Undergraduate Programmes

www.op.ac.nz/art
www.facebook.com/dunedinSchoolofArt
0800 762 786
We are New Zealand’s first art school, established in 1870. Our innovative and expert tuition will foster your pursuit of excellence in visual arts and culture, and encourage you to develop versatility and self-sufficiency as an artist.

Kia ora
Welcome

Artists are essential to society; they enhance our understanding of the world by creating objects and situations that are new, interesting and challenging.

At Otago Polytechnic, we believe art education is about creating strong individuals who can make their own way in the world – not only in art, but within many other fields of visual culture. Our programmes are available for part-time and full-time study allowing our students to earn qualifications in their own time and at their own pace.

We extend our greetings to Kai Tahu, Kati Mamoe, and Waitaha as the mana whenua of this area.

Ka waiwai kā rikatoi ki te porihaka; ka whakanikoniko kā rikatoi o mātou marama o te ao i kā mea, ikā tūāhua hou, whakamere whakapātari hōki.

Kei Te Kura Matatini ki Otago, e whakapono mātou ko te matauraka o te mahi toi ki te auaha kā takata kaha e haere ana ki roto i te ao – kei roto i te mahi toi, kei roto i era atu akoraka ā whatu hoki. Ka wātea a mātou whakahaeureka mo te wā kikī, mo te wā haurua ranei, hei whakaaoro kā akoka ki te mau o rātou tohu kei āna wā kei āna whakamātau.

Ka tukua kā mihi ki te mana whenua o tēnei whenua ko Kai Tahu, Kati Mamoe Waitaha, Rāpuwai hoki.

Bachelor of Visual Arts

Location  Dunedin
Duration  Three years full-time
Delivery  On campus
Level  7
Credits  360
Start  February
Apply  Preferred by 30 November
       Late applications will be considered.

Become an independent and creative maker, thinker and agent as you experience a range of subjects in the first semester and then begin to specialise. Through directed and independent learning, you will develop the technical, academic and personal skills to pursue a career as an independent artist or researcher, or to undertake more advanced study.

Entry requirements

> You must be able to demonstrate appropriate ability through the submission of a portfolio and you must have completed five years at secondary school with successful completion of units of study in art, OR

> NCEA Level 3 including:
   > 14 credits in each of three NZQA approved university entrance subjects at Level 3 or above, and

> Literacy – 10 credits at Level 2 or above, made up of:
   > 5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing, and

> Numeracy – 10 credits at Level 1 or above, made up of:
   > specified achievement standards available through a range of subjects OR
   > package of three numeracy unit standards (26623, 26626, 26627 – all three required).

> If you are a mature student, you must demonstrate appropriate ability through a portfolio and associated writings.

> All applicants must submit a portfolio.

> International students will be individually assessed to ensure you meet degree-level entry requirements and must have achieved the equivalent of Year 13.

> If English is not your first language, you must also demonstrate English language skills equivalent to an IELTS overall band score (academic) of 6.0, with no band score less than 5.5.
Graduate Diploma in Visual Arts

Location: Dunedin
Duration: One year full-time; two years part-time
Delivery: On campus
Level: 7
Credits: 120
Start: February and July
Apply: Preferred by 30 November, and 31 May

If you already hold a degree and would like to develop your fine arts skills, this programme offers you the opportunity to carry out an intensive, personalised course of study. A team of advisors will help you determine a pathway of study suited to your goals and requirements. You may then wish to deepen your understanding with our postgraduate programmes.

Entry requirements

> You must demonstrate practical, professional or educational experience equivalent to a bachelor’s degree OR other Level 7 qualification.
> As the majority of this qualification is taught at Level 7, you must demonstrate studio skills to an appropriate level to enter this programme.
> You must submit a portfolio and undertake an interview.
> International students will be individually assessed to ensure you meet the entry requirements.
> If English is not your first language, you must also demonstrate English language skills equivalent to an IELTS overall band score (academic) of 6.0, with no band score less than 6.0.

