Fine Arts 2018

Celebrating 150 years of art in 2017
Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development

The Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development plays a vital role in connecting students at the VCA and MCM with ancient and contemporary Indigenous arts practices. It is committed to supporting Indigenous students by promoting and embracing a cultural change agenda for the faculty. The Wilin Centre supports the employment of Indigenous artists and academics and is a driving force behind the development of national and international Indigenous arts programs.

“When you have art, you have voice,” says Associate Professor Richard Frankland, head of the Wilin Centre and Associate Dean (Inclusion and Diversity) (pictured). “When you have voice, you have freedom, and with freedom comes responsibility.”

vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/wilin
Welcome to the Faculty of the VCA & MCM

We are proud to share with you the range of courses and opportunities offered by the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) and Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (MCM).

We encourage our students to dream and to go far. Our aim is to cultivate and inspire talent, and facilitate successful futures for the next generation of Australian artists.

In 2017, we are excited to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Visual Art at the Victorian College of the Arts, which has its roots in the National Gallery of Victoria Art School. ART150 will be a year-long celebration – comprising exhibitions, workshops, public lectures and events – that reflects on this rich and distinguished history and looks towards a vibrant future for Australian art.

It is fitting that, as Australia’s leading arts education institution, our home is in Melbourne, Australia’s cultural capital. Our students are located at the Southbank campus, situated in the heart of Melbourne’s arts precinct and surrounded by Australia’s major arts organisations and venues. This includes the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Melbourne Theatre Company, Opera Australia, the Australian Ballet, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne Recital Centre, Arts Centre Melbourne and Hamer Hall, the Australian Centre for the Moving Image and Chunky Move dance company.

The VCA is also on the traditional lands of the Kulin nations, where we draw on the strength of more than 1000 generations of arts practice. We respectfully acknowledge the people of the Boon Wurrung and Woiwurrung who have danced their dances, sung their songs and lived their culture on this land for thousands of years.

A walk through our Southbank campus reveals an arts precinct undergoing huge transformation. Construction of the state-of-the-art Ian Potter Southbank Centre will commence in 2017. As the new home for the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, it will encourage collaboration across the artistic disciplines as music students engage with those studying film and visual and performing arts. The new Michael Buxton Centre for Contemporary Art is taking shape, and the $42.5 million development of the Dodds Street stables into a visual arts wing is nearing completion, opening up the campus to students, local businesses and residents.

Our students’ experience is enhanced by learning from some of Melbourne’s most respected practising artists, performers, directors and choreographers, as well as education partnerships with Melbourne arts organisations such as the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the Australian Centre for the Moving Image.

We look forward to welcoming you to our community.
Fine Arts at the Victorian College of the Arts

The heart of Australia’s cultural capital

The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) was established in 1972 with the aim of becoming the first institution in Australia to train students in a variety of artistic disciplines. Today, Melbourne is home to Australia’s most vibrant arts scene, and the VCA campus is at its heart in Southbank. Nowhere else in Australia offers training in so many artistic disciplines on a campus surrounded by the country’s leading arts companies, venues and festivals.

Celebrated alumni

Our graduates are recognised nationally and internationally as leaders in their chosen artistic disciplines. Recently we have celebrated the achievements of:

- Bentley Dean, co-director of Tanno (2016), which received Australia’s first Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Language Film
- Louise Hearman, winner of the 2016 Archibald Prize for her portrait of Barry Humphries
- Ariel Kleiman, director of award-winning television series Top of the Lake (2017)
- Esther Stewart, winner of the 2016 Sulman Prize for her abstract painting Flatland Dreaming and muse to fashion label Valentino, which incorporated her paintings into its autumn/winter 2015–2016 collection
- Hannah Fredericksen, who played the role of Sandra Dee in Dream Lover – The Bobby Darin Musical
- Kitty Green, whose ground-breaking documentary Casting JonBenet (2017) premiered at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival and was picked up by Netflix
- Adam Arkapaw, director of photography for The Light Between Oceans (2016) and Assassin’s Creed (2016).

Visiting master teachers

The VCA’s strong relationships with local and national industry create unique opportunities for collaborative work and performance. We regularly welcome national and international visiting artists. Recently we have hosted:

- Colin Gibson, Academy Award-winning production designer (Mad Max: Fury Road)
- Fern Sloan and Ted Pugh, master teachers in the Michael Chekhov technique from the Actors’ Ensemble in New York
- John Bucchino, Broadway music theatre composer
- Matt Jones, storyboard artist for Disney Pixar’s Inside Out
- Nadia Tass, eight-time AFI award-winning director.

Support while you train

The VCA has an extensive range of fee remission and bursary scholarships, prizes and awards available to both our current students and recent graduates. Some scholarships are awarded directly by the VCA to high-achieving students, and others are offered by application and evaluated on merit or financial need.

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/scholarships

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Spring Awakening, presented by Music Theatre Company 2016 and Production students.
The Bachelor of Fine Arts trains highly skilled arts practitioners to work independently or in ensemble in a wide range of careers and performance or production opportunities.

