



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN FINE ARTS

Contact: Dr Johan Thom

johan.thom@up.ac.za | +27 12 420 3540 / 6414

up.ac.za/visualarts



POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN FINE ARTS

The Visual Arts Department at the University of Pretoria offers a Masters and a Doctoral programme in Fine Arts. The aims of the packages are to foster advanced creative development and investigation. The degree packages are research-based and have been designed in such a way as to equip you with specialised knowledge, skills and applied competence in the discipline of Fine Arts. The fundamental objective of the postgraduate programme is to provide you with the opportunity to research pertinent questions and issues related to Fine Arts in a in-depth manner.





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Why choose us?

The Department of Visual Arts is part of a University with a strong commitment to develop research expertise across a broad spectrum of academic disciplines. This research infrastructure allows us to provide forward-looking knowledge and academic training. We have an excellent reputation in the Visual Arts industry and academia for delivering graduates who become well-known professionals in the field of visual arts. Modes of tuition are selected to meet the specific needs of students and include flexible contact sessions, e-groups, structured self-study and individual supervision for research. In the postgraduate Fine Arts degrees, a practice-led approach is followed, meaning that the art object and artistic production are the departure points for study and research, although your research could have been instigated by a theory, viewpoint, event or other aspect which you would want to investigate.

MA Fine Arts

Option 1: Advanced research in Fine Arts: Dissertation (BKS 858)

Admission to this programme is by research proposal. The requirements of the degree programme entail a dissertation on the approved topic, completed under supervision of a supervisor.

Option 2: Creative production and mini-dissertation (BKS 859)

Admission to this programme is by research proposal as well as a portfolio of your own creative work. The requirements of the degree programme entail a solo exhibition of creative work and a mini-dissertation, which serve as a framing document and catalogue for the exhibition. It is a requirement that the creative work and mini-dissertation must be conceptually linked and integrated.

Option 3: Curatorial practice and mini-dissertation (BKS 860)

Admission to this programme is by research proposal. The requirements of the degree programme entail a curated exhibition and a mini-dissertation, which serve as a framing document and catalogue for the exhibition. It is a requirement that the creative work and mini-dissertation must be conceptually linked and integrated. A particular requirement of the programme is an internship of at least 200 hours at an approved museum or contemporary art gallery.

DPhil Fine Arts

Option 1: DPhil in Fine Arts (Research thesis)

This option comprises a thesis (BKS 990) based on independent research on an approved topic of choice. The study requires informed investigation, analysis and interpretation of a chosen topic that will demonstrate critical engagement within the constructs of Fine Arts. In the thesis, the ability to undertake advanced research that makes a primary and original contribution to the field should be

demonstrated, as well as the ability to articulate the research in a sustained academic argument. In this option a defence of the thesis is required (BKS 900), which entails an oral examination during which the internal and external examiners will pose questions which you have to answer. It can be done in person or by video conference.

Option 2: DPhil in Fine Arts (Curatorial practice)

This option entails a thesis (BKS 991), a curated exhibition (BKS 901) and a catalogue (BKS 903). The thesis should be about 120 pages of text, excluding visual material, appendices and the bibliography. The exhibition should be professionally curated and demonstrate deep and wide consultation. It should be presented at an appropriate venue, accompanied by a professional catalogue that documents the artwork extensively. The research should make a primary and original contribution to the field of study, whether in terms of conceptual exploration or the manner and style in executing, installing or presenting the work. The thesis and exhibition should be positioned in the same subject matter and critical discourses. For this option, you need to provide proof of having spent at least 300 hours at an approved gallery or museum as a trainee curator or museum/gallery assistant (without compensation).

Option 3: DPhil in Fine Arts (Research thesis)

This option entails a thesis (BKS 992), an exhibition of creative work (BKS 902) and a catalogue (BKS 903). The thesis should be about 120 pages of text, excluding visual material, appendices and the bibliography. The exhibition should be professionally presented and demonstrate in-depth research. It should be presented at an appropriate venue, accompanied by a professional catalogue that documents the artwork extensively. The research should make a primary and original contribution to the field of study, whether in terms of conceptual exploration or the manner and style in executing, installing or presenting the work. The thesis and exhibition should be positioned in the same subject matter and critical discourses.

Selection and admission requirements

Selection for the course is on an individual basis and requires an interview. For admission you are required to have completed a four year degree in Fine Arts and/or a Masters degree in a related discipline and have received a mark of at least 65%. You also need to submit a complete academic record; recent CV; A written research proposal of the planned study with reference to both the theoretical research and creative work; a portfolio of practical work which may be submitted as as photos or slides.

Visit our website www.up.ac.za/visualart/ under Postgraduate Studies for further information. You can apply online at www.up.ac.za/apply