New Zealand Diploma in Arts and Design (Levels 5 & 6) Ceramics

Location: Distance/online with practical classes in a variety of locations.
Duration: Level 5: One year full-time; two years part-time.
Level 6: One year full-time; two years part-time.
Delivery: Online theory and drawing papers with practical studio classes at various NZ locations.
Credits: Level 5: 120
Level 6: 120
Start: February
Apply: Until start date

Within the Diplomas, the courses you will study include clay studio subjects, art history and theory, drawing and glaze technologies.

Entry requirements

> Level 5: Four years of secondary school education, with a minimum of 48 NCEA Level 2 credits across four subjects OR equivalent qualifications or experience.
> Level 6: Level 5 qualification in the same or related field OR equivalent knowledge and skills demonstrated through a portfolio.
> For both levels: You must demonstrate an interest in art, undertake an interview and submit a portfolio.
> International students will be individually assessed to ensure they have an acceptable level of secondary school achievement.
> If English is not your first language: must demonstrate English Language skills with an IELTS overall band score (academic) of 5.5, with no band score lower than 5.5 OR must provide acceptable alternative evidence of English language proficiency depending on the visa decline rate of the country you are from.
### New Zealand Diploma in Digital Media and Design (Level 5)

- **Location**: Dunedin
- **Duration**: One year full-time;
- **Delivery**: On campus
- **Credits**: 120
- **Start**: February
- **Apply**: Until start date

This hands-on programme covers all aspects of photography and moving image production and will provide you with the knowledge and skills required for any career in professional photography, moving image and related fields.

**Entry Requirements**

> Applicants must have completed a Level 3 qualification in a related field OR demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills. For applicants 20 years of age and over there are no minimum academic requirements.

> All applicants are required to submit a portfolio.

> All students (international and domestic) for whom English is not a first language: must demonstrate English Language skills with an IELTS overall band score (academic) of 5.5, with no band score lower than 5.5 OR must provide acceptable alternative evidence of English language proficiency depending on the visa decline rate of the country you are from.

### New Zealand Diploma in Photography (Level 6)

- **Location**: Dunedin
- **Duration**: One year full-time;
- **Delivery**: On campus
- **Credits**: 120
- **Start**: February
- **Apply**: Until start date

This commercially-focused programme will help you develop your photographic practice to a professional level. Whatever kind of career you want to have across professional photography, video or film – this programme will help you develop an industry-ready practice and portfolio, along with the specialised skills you need to succeed as a professional. You will work in workshops and on projects with live briefs and clients.

**Entry requirements**

> Applicants must have completed a Level 5 qualification in a related field OR demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.

> For applicants 20 years of age and over there are no minimum academic requirements.

> All applicants are required to submit a portfolio.

> All students (international and domestic) for whom English is not a first language: must demonstrate English Language skills with an IELTS overall band score (academic) of 5.5, with no band score lower than 5.5 OR must provide acceptable alternative evidence of English language proficiency depending on the visa decline rate of the country you are from.
Art History and Theory

Researching, writing, debating and critiquing are essential skills if you work in the visual arts, helping you to position your own work in the wider context of contemporary art.

We offer semester-long courses and shorter seminar blocks enabling in-depth consideration of specific art movements and concepts. In the final year of our degree programmes, you will contextualise your own artwork in a longer research essay.

Your learning will be informed by our renowned artist seminar series, delivered as a public lecture programme. Artists and theorists deliver presentations in this weekly forum, often followed by in-depth tutorial discussion in an afternoon session.

Our programmes recognise the bicultural nature of Aotearoa/New Zealand and Otago Polytechnic/Te Kura Matatini ki Otago and its relationships with Kai Tahu. We look at the recent past and the legacies of modernism, and also consider earlier histories and contexts.

Studio Methodologies

Studio Methodologies introduces students to a range of key making, writing, reading, documenting and research skills and to some ideas from the history of art.

The course develops students’ abilities to use a range of media and approaches to create and extend concepts in visual form and to use drawing and other skills as research tools.

11. Jo Papps, lubricating the buffalo, SITE2013

Ceramics

Ceramics allows students to explore three-dimensional expression. Ceramic work can range from innovative, figurative and sculptural pieces to finely-made vessels.