Critical studies subjects build knowledge of your core discipline, and you can also choose electives in the visual and performing arts, or from other areas of study.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts is an internationally recognised qualification that allows you to work successfully in your chosen profession or continue on to further study or research.

What do I study?

First year
You take practical, studio-based classes from first year, with a structured program of high-level skills training in your chosen discipline throughout the three years of the degree.

Second year
During second year, you will have more opportunities to present your work to a wider audience while continuing in your studio-based classes, electives and critical studies classes.

Third year
In third year, you'll enjoy a capstone experience: a public exhibition or performance that will draw together what you've learnt and prepare you for professional work or further study.

Fine Arts electives
In addition to the major subjects in your chosen specialisation, you can undertake elective subjects to suit your own interests and objectives. You can choose from other disciplines within the Bachelor of Fine Arts, or from other University of Melbourne undergraduate subject offerings.

Honours
The Bachelor of Fine Arts honours program introduces you to practice-led research skills and methodologies. During your honours year, you will produce a major creative work and research paper, and develop skills in devising, defining and managing a project. The program offers a direct pathway to a research higher degree, and will equip you to work as a professional practising artist in your chosen field. Honours is available across all specialisations. See page 15.

Career outcomes
As a Bachelor of Fine Arts graduate, you’ll have a sound foundation in the practices of your chosen discipline. Our graduates contribute to the development of original work in Australia and on the world stage, and are frequently recognised in prestigious film festivals, arts prizes and industry awards. Our graduates have portfolio careers that include:

- Actor
- Animator
- Arts educator
- Arts researcher
- Arts reviewer or critic
- Choreographer
- Cinematographer
- Contemporary visual artist
- Costume or set designer
- Dancer
- Director
- Editor
- Film or television producer
- Filmmaker
- Lighting or sound designer
- Music theatre performer
- Photographer
- Screenwriter
- Stage or production manager
- Theatre maker.
Acting

VCA Acting is an intensive actor training program that uses a conservatoire-style approach to prepare students for careers in the acting profession across a range of stage and screen contexts.

This dynamic, forward-thinking program will nurture a new generation of culturally aware and internationally focused actors for the Asia-Pacific region. It will prepare actors for work across all areas of the profession for stage and screen, including animation and gaming.

With small class sizes in a studio-based environment to support intensive project-based learning, you will develop your own training methodology as an autonomous, ensemble and company actor. You will collaborate with VCA Theatre, Film and Television, and Production students throughout the course.

In your first year, you will undertake core subjects in Body and Voice, Acting and Performance, and Contextual Studies alongside Bachelor of Fine Arts (Theatre) students. In second year, you will continue to explore stage and screen production processes. In third year, you will perform in web series and short films produced by Film and Television students. In final semester, your screen and stage acting skills will be showcased to agents, directors and producers in exclusive performances in Melbourne and Sydney.

Time commitment

Acting requires full-time commitment from students: essentially 9am–5pm, Monday to Friday, with extended hours during performance seasons.

Career outcomes

By the time you graduate, you will be prepared to enter the acting profession in a range of roles and contexts, including as a film actor, television actor, theatre actor, and acting coach.

Find out more

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-acting

Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts

Specialisation in Acting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Body and Voice 1</th>
<th>Acting and Performance 1</th>
<th>Contextual Studies 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Body and Voice 2</td>
<td>Acting and Performance 2</td>
<td>Making Music for Film and Animation 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Acting Lab 1</td>
<td>Contextual Studies 2</td>
<td>Glee Singing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Acting Lab 2 (includes major production)</td>
<td>Contextual Studies 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Acting Lab 3 (includes web series and major production)</td>
<td>Industry Practice 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Acting Lab 4 (includes short film and major production)</td>
<td>Industry Practice 2 (Showcase)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Compulsory subjects

VCA elective subjects

This is a sample course plan only. You can choose elective subjects to suit your own interests and objectives. Subjects offered may change from year to year. You will be advised of current subject offerings prior to subject selection and enrolment.

These subjects are co-delivered with Bachelor of Fine Arts (Theatre) students.

“Acting students work not only within the Acting cohort, but in collaboration with other VCA students, professional directors and visiting international master teachers, setting them up for extraordinary careers.”

Associate Professor Matt Delbridge, Head of Theatre

New in 2018

Third year student in screen acting project for Industry Practice 2, 2016.
Animation

Animation at the VCA has a long-standing, world-class reputation. Our graduates light up animated screens around the world. We invite you to join our creative team.

The Animation specialisation involves the practical exploration, innovation and development of animated screen production. It incorporates research, idea development, screenwriting, storyboarding, character design and expression. It also covers a comprehensive range of animation art, craft and technical production methods, styles and outcomes. Animation methods include paint on glass, charcoal, sand, ink, 2D and 3D digital, stop-motion, pixilation, rotoscoping, visual effects and motion graphics, experimental film techniques, projection art and interdisciplinary collaborations.

In class, you will be challenged to respond to set problems and pursue your own creative thinking to keep the material fresh and relevant to your own experience.

