



national art school programs of study

The National Art School currently offers the following degree courses in Fine Art:

- Bachelor of Fine Art
- Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours)
- Master of Fine Art

We also offer a range of non-award courses in all studio disciplines through our Public Programs division including a highly successful evening and weekend Short Course program, Winter and Summer School programs.

The School also offers a range of non-award enhancement courses for HSC students that include the HSC Studio Intensive program and the Dobell School for Drawing.

Overview of Courses leading to Degrees

All academic programs of the National Art School offer specialised study in the methodologies of studio practice in both a historical and contemporary context. These programs aim to guide each student towards the development of independent practice characterised by creative, analytical, and technical skill that is informed by critical awareness and conceptual understanding.

Teaching and learning throughout all the programs is supported by the National Art School Library – a specialist fine art library and study facility consistent with Level 3B of the Research Libraries Group Conspectus.

All programs of the School provide extended study opportunities through exhibition activities, field trips and the regular contribution of a diverse range of visiting artists and scholars at all program levels.

Bachelor of Fine Art

The Bachelor of Fine Art (BFA) is offered as a full time course, delivered over three consecutive years. Each academic year comprises a 30-week academic year divided into two semesters of fifteen weeks each.

The BFA course offers specialist study in five Studio disciplines, supported by the core subjects of Drawing and Art History & Theory. Studio Major study is offered in the following disciplines:

- Ceramics
- Painting
- Photomedia
- Printmaking
- Sculpture

The first year of the course is structured as a diagnostic year, with students studying all five studio major disciplines through the first semester and three studio major disciplines of their choice in the second semester, prior to electing one specialist subject to study from the second year of the course onwards.

Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours)

The BFA (Hons) is offered as a one-year full-time coursework program over a 26-week academic year, divided into two semesters of 13 weeks each. The course offers specialist study in six Studio disciplines, supported by the core Art History & Theory Seminar and Studio Seminar programs. Studio Major study is offered in the following disciplines:

- Ceramics
- Drawing
- Painting
- Photomedia
- Printmaking
- Sculpture

The BFA (Hons) is a fourth year of study for BFA graduates seeking further study and a higher professional exit point and academic development, or who wish to qualify for entry to postgraduate study with a particular emphasis on research level degrees.



Master of Fine Art (MFA)

The Master of Fine Art course is offered as a studio based research program. The course provides an academic pathway beyond the Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) and is designed for visual artists with professional experience and/or appropriate academic qualifications who seek to extend their command of a particular studio art form, their general artistic development and their professional standing.

The course is offered as a research-by-project program over two academic years full time, or part-time over four academic years..

Students completing this degree qualify for further research at PhD level. Specialist supervision is offered in the following studio disciplines:

- Ceramics
- Drawing
- Painting
- Photomedia
- Printmaking
- Sculpture

Regular Symposia and a comprehensive Research Methodologies Seminar program are integral components of the MFA program.

Specialist study at Bachelor of Fine Art, Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours), and Master of Fine Art levels is offered in the following studio disciplines:



Ceramics

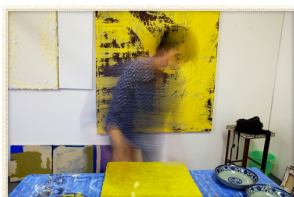
Specialist study in Ceramics aims to encourage exploration of a comprehensive range of ceramic methodologies and associated technologies and seeks to examine the various historic and cultural contexts of both the traditional and contemporary practices in the subject field.

The Ceramics' programs of the School are delivered in well equipped studio and workshop facilities that include extensive hand building and wheel throwing facilities, gas and electric kilns with dedicated glazing facility, dedicated tutorial spaces and individual studio spaces. The Ceramics programs of the School are delivered in well equipped studio and workshop facilities that include extensive hand building and wheel throwing facilities, gas and electric kilns with dedicated glazing facility, dedicated tutorial spaces and individual work stations.

Drawing

Specialist study in Drawing is offered at Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) and Master of Fine Art (research) levels, and is delivered as a core subject across all major study streams throughout all three years of the Bachelor of Fine Art program. Key components of the BFA Drawing program include the study of life drawing, objective drawing, experimental (non-objective) drawing and autonomous drawing at third year level.

The Drawing programs of the School are delivered in dedicated studio and workshop facilities that include a range of dedicated drawing studios, tutorial spaces and individual studio spaces for students specialising in this subject at Honours and MFA.



Painting

Specialist study in Painting aims to encourage exploration of the studio methodologies and practices of painting within a contemporary context that encourages innovation informed by conceptual and sound knowledge of the materials and techniques of studio practice.

The Painting programs of the School are delivered in well equipped studio and workshop facilities that include a dedicated painting workshop, tutorial spaces and individual studio spaces.



Photomedia

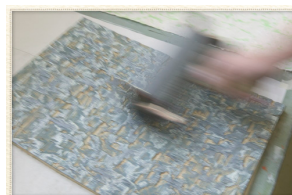
Specialist study in Photomedia aims to encourage exploration of a comprehensive range of photographic art methodologies, from traditional fine-print processes to digital imaging, and seeks to examine the various historic and cultural contexts of photography and its relationship to other fine art media.

The Photomedia programs of the School are delivered in well equipped studio and workshop facilities that include dark room facilities for black & white and colour photography, lighting studios, analogue and digital camera equipment, digital imaging facilities and dedicated tutorial facilities and individual studio spaces.

Printmaking

Specialist study in Printmaking aims to encourage exploration of Printmaking methodologies, from traditional studio print processes to digital process, and seeks to examine the various historic and cultural contexts of both traditional and contemporary practices in the subject field.

The Printmaking programs of the School are delivered in well equipped studios and workshops that include workshop facilities for intaglio, lithographic, silkscreen, relief and relief printmaking process with dedicated tutorial facilities and individual studio spaces.



Sculpture

Specialist study in Sculpture aims to examine the various historic and cultural contexts of Sculptural practice through the exploration of a broad range of traditional and non-traditional materials, usages and associated studio methodologies.

The Sculpture programs of the School are delivered in dedicated studio and workshop facilities that include timber and metal fabrication workshops, modeling and casting workshops, foundry and dedicated tutorial spaces and individual studio spaces.

Core subjects:

Art History & Theory

The Art History & Theory programs of the National Art School offer comprehensive study in the history and theories of art and culture as a foundational activity in the understanding and contextualisation of visual arts practice. These programs aim to support each student in the development of independent practice informed by critical awareness and understanding of the development of the society and culture within which artists live and work.

Art History & Theory is delivered as a core subject across all major study streams throughout all three years of the Bachelor of Fine Art and Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) programs. An extensive range of Art History & Theory elective subjects are offered throughout the second and third years of the BFA program.

Drawing

The Drawing programs of the National Art School offer specialised study in the practice of Drawing as a foundational activity in the conception and realisation of creative expression in the visual arts. These programs aim to support each student in the development of independent practice characterised by sound creative, analytical and technical skills and informed by critical awareness and conceptual enquiry.

Drawing is delivered as a core subject across all major study streams throughout all three years of the Bachelor of Fine Art program. Key components of the BFA Drawing program include the study of life drawing, objective drawing, experimental (non-objective) drawing and autonomous drawing at third year level. The Drawing programs of the School are delivered in dedicated studio and workshop facilities that include a range of dedicated drawing studios, tutorial spaces and individual studio spaces for Major students.

The centrality of Drawing at the School is further enhanced through a range of 'whole School' and interdisciplinary programs including the National Art School Drawing Week, the Study Centre for Drawing, and Drawing Australia, the national body that promotes the role of drawing is now located at the School.