Study ceramics as a contemporary art practice at Otago Polytechnic and be part of the only dedicated ceramics studio in New Zealand. You will benefit from an emphasis on hands-on experimentation in clay making workshops, become familiar with glaze technologies and develop ways of working that are appropriate for your artistic ideas.

Emphasis is on exploration and experimentation by extending the material qualities, processes and potential of ceramics as a medium for contemporary art practice. You will develop individual projects that explore ceramics as a medium with its own formal language, skills and history. The department has wood, salt, electric and gas kilns, electric wheels and online research facilities for student use.

Electronic Arts

The Electronic Arts studio enables you to explore a wide range of approaches to art using new media and old technologies including film, video, animation, sound, online communities, augmented reality, performance and installation.

Explore the blurred boundaries between still and moving images, computer graphics and communication technologies to develop your own unique art practice in a field that is constantly shifting and evolving.

Useful link: www.ada.net.nz


14. Jo Papps, reels of lubricating the buffalo, SITE2013
Jewellery and Metalsmithing

Use your hands, your head and your heart to learn about the visual language of adornment. It is based on interaction, communication and contact, and inspires intimate or aggressively provocative work.

Contemporary jewellery uses an unlimited palette of materials from precious metal and stone to recycled waste.

The fundamental reference for Jewellery and Metalsmithing is the human body.

15. Paddy Woodman, Invenio, SITE2012

Painting

Here is an opportunity to develop your artwork so it is relevant to today’s society and both national and international contemporary practice. That is the focus of this specialty – although you will also be encouraged to investigate painting movements and methodologies in recent centuries.

Each stage of the programme presents an organised and measured understanding of the techniques, theories and approaches available to the artist today.

Develop the knowledge and skills to produce works for exhibition, and develop an understanding of art history and related theories to facilitate rigour, self-criticism and confidence.

16. Holly Zandbergen, from the impermanence series (detail), SITE2013
Photography

Develop a photographic practice that is critically engaged both with the world of images around you and the other aspects of your life, your community and the place in which you live. Learn how to make informed and appropriate choices about the range of technologies available to you, from darkroom to digital, to communicate your experiences and ideas.

The photography studio is equipped to enable you to explore the photographic in all its forms using darkrooms, large-scale colour printing, computer labs and a lighting studio.

Print

The Print Studio comprises a large, workshop facility enabling an engagement with a comprehensive range of print processes and techniques. Traditional media such as metal plate etching, relief printing and screen printing sit comfortably alongside contemporary digital print and image development technologies. This facility is one of the best-equipped studios of its kind in New Zealand.

Experienced and award-winning staff guide and encourage students to develop critical approaches to image making through directed research and a hands-on exploration of the materials and methodologies related to the studio/workshop.

17. Agata Michalczyk, Untitled 1, from the series 10 (detail), SITE2011

18. James Stringer, Facing Worlds (detail), SITE2013
Sculpture

Contemporary sculpture encompasses installation practice, site-specific art works, public sculpture, performance, live art and the object in relation to both the commodity and the handcrafted. This studio examines the contemporary context and relational field through an emphasis on history, theory, communities and material cultures.

Students work on individual programmes of study through self-directed practical and theoretical research. The workshop is equipped to international standards with separate workshops for wood, metal, plaster and clay, plastic and bronze.

The department emphasises a practical approach to problem solving, and to philosophical and critical understanding of the position of the object within Western culture today.

19. Hamish Wadsworth, Untitled, SITE2013

Textiles

Major in Textiles in a visual arts context, examining the value of cloth and its relationship to the body, different genders and classes and material culture. The field of textiles practice can encompass many approaches such as sculptural, 2D and site-specific artworks.

We specialise in print and construction processes that employ a variety of surface treatments, such as screen-print methods using pigment ink, dye, discharge and burnout applications, manual and digital embroidery, and 3D sewing. Extend the language of textiles to communicate diverse ideas and explore your own approach to studio practice.