You will have access to state-of-the-art facilities and resources, including animation and stop-motion studios; rushes viewing rooms; editing, sound recording and mixing suites; 90 and 220-seat cinemas; professional production equipment; and HD digital vision and audio post-production facilities.

**Time commitment**

Classes run from Monday to Thursday, with 20 hours of formal contact hours and 20 hours of unsupervised studio time per week.

**Career outcomes**

- Animation artist for art and entertainment industries, including film, television, community arts, site-specific screening installations, information and advertising, games, motion graphics and new developments in media and exhibition
- Screenwriter for animation

**Find out more**

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-animation

**Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts • Specialisation in Animation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Animation Studio 1A</th>
<th>Animation Research 1</th>
<th>Writing Animation 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Animation Studio 1B</td>
<td>Animation Laboratory 1</td>
<td>Making Music for Film and Animation 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Animation Studio 2A</td>
<td>Animation Research 2</td>
<td>Writing Animation 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Animation Studio 2B</td>
<td>Animation Laboratory 2</td>
<td>The Art of Game Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Animation Studio 3</td>
<td>Animation Research 3</td>
<td>Collaborative Production</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Animation Laboratory 3</td>
<td>Acting for Camera</td>
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</table>

Compulsory subjects  •  VCA elective subjects

*This is a sample course plan only. You can choose elective subjects to suit your own interests and objectives. Subjects offered may change from year to year. You will be advised of current subject offerings prior to subject selection and enrolment.*

“When you apply to the VCA, they want to see original stories and ideas – they will teach you the rest. You really have to love this work, but the VCA has given me the freedom to produce work of which I am proud.”

Annie Murray (Australia), Bachelor of Fine Arts (Animation)
Dance

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (Dance) builds on the VCA’s outstanding reputation for performance-focused dance training. It attracts highly motivated, disciplined and creative dancers who are interested in shaping the future of Australian dance.

VCA Dance offers a vibrant and stimulating atmosphere in which dancers are trained for the technical demands and creative challenges of careers in dance. The course develops technically strong, kinaesthetically aware dance artists through specialist training in contemporary dance, ballet, dance science, somatic practices, choreography and performance. New works by professional Australian and international choreographers provide invaluable performance experience and interaction with the dance profession.

There is some flexibility within the degree, allowing you to choose elective subjects in dance or from other artistic disciplines at the VCA. You can also complete electives from outside of the VCA’s offerings, to prepare you for other pathways such as teaching.

You will have access to state-of-the-art facilities, including five purpose-built dance studios and a range of on-campus theatre and performance spaces.

Career outcomes

Our graduates have diverse careers as dancers, artistic directors, ballet teachers, choreographers, community dance artists, contemporary dance teachers, dance researchers, and dance writers/critics.

Recent alumni successes

Recently we have celebrated the successes of Olivia McPherson (2016) and Jack Riley (2016), who performed with Tasdance in Fragile Matter in March 2017; Kyall Shanks (2015) and Patrick Weir (2016), who performed in the new production of Lord of the Flies at the Arts Centre Melbourne in April 2017; and Lee Serle (2003), whose latest interdisciplinary/participatory contemporary performance work Multimodal was performed at the Substation in 2016 to critical acclaim.

Find out more

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-dance

Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialisation in Dance</th>
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<td><strong>Year 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
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</table>

- Compulsory subjects
- Dance elective subjects
- Dance/VCA elective or breadth subjects

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Film and Television

The Film and Television specialisation develops your creative voice and the skills to create distinctive screen programs to a high artistic and technical standard.

As a Film and Television student, you will develop your creative, technical and analytical skills through lectures, workshops and master classes. To develop your individual creative voice, you will write, direct and edit your own work, as well as crew on fellow students’ productions to build a strong practical foundation and valuable peer networks. You are encouraged to be innovative and experimental, and to develop the expertise to express your concepts effectively.

In your final year, you’ll channel your writing/directing skills into a major production that is screened publicly as part of a graduate film event.

You will have access to state-of-the-art facilities and resources, including fully equipped production studios, animation studios, and 90 and 220-seat cinemas; analogue and digital cinema cameras and audio recording kits; and HD digital vision and audio post-production facilities.

Time commitment

Contact hours in the first year are approximately 30 hours per week, which includes both class-based work as well as individual tutorials with lecturers.

Recent alumni successes

Our students and graduates receive outstanding industry and audience recognition on national and international stages as cinematographers, directors, editors, film and television producers and screenwriters. Recently, we have celebrated the successes of: director Bentley Dean, whose film Tanna (2016) received Australia’s first Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Language Film; Alethea Jones, whose feature debut Fun Mom Dinner (2017) premiered at the Sundance Film Festival; Ariel Kleiman, director of award-winning television series Top of the Lake (2017); Kitty Green, whose ground-breaking documentary Casting JonBenet (2017) premiered at Sundance, screened at Berlinale, and was acquired by Netflix; writer-director Neil Triffett, and producer Lee Matthews, whose feature film EMO the Musical (2016) was selected for its international premiere at Berlinale; Polly Staniford, producer of the psychological thriller Berlin Syndrome (2017), which premiered at Sundance and screened at Berlinale; and Adam Arkapaw, director of photography for The Light Between Oceans (2016), Assassin’s Creed (2016) and Casey Affleck’s Light of My Life (2018 release).

