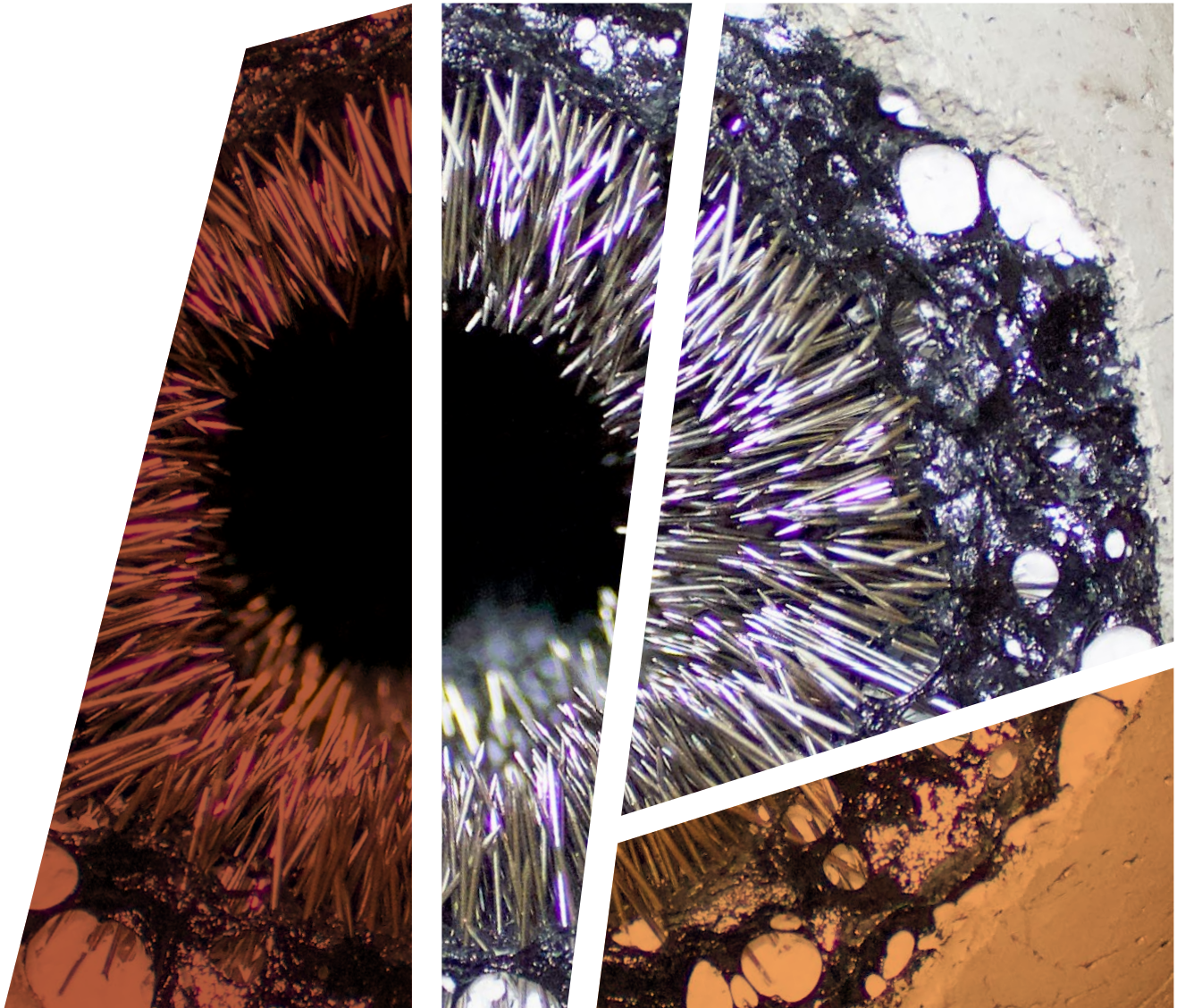




UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

FINE ARTS (BA FA)



Fine Arts by its unique nature enriches our lives, culture and society. Fine art is a means through which people can express their subjective experiences, and allows for a space where multi-cultural and subjective identities can be presented and discussed. In its visual and multisensorial form, art communicates in ways that are tacit and felt, and can enact socio-political-environmental critique, and change, through its means of communication. Art engages the imagination and provides a platform for creative individuals to bring their ideas to the public's attention.

OVERVIEW

The School of the Arts: Visual Arts is recognised for its academic and creative excellence. It strives to be inclusive, enabling, socially responsible and value-driven. Moreover, it aims to be a leading visual arts school in South Africa and to be acknowledged as the school of choice by its students, graduates, employers and peers. The school seeks to foster a creative, intellectual, professional, embodied, critical and reflective learning environment for its staff and students.

The School of the Arts: Visual Arts consists of three divisions – Fine Arts, Information Design and Visual Studies. Each division plays a key strategic role in shaping knowledgeable and responsible, independent and innovative citizens. Driven by integrity and intellectual imperatives, the Visual Arts provides an environment where students can learn, grow and contribute to the well-being of the broader community

If you want to study a course in which embodied knowledge, creativity, technique and critical thinking skills are combined to allow for new forms of artistic expression, then Fine Arts at UP is the course for you.