20. Victoria Stevens, Dancing Vaginas, SITE2014
Art pathways

Studio Disciplines/Specialty

Fine & Visual Arts
specialising in:
- Ceramics
- Electronic Arts
- Jewellery and Metalsmithing
- Painting
- Photography
- Print
- Sculpture
- Textiles

Ceramic Arts

Photographic Media Arts

Certificate

New Zealand Certificate in Arts and Design (Level 4) - Ceramics programme
6 MONTHS

New Zealand Certificate in Digital Media and Design (Level 4)
6 MONTHS

Diploma

New Zealand Diploma in Arts and Design (Level 5) - Ceramics programme
1 YEAR

New Zealand Diploma in Digital Media and Design (Level 5)
1 YEAR

Degree

Bachelor of Visual Arts
3 YEARS

Postgraduate

Master of Fine Arts
2 YEARS

New Zealand Diploma in Arts and Design (Level 6) - Ceramics programme
1 YEAR

New Zealand Diploma in Photography (Level 6)
1 YEAR

Graduate Diploma in Visual Arts
1 YEAR

Possible Pathways

You can apply for direct entry into any of these programmes if you meet the relevant entry requirements.

Possible Linked Programme

You can apply for entry into any of these programmes at one application as linked programme.

Duration

This is the standard full-time duration. You can also study most of our programmes part-time.

*subject to approval for the degree pathway as this is still to be confirmed.

Postgraduate Programmes

Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours)
Undertake this research-based qualification to further develop your undergraduate knowledge. The programme culminates in an exhibition and associated writings demonstrating your intellectual rigour and professional expertise. Better understanding and advanced learning will present you with higher-level employment prospects in the arts sector.

Postgraduate Certificate in Visual Arts
Ideal if you left structured learning some time ago and now wish to start postgraduate research. You will develop a body of critically-engaged studio work and write a set essay on an aspect of related research methodologies. You may progress to the second semester of the Postgraduate Diploma upon the successful completion of this programme.

Postgraduate Diploma in Visual Arts
Embark on this guided research programme to further develop your undergraduate skills, knowledge and experience in your chosen field. Create a systematic and professionally exhibited body of work supported by a written text which demonstrates contemporary relevance. Our two Masters programmes then provide further learning opportunities.

Master of Visual Arts
Develop and display mastery of the professional, technical and conceptual skills relevant to your chosen field through a public exhibition and associated writing. Gain a deeper understanding through practical and theory-based research to provide you with higher employment opportunities in the arts sector.

Master of Fine Arts
Progress further as an arts practitioner or expand your employment potential with this applied, in-depth research degree. Benchmarked against national and international standards, this programme is shaped by your proposal and culminates in a public exhibition and dissertation reflecting your knowledge and competence.

We offer low residency options for study in all postgraduate programmes through flexible off-site supervision.
Installation of the Year One Bachelor of Visual Arts student exhibition
Studios – Jewellery and Metalsmithing, Sculpture, Textiles, Painting, Ceramics, Print and Photography/Electronic Arts
Our staff

We are focused on delivering art education that creates strong individuals able to make their own way in the world – not only in art, but in many other fields of visual culture and social engagement.

The success of our students is partly due to our dedicated and encouraging staff members who have a passion for education and their own artistic practice and research.

Our lecturers exhibit and publish regularly both nationally and internationally, and are active participants in New Zealand’s artistic communities. The research activities of our staff place the Dunedin School of Art amongst the best in its field.

Nowhere is the Polytechnic’s emphasis on applied learning and exploration more clearly demonstrated than at the Dunedin School of Art, where staff members lead by example and deliver the kind of personalised learning that is sought by art students nationwide and internationally.

Sculpture
Scott Eady is a Senior Lecturer in Sculpture. He exhibits nationally and internationally on a regular basis and was awarded the prestigious Frances Hodgkins Fellowship at the University of Otago in 2002. Scott was selected to exhibit at the Gwangju Biennale, South Korea, 2012 and in the Personal Structures Exhibition, Venice Biennale, 2013.

Print
Neil Emmerson is the Studio Coordinator for Print and his research expertise spans many print-related technologies, identity politics, queer theory, gay and lesbian history, and textiles. He was recently an artist in residence in Cork, Ireland.