Find out more

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-film-and-television

Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts Specialisation in Film and Television

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Screen Practice 1A</td>
<td>Screen Practice 1B</td>
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<td>Languages of the Screen 1</td>
<td>Screen Culture and Aesthetics 1</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Screen Practice 2A</td>
<td>Screen Culture and Aesthetics 2</td>
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<td>Languages of the Screen 2</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Screen Practice 3</td>
<td>Screen Culture and Aesthetics 3</td>
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<td>Languages of the Screen 3</td>
<td>Presentation and Marketing</td>
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<td>Screen Practice 3</td>
<td>Critical Reflection</td>
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Compulsory subjects VCA elective subjects

This is a sample course plan only. You can choose elective subjects to suit your own interests and objectives. Subjects offered may change from year to year. You will be advised of current subject offerings prior to subject selection and enrolment.
Music Theatre

VCA Music Theatre is an intensive skills-building program that produces industry-ready, professional performers with a strong sense of individual expression.

Our students develop autonomous habits of practice and preparation that are effective, mindful and regular to encourage lifelong artistic growth. We take a highly personalised approach to our training, supporting your unique qualities while developing your range.

The program offers extensive practical training in music theatre’s three principal disciplines – singing, acting and dancing. In first year, the focus is on building an excellent foundation of skill and technique. In second year, you will develop diversity through application to complex theatre texts and work covering a wide range of vocal and dance styles.

In third year, the focus moves to professional readiness, with training in audition technique, acting for camera, developing your repertoire alongside major productions and participation in the development of new works. Your final year culminates in an industry showcase for agents, directors and producers.

Music Theatre has a strong connection to Melbourne’s thriving music theatre profession. Students participate in daily studio-based training with working artists, and in industry master classes with international guest teachers.

Time commitment
Students are on campus full time five days a week in an immersive, collaborative and practice-based environment. Performance seasons will require greater time commitment.

Recent alumni successes

Find out more
vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-music-theatre

Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts

Specialisation in Music Theatre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
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<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance Skills 1</td>
<td>Acting Skills 1</td>
<td>Dance Skills 2</td>
<td>Acting Skills 2</td>
<td>Dance Skills 3</td>
<td>Voice Skills 3</td>
<td>Dance Skills 4</td>
<td>Acting Skills 4</td>
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<td>Voice Skills 1</td>
<td>Music Theatre Contextual Studies</td>
<td>Voice Skills 2</td>
<td>Music Theatre Combination Class 1</td>
<td>Music Theatre Combination Class 2</td>
<td>Voice Skills 2</td>
<td>Music Theatre Combination Class 3</td>
<td>Voice Skills 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander Technique for Daily Function</td>
<td>Up Close and Personal with MTC</td>
<td>Intimate Acts: Inside the Fourth Wall</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
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<td>Dance Skills 4</td>
<td>Voice Skills 5</td>
<td>Dance Skills 5</td>
<td>Acting Skills 4</td>
<td>Dance Skills 4</td>
<td>Music Theatre Combination Class 4 (includes performance)</td>
<td>Dance Skills 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Voice Skills 5</td>
<td>Performance Project (includes performance)</td>
<td>Performance Project</td>
<td>Dance Skills 5</td>
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</table>

Compulsory subjects VCA elective subjects

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Production

Production trains you to design, create, operate and manage the behind-the-scenes elements of live performance in your chosen area of specialisation.

The VCA offers three Production majors: Performance Technology, Stage Management and Design Realisation.

You will apply knowledge gained in studio classes to practical projects both within and beyond the VCA. At the VCA, you will have the opportunity to work in a range of capacities for our dance, theatre and music theatre productions, as well as one-off events.

**Production majors**

In your first semester, you will gain a broad understanding across all three majors and build your peer network, before starting your major in Semester 2.

**Performance Technology**

You will learn about lighting, audio and vision, electrics and software in theatre. You will be trained in the practical use of the technology and develop your design skills.

**Stage Management**

You will gain skills in stage, company and production management, and be introduced to performance technology.

**Design Realisation**

You will be trained in costume, props and visual communication, and acquire the skills to create and realise a design.

**Time commitment**

The year begins with classroom-based teaching and workshops (12–20 hours per week). As the year progresses, you take on more responsibility for VCA productions (12–30 hours per week) and during peak production periods leading up to opening night performances, contact hours can be up to 10 hours per day.

**Career outcomes**

Our Production graduates have careers as set and costume designers, event managers, theatre technicians, lighting/sound/audio designers, prop and costume makers, production managers, stage managers, and wardrobe managers.

**Find out more**

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-production

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“For me, there is no typical day at the VCA. My days can range from shifts in the workshop, model making, costume construction and inspired moments of design to long days of meetings – but that’s what makes this course so rewarding.”