CAREERS

In relation to career opportunities fine artists can:

- work as professional artists and establish their own markets through having exhibitions, carrying out commissions or pitching for public artworks organised by private sources, non-profit organisations, private and corporate collectors and public-private partnerships;
- work in the art management sector as a curator, art gallery director or as an art consultant;
- work in the educational sector as a teacher/lecturer or establish an art school;
- work as a creative facilitator in related creative arts organisations or in the commercial sector.



COURSE INFORMATION

The **BA Fine Arts (FA)** course covers a broad spectrum of professional art practices. The studio-based component of the degree is divided into **two areas of art practice**:

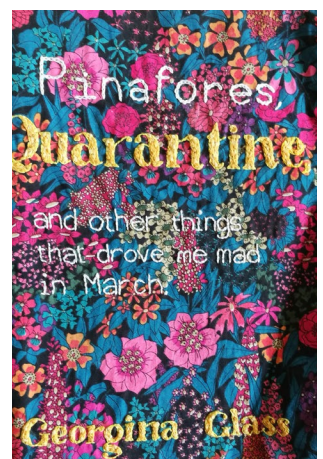
- **Fine Arts** (subject code BKK)
- **Professional Art Practice** (subject code VIT)

The aim of **BKK (Fine Arts)** is to equip students to become skilled professional artists and art practitioners. This four-year subject offers opportunities for students to hone their artistic expression related to ideas, formal aspects, materials and techniques through the processes of conceptualisation, observation, visualisation, materialisation, documentation, representation and presentation of artworks. The subject offers opportunities for developing skills in a range of 2D, 3D and digital mediums and processes as practiced in various studio modalities, including graphic printmaking, painting, sculpture, drawing, photography and digital laboratories. Students are guided in finding synthesis between ideas, materials, process and theory through an artistic research approach.

The module aims to develop a critical framework for the understanding of concepts and methods that are embedded in contemporary and historical art practices through exposure to these concepts in BKK and by drawing on theories covered in the subject **VKK (Visual Culture Studies)**. Students are guided in demonstrating how these concepts are applied in their own and wider artistic practices through reflection, writing and oral presentations.

Individual projects will gradually merge into a continuous investigation of a self-motivated theme that is grounded in a theoretical understanding of concepts and methods in art. Opportunities are provided for students to develop a coherent body of work through experimental and process-orientated studio practice. The subject culminates in a guided independent artistic research project at honours level and specialisation within a studio modality/medium to demonstrate proficiency in Fine Art.

The aim of **VIT (Professional Art Practice)** is to equip students to become reflective, resourceful and entrepreneurial participants in the broader creative sector in South Africa. This subject offers occupational related preparation by providing guided opportunities for students to participate in art education, community art and the art industry. Marketing, management and entrepreneurial skills are offered to assist student in developing their professional careers as artists or art practitioners. Students are required to conduct research into the art industry, art institutions, art education and community art, in order to reflect and evaluate such practices and to present their research and findings in written and oral presentations. At each year level students are expected to engage productively with their peers, with the arts community and the public in a real-world application of skills and knowledge.



STAFF

The Fine Arts programme has dedicated core staff members namely **Dr Johan Thom, Dr Avi Sooful, Nicola Grobler, Natalie Fossey, Teboho Lebakeng, Cazlynne Pepper** and **Sakie Seoka**. The programme also features contributions by a large number of professional artists and practitioners on a part-time basis that include **Diane Victor, Usha Seejarim, Magdel Van Rooyen, Heidi Fourie, Robyn Sassen** and numerous others.

ALUMNI

The Fine Arts programme has delivered a large number of successful professional artists, curators, art managers, entrepreneurs and practitioners in the creative arts. The quality of the output, which is a result of the structure and content of the Fine Arts programme, is benchmarked by the successes achieved by students and alumni on national and international platforms. Alumni include **Angus Taylor, Wim Botha, Minette Vári, Kudzanai Chiurai** and **Leora Farber** amongst others.

GUEST LECTURERS

Fine Arts features a lively guest lecture programme through which students are exposed to ideas and currencies in contemporary art and visual culture, both locally and internationally. Guest speakers include: **Prof Olu Oguibe, Kisito Assangni, Clive Kellner, Aysha Waja, Florine Démosthène, Patrick Mautloa, Taiye Selasi** and many others.



MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

To be accepted for the BA Fine Arts programme you need:

- A National Senior Certificate or equivalent qualification
- An Admission Point Score (APS), minimum 30
- A minimum of 60% for English language (home or first additional)
- Art as a school subject is not essential, but prospective students must be able to demonstrate their creative potential and commitment to their chosen field of study.



APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The closing date for UP applications for BA Fine Art is **30 JUNE 2025**.

Please note you will have to:

- submit a **portfolio of artworks (10);**
- complete a **brief questionnaire;**
- and participate in an Online **interview 14-15 JULY 2025**

in order to secure your place as part of the programme.

Please visit our website for full details regarding **application procedures** and **relevant submission dates**:

www.up.ac.za/visualarts

COURSE STRUCTURE AND MODULES

Please consult the relevant yearbook for all information related to core and elective modules offered as part of the degree.

For the full Fine Arts Yearbook 2021, visit:

<https://www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/home>

CONTACT

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