22. Neil Emmerson, Untitled from the series ‘I must confess...’, 2014
Painting
Graham Fletcher is the Studio Coordinator for Painting. He holds a Doctorate of Fine Arts from the University of Auckland and has held numerous exhibitions in New Zealand and overseas, such as participating in the Asia Pacific Triennial. His work explores postcolonial issues.

23. Graham Fletcher, from the exhibition Future Primitive, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, Australia, 2013

Jewellery and Metalsmithing
Johanna Zellmer completed a formal apprenticeship as a goldsmith in Germany and a master’s degree at the Australian National University Canberra School of Art. As Senior Lecturer in Jewellery and Metalsmithing her research interests are the construction of national identities and cross-cultural matters. Research projects have been shown internationally and were presented by Dr Pravu Mazumdar at the Die Neue Sammlung, The International Design Museum Munich, in his keynote for Schmuck 2013. In 2014 her work was also selected for The Parkin Drawing Prize.

24. Johanna Zellmer, Portrait with Jewellery Aid from the series ‘signs in a state of change’, 2013

Kaiārahi support
Simon Kaan is the Māori Academic Mentor at the Dunedin School of Art. He is an alumnus of the Dunedin School of Art, graduating in 1992.
His role includes primarily mentoring Māori students studying at the Dunedin School of Art, promoting whakawhanaungatanga and supporting Māori students with their general programme requirements.
I tip at my assistant and drop my phone. I bend down to pick it up and my headphones fall off my head. The phone is lost on the ground. The store has come off my phone. I pick this up. I pick my headphones up. They are both clutched awkwardly in my hand. I try to scuffle to escape from the way of people walking in. I can't pick up a bottle because my hands are full of my phone and headphones. I leave them on the floor again and pick up a sweater. Then I open it up and put them in the basket. I am breathing deeply and slowly.

I am excited. Several things have happened. I am excited to see the people in the store. They all seem to be looking in the dark. My phone is confusing. I open the door and see something strange. I think about using my phone to take pictures. I am excited to be here.
SITE exhibitions

SITE is the highly-anticipated end-of-year exhibition created by graduate diploma and final-year students of the Bachelor of Visual Arts programme, joined by Level 8 postgraduate students. As our annual public exhibition, SITE launches our students into the art world.

For one week in November, the Dunedin School of Art is transformed into a living gallery as studio spaces, work rooms, corridors and outdoor areas make way for artists to show amongst their peers. The results make for inspiring, thought-provoking and, at times, challenging shows.

SITE is an accomplishment for each artist involved, and undoubtedly one of the true highlights of the city’s vibrant arts calendar.

SITE Artworks
Dunedin School of Art graduates are currently working in a wide range of careers. As creative thinkers, they have flexible and transferable skills that make them employable in diverse fields. Many Dunedin School of Art graduates remain active in their art practice and have exhibited their work nationally and internationally and several have won national and international awards.

The Professional Methodologies course supports final year students to gain work-ready employment skills and develop confidence to work both independently and collaboratively. The Otago Polytechnic also provides support for innovative research and enterprise.

A selection of careers our graduates are working in at present include:

> Self-employed practising artist
> Teacher
> Lecturer
> Social entrepreneur
> Artist in industry (e.g. at Weta, NHNZ, Te Papa)
> Curator
> Designers for companies or as freelancers
> City arts coordinator
> Freelance photographer
> Photojournalist
> Publisher
Halls of residence

Where you live makes a big difference to your student experience in Dunedin. Fortunately, there is a wide range of great options near the Dunedin campus.

In Dunedin, supervised accommodation is a great option. You'll be able to meet people, many of your meals are provided and extra expenses such as electricity and phone rental are generally included. Supervised accommodation costs around $300 per week.

City College is located in North Dunedin in the heart of the student area. You will live in apartment-style accommodation with flatmates and dine in a communal eating area. City College has excellent recreation and study facilities.

Salmond College is an easy 15-minute walk from our Dunedin campus. It has great facilities for study and recreation and a communal eating area for meals. Free study tutorials are also available.
Dunedin’s arts community

Dunedin is often described as an ‘arts city’ because of its strong reputation in both education and the visual arts.