*Alex Rothnie (Australia), Bachelor of Fine Arts, specialisation in Production (Design Realisation)*

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**Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts Specialisation in Production**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Introduction to Production Processes</th>
<th>Performance Design Technology</th>
<th>Performing Arts Practice 1A (within area of major)</th>
<th>Concepts and Creativity 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Design Realisation 1B OR Stage Management Techniques 1B</td>
<td>Performing Arts Practice 1B (within area of major)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Design Realisation 2A OR Stage Management Techniques 2A OR Performance Technology 2A</td>
<td>Performing Arts Practice 2A (within area of major)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Design Realisation 2B OR Stage Management Techniques 2B OR Performance Technology 2B</td>
<td>Performing Arts Practice 2B (within area of major)</td>
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<td>The Artist’s Toolbox</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Design Realisation 3A OR Professional Pathway Investigation A OR Performance Technology 3A</td>
<td>Performing Arts Practice 3A (within area of major)</td>
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<td>Concepts and Creativity 3 (Internship)</td>
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<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Design Realisation 3B OR Professional Pathway Investigation B OR Performance Technology 3B</td>
<td>Performing Arts Practice 3B (within area of major)</td>
<td>Understanding Masks (Available only during July)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory subjects</th>
<th>VCA elective subjects</th>
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</table>

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Screenwriting

The Screenwriting specialisation is designed for those who have the desire and talent to write audience-driven stories for the screen.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (Screenwriting) is the premier undergraduate degree in Australia dedicated to screenwriting. You will study the many facets of screenwriting through lectures, classes, screenings and practice-based exercises. The course covers cinematic and television writing, writing for the youth market, adaptation, writing for games and web content.

You will partner with Film and Television directing students in workshops and experiences to develop industry perspective and form valuable creative partnerships.

At the end of three years you’ll be equipped to write professionally for screen media, having acquired essential creative and technical skills such as generating and adapting stories for screen platforms, presenting work at a professional standard, giving and receiving constructive feedback and working in creative teams.

Time commitment
In first year, students are engaged in intensive, workshop-based, on-campus training three to four days a week.

This comprises teaching, studio practice, screenings, and small group script development tutorials. When not on campus, students can expect to be focusing their energies into their scriptwriting projects.

Career outcomes
■ Screenwriter for film, television, games or new media
■ Screen content developer

Find out more
vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-screenwriting

Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts
Specialisation in Screenwriting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Screenwriting Practices 1A</th>
<th>Pictures, Sounds, Words</th>
<th>Industry Perspectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Screenwriting Practices 1B</td>
<td>Screen Culture and Aesthetics 1</td>
<td>Making Music for Film and Animation 1</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Screenwriting Practices 2A</th>
<th>Gaming and the Writer</th>
<th>Writing for the Youth Screen Market</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Screenwriting Practices 2B</td>
<td>Screen Culture and Aesthetics 2</td>
<td>The Art of Game Music</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Screenwriting Practices 3</th>
<th>Screen Culture and Aesthetics 3</th>
<th>Screen Adaptation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Screenwriting Business</td>
<td>Research Project or Industry Attachment</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compulsory subjects VCA elective subjects

This is a sample course plan only. You can choose elective subjects to suit your own interests and objectives. Subjects offered may change from year to year. You will be advised of current subject offerings prior to subject selection and enrolment.

“I loved my cohort and the teachers. We watched movies and dissected them on a Thursday morning. We learnt from each other and grew together – and I can’t wait to work with these people in the future. We were instilled with the drive and work ethic that we could actually make a career out of our passions.”

Hannah Samuel (Australia), Bachelor of Fine Arts, specialising in Screenwriting. Now working at Matchbox Pictures, home of Neighbours.
Theatre

VCA Theatre provides immersive, conservatoire-style preparation across all areas of live performance for 21st-century practitioners.

The Theatre program at VCA trains theatre artists to work across all areas of live performance – including physical theatre, writing, directing and dramaturgy – preparing them for 21st-century careers in theatre in the Asia-Pacific.

Small class sizes support intensive project-based learning, and after three years you will have consolidated your core working methodology as an autonomous, ensemble and company practitioner. Collaborative practice is central to our training, and you will collaborate throughout the course with VCA students from other disciplines, including acting, writing, directing, production and film and television.

In your first year, you will undertake core subjects in Body and Voice, Acting and Performance, and Contextual Studies along with Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) students. In second year, you will adapt stage and screen material and develop new work for presentation at a nationally recognised fringe festival. In third year, you will travel overseas as part of the program to develop the work further and perform internationally, before presenting your final work in a VCA theatre festival alongside VCA graduate students in Writing and Directing for Performance.

In your final semester, you will pitch to a panel of professional producers at a locally hosted Performing Arts Market.

**Time commitment**

Theatre requires full-time commitment from students: essentially 9am–5pm, Monday to Friday, with extended hours during performance seasons.

