination portfolio, with an accompanying affidavit, must be submitted to the Regional Centres in Pretoria, Cape Town or Durban for evaluation at the required dates and times.

3. Students are required to submit all project/assignment for EACH of the modules for which they are registered: this is compulsory. Please consult your tutorial matter with regard to submission of these compulsory assignments.

4. Examinations in the practical art modules are non-venue bound. Students must meet ALL the examination requirements which include submitting the exam portfolio accompanied by a sworn affidavit at the Unisa centres in Pretoria, Cape Town or Durban for evaluation.

5. Examination portfolio and year portfolio that are regarded as student work and NOT as independent works of art. These are regarded as an essential part of the student’s studies.

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**A21**  
**Pass, pass with distinction and subminimum**

1. Pass
   
   See Rule G22 in Part 1 of the Calendar.

2. Pass with distinction
   
   (i) Candidates shall pass a major subject with distinction if they obtain at least 75% in all the fourth-level modules in Art History or Visual Arts (VAR411K and VAR412L) and PAT401J.
   
   (ii) Candidates shall be awarded the degree with distinction if they obtain at least 75% in each of the major subjects as defined under A21(2)(i).

3. Subminimum
   
   See Rule G23 in Part 1 of the Calendar.