Indeed, the Dunedin School of Art is the oldest in the country, and continues to offer top-quality facilities and teaching for those wishing to undertake a visual arts education.

Adding to this history is the Dunedin Public Art Gallery, established in 1884. Hosting world-class exhibitions, the gallery is renowned for the depth and richness of its collection, its close working relationship with major New Zealand artists, its Visiting Artist Programme and the exceptional quality of its exhibition and publishing programmes.

Artist-run galleries, such as the Blue Oyster Art Project Space, give audiences the opportunity to experience art made without commercial boundaries. Dunedin also boasts a large number of dealer galleries offering high-quality exhibitions of local and national artists.

Other Dunedin institutions such as the Frances Hodgkins Fellowship and the Hocken Library and Gallery stem from the University of Otago, adding an important layer to Dunedin’s contemporary visual arts.

The city also has a reputation for strength in other creative areas: performing arts at Allen Hall and the Fortune Theatre; the biennial Otago Festival of the Arts; the Dunedin Fringe Festival; and plenty of live music owing to the spirit of the iconic Dunedin sound scene.

33. Kushana Bush BFA, was the Frances Hodgkins Fellow at The University of Otago in 2011. She exhibits her paintings in galleries throughout New Zealand, Australia and Scotland.

34. Matt Wilson BVA, majored in sculpture. He is a self-employed tattoo artist.
Community projects

Print workshop with students from Brighton School; Annual night class exhibition; ‘The Yellow Men’, VSpace performance at the Robertson Library; Photography students on location at Olveston House; Print studio ‘Art Heroes project’ at the Audacious reception in the Sargood Centre.
Our Student Advisors are based on the Dunedin campus and are available anytime to talk in person, via phone or email. They can help you with any personal problems and study issues as you settle into life at Otago Polytechnic, and they offer continued assistance throughout the academic year.

**Kaiārahi** – Tena ra koutou katoa tae mai ki te Kura Matatini o Otago mo tou haerenga. He mihi mahana tenei. Appointed staff are available to provide guidance and support to Māori students and assist with a range of individual issues.

**Pasifika** – Support is available to Pacific Island students. Those who identify as being of Pacific Islands descent will be contacted, and regular fono are held during the year.

**Wellbeing and Disability** – Otago Polytechnic provides support tailored to your individual needs. This may include classroom note-takers, readers and writers, tutors, equipment, adaptive technology, orientation and liaison with lecturing staff and community agencies.

**International** – Advisors are dedicated to assisting you during your studies. They will work to ensure that you get personalised support while you are studying. Assistance is also available for renewal of student visa applications.

**Learning advisors** – Receive learning support once you’re enrolled in your programme.

**Counselling** – Receive confidential help with any issues you may have in your personal life or studies. Online and phone counselling is also available.
Portfolio and writing requirements

Portfolio requirements
We require examples of your artwork and the visual ways in which you develop your ideas. Your examples need to show us your working processes and your ability to use a range of materials.

If you have been working in the NCEA system, please send us twelve (12) examples of your finished works and of your working processes from your folders.

If you have not been working in the NCEA system, please send us six (6) examples of finished work and six (6) pages of sketches or workbook pages.

Please submit your portfolio digitally (15MB file size limit if you are applying online) or in an A4 folder. Please do not submit originals as we do not return application folders.

Writing requirements
Please include with your portfolio:

1. An essay or written text (at least 300 words). You may include writing produced for any of your NCEA subjects or you may write a new piece on any topic of your choice.

2. A double-spaced letter of not more than one page (300 words) explaining why you want to come to art school and what your experiences of art may have been to date. This may include all or some of the following:
   > Why art is important to you, the community and the wider world
   > Your expectations for your own future after your studies
   > Art galleries you may be familiar with
   > Artists whose work you may know
   > Art skills you may have already gained.

Please contact artoffice@op.ac.nz with any further questions.

36. Woojin Kim, Asia NZ Artist in Residence 2014
37. Mandy Joseph, SITE2013