**Career outcomes**

Graduates will be equipped with the skills and experience to enter the multi-faceted theatre industry in the Asia-Pacific as performers, theatre makers, producers and community artists.

**Find out more**

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-theatre

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**Third-year student Louisa Wall in A Dingo Ate My Baby, presented as part of FRISK 2016 during the Melbourne Fringe Festival.**

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**Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts**

Specialisation in Theatre

| Year 1 | Semester 1 | Body and Voice 1 | Acting and Performance 1 | Contextual Studies 1 |
| Year 2 | Semester 1 | Theatre Lab 1 | Contextual Studies 2 | The Laptop Recording Studio |
| Year 2 | Semester 2 | Theatre Lab 2 (includes fringe festival performance) | The Secret Life of the Body 1 |
| Year 3 | Semester 1 | Theatre Lab 3 (includes overseas making experience) | Industry Practice 1 |
| Year 3 | Semester 2 | Theatre Lab 4 (includes VCA theatre festival performance) | Industry Practice 2 (Performing Arts Market) |

- **Compulsory subjects**
- **VCA elective subjects**

---

This is a sample course plan only. You can choose elective subjects to suit your own interests and objectives. Subjects offered may change from year to year. You will be advised of current subject offerings prior to subject selection and enrolment.

These subjects are co-delivered with Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) students.
Visual Art

Visual Art offers an immersive, studio-based environment that fosters self-directed studio practice in your choice of Drawing and Printmedia, Painting, Photography or Sculpture and Spatial Practice.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (Visual Art) is a specialist course that will help you develop practical skills and theoretical knowledge in the visual arts. From the outset, your studio projects are expected to demonstrate investigation and experimentation with a range of concepts, materials, techniques and processes. Your studies will culminate in a resolved body of artwork for inclusion in the Graduate Exhibition at the conclusion of the degree.

VCA Art provides studio and workshop facilities where you can explore both traditional and new media under the guidance of some of Australia’s most respected art educators and artists. All students are given a studio to work in from their first semester.

Sample course plan – Bachelor of Fine Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Studio Studies 1</th>
<th>Critical and Theoretical Studies 1</th>
<th>Related Studies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Studio Studies 2</td>
<td>Critical and Theoretical Studies 2</td>
<td>Open Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Studio Studies 3</td>
<td>Critical and Theoretical Studies 3</td>
<td>Studio Options 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Studio Studies 4</td>
<td>Critical and Theoretical Studies 4</td>
<td>Studio Options 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Studio Studies 5</td>
<td>Critical and Theoretical Studies 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Studio Studies 6</td>
<td>Critical and Theoretical Studies 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory subjects</th>
<th>VCA elective subjects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

This is a sample course plan only. You can choose elective subjects to suit your own interests and objectives. Subjects offered may change from year to year. You will be advised of current subject offerings prior to subject selection and enrolment.

Time commitment

Studios are open seven days a week until late in the evening. Students make the most of the immersive, vibrant and artistic working environment on campus.

Recent alumni successes

- **Adam Stone**, winner of the 2014 Montalto Sculpture Prize for *A Fall from Grace (Self Portrait Crash)*
- **Eric Demetriou**, winner of the 2016 John Fries Award for emerging artists
- **Louise Hearman**, winner of the 2016 Archibald Prize for her portrait of Barry Humphries
- **Penelope Davis**, winner of the 2016 Rupert Bunny Art Fellowship for a collaborative project *Reverse Photography* with fellow alumnus and VCA staff member Dr Stephen Haley
- **Esther Stewart**, winner of the 2016 Sulman Prize for her abstract painting *Flatland Dreaming* and muse to fashion label Valentino, which incorporated her paintings into its autumn/winter 2015–2016 collection
- **Noriko Nakamura**, winner of the 2017 Maddocks Art Prize, presented biennially to two outstanding contemporary visual artists from the ACT, New South Wales and Victoria

Find out more

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-fine-arts-visual-art

“Studying at the VCA is essentially like being a working artist already. We work out of our own studio, install work, hold exhibitions and apply for shows. Working this way has prepared me to set up my professional art practice once I graduate.”

**Megan Kennedy (Australia)**, Bachelor of Fine Arts, specialisation in Visual Art (Honours)
Graduate degrees and further study

Completing a graduate qualification after your bachelors degree will set you up to become a leader in your field, and open up a wide range of career opportunities.

Honours degrees in the visual and performing arts

Animation
You will extend your creative practice and develop your research ability through a one-year program that introduces you to creative and theoretical research skills and methodologies. During the course you will write, direct and edit an innovative short animated film and produce a minor research thesis.

Dance
This fourth year of study deepens your knowledge and dance experience through a specialised, advanced program that includes a major creative project and related research paper. It extends your technical ability, artistic sensibility and creative capacities, and introduces you to practice-based research.

Film and Television
The honours program will extend your creative practice and develop your research ability. During the course you will write, direct and edit a substantive short motion picture, or specialise in a film craft such as cinematography, producing, production management, directing, sound, screenwriting or editing. You will also produce a minor research thesis.

