



UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES: Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts (AFA01)

Thank you for your interest in applying for the BA (Fine Arts) degree with the Wits School of Arts for 2025.

The BA (Fine Arts) degree is a four-year professional degree and our undergraduate teaching program is run by a dedicated team of lecturers, artists, scholars, writers, tutors and technical staff specialising in different contemporary art media.

A formal academic application must have been submitted to the Student Enrolment Centre (SEnC) by **30 September 2024**. No late applications will be considered. Online applications are available at www.wits.ac.za/applications

In addition, all BA (Fine Arts) applicants are required to submit **a questionnaire, portfolio of artworks, a short CV, a transcript of recent grades, and matric or academic transcript**. We may contact you for a brief online interview. The BA (Fine Arts) degree is a highly competitive programme for which we receive many applications. There are a limited number of places available, and you should aim to submit your portfolio as soon as possible but by no later than **15 November 2024**. Your application will be considered incomplete WITHOUT A PORTFOLIO.

Please click <https://forms.gle/3rExEUtZ53X43WLV6> to complete the questionnaire and upload your portfolio of artworks.

Once you have submitted the questionnaire, portfolio of artworks, and other documents, we will endeavor to review your application within two weeks. You will then receive a letter from the Student Enrolment Centre (SEnC) with an update on the status of your application. You can also view your application status on the student self-service portal - <https://self-service.wits.ac.za/>

If you have completed your school leaving, or tertiary qualification, you could receive a firm offer or be placed on a waiting list.

If you are currently in Grade 12, you could receive a provisional offer, be placed on a deferred status (subject to the release of your final matric results and available places), or be unsuccessful. PLEASE NOTE that acceptance of your application is dependent on the evaluation of your creative potential and your Matric results. SEnC will confirm if your application is successful once your Matric results have been published.

A firm offer by the University will allow you to register in January/February next year (watch out for the dates to register on the Wits website), and we will notify you about orientation activities and the start of term in February 2025.

Important

You must submit the following with your questionnaire:

1. Your personal information

- Include your full name, address, telephone and email contact information, the name of the last school you attended, and year of matriculation (or planned year of matriculation). Include a brief mention of any achievements or awards; list of all extramural/community activities you are involved in,

cultural, artistic, or other.

2. A transcript of your most recent marks

- Certified copy of your final grade 11 results, Matric certificate, or Academic Transcript.

3. A portfolio of creative work

The portfolio must be submitted as a **PDF document or slideshow**, with all your images in one file (i.e. rather than separate JPEG images). You may also upload *additional* material, such as sound or video pieces.

The portfolio must be compiled of visual work. You may include as many types of work as you wish (minimum 10 images in the PDF/Presentation). The portfolio is an opportunity to show us your creative and artistic work and ideas.

The portfolio work must include at least three observational drawings/sketches/paintings from life (i.e. done by observing actual objects or people in your environment, rather than drawn/observed from photographs). For example, a bowl of fruit, a chair, a portrait, a glass of water, a pot plant (these form part of the images collated into the abovementioned PDF document).

In addition to these drawings, we are happy to see whatever you have produced over the past 2-3 years (including drawings you have made from photographs). If you do not have any work, spend some time before submission working on your portfolio. This can include drawings, sketches, objects, sculptures, poems, soundtracks, videos, photographs, installations, collages, performances.... Select the work you feel strongly about. If you are not sure what medium to work with, you can work through anything that excites or concerns you. You can also add a link in the PDF document to a blog/website or Instagram page.

Ensure your portfolio does not exceed *30 MB* in total.

If you struggle with digital formats please email info.fineart@wits.ac.za. Include *2025 APPLICATIONS* in the subject heading of the email.

Applicants who fail to submit these documents will not be considered.

Open day workshop

The Fine Arts Department will host two open day workshops for applicants, one in July and one in November. The workshop will involve a more comprehensive introduction to the undergraduate degree and courses as well as the studio spaces at the Wits School of Arts. If you are interested in participating, please indicate this in the online questionnaire.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Whilst the department offers professional courses as part of the BA Fine Arts degree, the University is foremost an academic institution. Applicants will be assessed on their practical, artistic, and academic abilities.

Minimum Admission Requirements (*Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission for any applicant*)

National Senior Certificate (NSC):

Each candidate requires an APS of at least 34 points and a minimum of 60% for English Home Language OR English First Additional Language in order to be considered for acceptance into the BA Fine Arts degree. The Student Enrolment Centre communicates a FIRM offer only, and not the Wits School of Arts (WSoA).

Applicants with 30-33 APS points and at least 60% for English Home Language OR English First Additional Language, as well as a good portfolio will be wait-listed, and may be accepted in January subject to available places.

International Qualifications:

Relevant exemption from the SA Matriculation Board
English Language O/IGCSE Level A-C | AS Level A-C | A Level A-C

Further info:

<https://www.wits.ac.za/undergraduate/entry-requirements/>

<https://www.wits.ac.za/wsoa/fine-arts/undergraduate/>

<https://www.thepointoforder.org/about>