Music Theatre
You will explore your skills and practice through a major self-designed project, which could include writing or composing a new work, creating a cabaret or further developing a particular performance skill. The year culminates in a public showing which forms a major part of the assessment, accompanied by a minor thesis.

Screenwriting
This one-year program will develop and expand your creative and theoretical research skills and methodologies. You will devise a creative-writing piece, for example, a feature screenplay to first draft stage or a television pilot and series. You will also produce a minor research thesis.

Theatre Practice
On completion of the third year, you may decide to hone your professional acting or theatre-making practice by continuing into a specialised fourth year of study in the Theatre Practice honours program.

Visual Art
The honours program allows you to undertake advanced work in the visual arts, develop a high level of studio practice and develop your capacity as a better-informed, skilled and articulate visual artist. You will produce a major creative work or series of works, and a related research paper. The course culminates in a public exhibition of your work.

Graduate study areas in the visual and performing arts

- Dance
- Directing
- Dramaturgy
- Film and Television (Narrative or Documentary)
- Producing
- Production Design (Live Performance or Screen)
- Screenwriting
- Visual Art
- Voice Studies
- Writing for Performance

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study

“...”

Sarah Hopper (Australia),
Master of Production Design for Screen

Undergraduate degree
Art or design-based undergraduate degree 3 years
Graduate degree
Master of Production Design for Screen 2 years
Your career
Production designer

Master of Production Design for Screen

The Master of Production Design for Screen welcomes applicants from a variety of backgrounds, including theatre, design, architecture, illustration, film and television and visual art.

You will gain practical, hands-on experience in art direction and design for film and television, working with VCA Film and Television students on a professional-quality graduating film, and through an industry placement.

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees/master-of-production-design-for-screen
Breadth at the VCA

If you choose a degree from outside the VCA & MCM, breadth gives you the chance to develop your artistic talents alongside your other studies.

Students from other University of Melbourne degrees can choose breadth subjects in film and television, theatre, music theatre, production and visual art, as well as interdisciplinary subjects. Prerequisites for breadth subjects vary from those requiring no prior knowledge of the discipline, through to those needing previous experience.

Example subjects

**Ancient and Contemporary Indigenous Arts**
Develop a deeper understanding of Australian Indigenous arts practice by visiting remote and urban Aboriginal communities, art galleries and performing arts companies, alongside fieldwork in the Gunditjmara country (or Yorta Yorta).

**Acting for Camera**
An intensive introduction to the art of screen acting, focusing on the processes actors use for creating effective performances for camera.

**The Artist’s Toolbox**
This subject introduces the ‘nuts and bolts’ of arts management: a practical exploration into the key disciplines required to make a creative idea into a reality. It aims to lift the veil of the industry to reveal the core systems common in the plans of implementation and to demystify the process of producing an artistic project.

**Contemporary Performance Analysis**
Analyze, evaluate and interpret performance events and texts from a range of critical and theoretical perspectives by examining contemporary live performance and engaging with various theatres and performance spaces in Melbourne.

**Hashtag Cyberstar**
Hashtag Cyberstar guides students to create, host and promote their own artistic practice online. This subject covers contemporary web design techniques, engages with design to build context around the work, and covers methods for integrating social media into online portfolios.

You will explore techniques for preparing and presenting physical or performative work in an online environment.

**Glee Singing**
Singers and non-singers alike can share the joyous experience of singing as a community. You’ll learn basic singing anatomy, safe voice usage, song structure, basic music notation, harmonies, vocal styling and different genres.

**Making Movies 1**
You’ll learn professional film production techniques and examine the roles of film director, writer and producer.

**Painting Techniques**
Through project-based experimentation you will be guided through a range of different painting techniques to produce aesthetically and materially developed artworks.

See our full selection of VCA breadth subjects:

vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/breadth-studies
Admissions

How to apply
Entry to the Bachelor of Fine Arts is talent-based. See the information regarding extra requirements for each specialisation on page 18. For application closing dates, see page 19.

Domestic students
Domestic students applying for an undergraduate course must submit an application through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). Australian citizens and permanent residents studying overseas must also apply through VTAC.

vtac.edu.au

International students
International students studying the VCE, an Australian Year 12 or IB in Australia must apply through VTAC for Semester 1 entry. All other international students, including those undertaking foundation studies in Australia, must apply directly to the University or through one of our overseas representatives.

futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications

Audition/interview fees
Applicants applying through VTAC for the Bachelor of Fine Arts are required to pay an audition/interview fee of $70 (waived for healthcare card holders). This is in addition to the VTAC application fee. Applicants who apply for more than one Fine Arts specialisation are required to pay a separate $70 fee for each application.

Course fees
Domestic students
All domestic undergraduate students are enrolled in a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP), subsidised by the Australian Government. Payment of the student contribution amount can be deferred through HECS-HELP for eligible students.

International students
Tuition fees are charged for each year that you are enrolled. You will pay tuition fees according to your specific enrolment in any given semester. Detailed fee information, including the fee policy covering your enrolment, will be provided when you are offered a place at the University.

futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/fees

Access Melbourne
If you are a domestic student, you can enhance your opportunity for selection by applying for Access Melbourne, the University’s special entry scheme. Access Melbourne can help you gain a place in a course by letting you explain the ongoing circumstances that have affected your education.

Applications are made using the Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) application on the VTAC website.

access.unimelb.edu.au

Scholarships
The Melbourne Scholarships Program is one of the most comprehensive and generous in Australia. It recognises outstanding academic achievement and provides access to students who might otherwise be excluded by socioeconomic, cultural, geographic and other disadvantages.

scholarships.unimelb.edu.au

The VCA also has an extensive range of fee remission and bursary scholarships, prizes and awards available to both our current students and recent graduates.

vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/scholarships

Entry requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Prerequisite subjects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VCE (Units 3 and 4)</td>
<td>A study score of at least 25 in English/English Language/Literature or at least 30 in EAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCE A Levels/Singapore A Levels</td>
<td>At least Grade C in an accepted AS Level English subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity College Foundation Studies</td>
<td>EAP and English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Successful completion of VCE or equivalent qualification is required.
2. For students with English as their second language a pass in English B at the required level will be accepted as satisfying the English prerequisite. Except where specified, IB subjects must be passed to at least Grade 4 Standard or Higher Level.
3. Accepted GCE AS and A Level English subjects are: General Paper, General Studies, English Language and Literature, English Literature, English Language, Singapore A Level subject Knowledge and Enquiry (H2) is also accepted. A grade of at least C is required to meet the University’s English language requirements. Successful completion of three A level subjects is required.
Extra requirements

As well as the prerequisite subjects, each specialisation has additional entry requirements as detailed below.

Acting
For the initial audition you will be required to select and prepare material from a prescribed list as well as participate in a group exercise. Text must be learned, not read. There may also be a call-back audition, interview and/or workshop. Auditions and interviews will be held in Melbourne and other states as advised.

Animation
The animation specialisation is available to domestic students only. The selection process involves a test and, if you are shortlisted, an interview. The test requires you to write a story and create a series of still images that tell a story visually. You will be given a choice of three topics and have about one month to complete it. If you are invited to an interview following assessment of the test, you will be encouraged to bring examples of your creative output – ideally five to seven minutes of filmmaking work on DVD. Interviews are conducted in late November.

Dance
The selection process includes an audition for all applicants and an interview for selected applicants. The audition involves a ballet class and a contemporary dance class incorporating improvisation. Auditions are usually held in October in Melbourne and interstate. Please visit the VCA website for audition dates and locations. If you are unable to attend an audition, you can submit a DVD following the guidelines set out on the website. Prior training in contemporary dance/ballet is highly recommended. Audition preparation workshops are available.

Film and Television
The admission process involves a selection test and, if you are shortlisted, an interview. The test requires you to write a story suitable for the screen and create a series of still images that tell a story visually. You will be given a choice of three topics in the test and have about one month to complete it. If you are invited to an interview following assessment of the test, you will be encouraged to bring examples of your creative output – ideally five to seven minutes of filmmaking work on DVD. Interviews are conducted in late November.

Music Theatre
You are required to prepare two contrasting musical theatre songs, two monologues (Shakespeare and contemporary), and attend a group dance audition. Visit the website to download the monologue booklet and for more details about each audition element.

Production
You must submit a CV, recent letter(s) of recommendation, a list of production or technical skills and a 500-word statement to support the selection of your major. All applicants will attend a short interview. You will discuss your ideas for production of a play or a musical selected in advance from a list on the website. Bring items that support your application – e.g. a prompt copy, costume or set design or a lighting plan – as well as other material that demonstrates your interest in production.

Successful applicants will progress to the workshop stage, which involves discussion of a script and responding to a series of questions. Interviews are held in November and December.

Screenwriting
The selection process involves a test and, if you are shortlisted, an interview. The selection test requires you to write a short story suitable for the screen. You will be given a choice of three topics and have about one month to complete it. If you are invited to an interview following assessment of the test, you will be encouraged to bring examples of your creative output. Interviews are conducted in mid-November.

Theatre
For the initial audition, you will be required to present a prepared task from a prescribed list as well as participate in a group exercise. There may also be a call-back audition, interview and/or workshop. Auditions and interviews will be held in Melbourne and other states as advised. Please see website for more details.

Visual Art
The selection process includes an interview and folio presentation where you are expected to show evidence of your artistic potential, imagination, experience and competence in the production of objects and images. Interviews are conducted in November. Visit the website for folio specifications and guidelines.
Application closing dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialisation</th>
<th>Domestic students: VTAC timely closing date</th>
<th>International students: Application closing date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>31 August 2017</td>
<td>31 August 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animation, Film and Television, Screenwriting</td>
<td>31 August 2017</td>
<td>31 August 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acting, Music Theatre, Production, Theatre, Visual Art</td>
<td>28 September 2017</td>
<td>28 September 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applications should be submitted by the VTAC timely closing date to guarantee a live audition/interview for this specialisation. No late applications are accepted.