

OCAD U FACT SHEET



Exchange Contact Information

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Programs Open to Exchange Students

Students should be enrolled in the same/similar program at their home university.

Graduate Programs (courses at 5000-6000 level) are not open to undergraduate students. Course information can be found on the university website at www.ocadu.ca, under Current Students/Course Catalogue.

Faculty of Art

- Criticism & Curatorial Practice
- Cross-Disciplinary Art: Life Studies
- Cross-Disciplinary Art: Publications
- Drawing & Painting
- Drawing & Painting: Digital Painting & Expanded Animation
- Integrated Media
- Integrated Media: Digital Painting & Expanded Animation
- Photography
- Printmaking & Publications
- Sculpture/Installation

Faculty of Design

- Advertising
- Environmental Design
- Environmental Design: Interior Design
- Graphic Design
- Illustration
- Industrial Design
- Material Art & Design (course space is limited)

School of Interdisciplinary Studies

- Digital Futures

Faculty of Liberal Arts and Science

- Creative Writing
 - this is a hands-on, studio-based program about writing as artistic creation
- Indigenous Visual Culture
- Visual and Critical Studies
 - this program emphasizes the expanded field of modern and contemporary art history, which includes design, photography, architecture, performance and new media, as well as painting and sculpture

Academic Calendar

Exchange students may study at OCAD University for a maximum of one term, either the fall or winter.

Fall – September to December

Winter – January to April

Nomination Deadlines

Fall (September to December) – March 15 **Winter** (January to April) – August 15

Language Requirements

The official language of instruction at OCAD U is English. It is the responsibility of the home institution to ensure that the students who are nominated for exchange at OCAD U have the sufficient ability to complete university-level courses in English.

TOEL/IELTS may be required if the home university's primary instruction is not English. [English Language Proficiency](#) information can be found on the OCAD U website.

Application Process

1. Partner institutions must nominate their students for exchange by completing an online [Nomination Form](#).
2. Nominated students must complete the online Application Form. Instructions will be sent to students.

Note that nomination does not guarantee admission to the exchange program at OCAD U.

Required Application Materials

- Letter of Intent (250-300 words outlining student's reasons for applying to OCAD U and goals for the exchange period).
- Copy of most recent transcript in English from home institution.
- Portfolio (10-12 pieces of student's original work).

Visas

Exchange students coming for one term (less than 6 months) are not required to have a Study Permit. However depending on their [country of citizenship](#), they will be required to obtain either a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV), or an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) to enter Canada.

Exchange students are not permitted to work on-campus or off-campus. Details can be found on the [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada \(IRCC\)](#) website.

University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP)

The University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) is a **mandatory** health plan for all international non-residents studying or working at a [participating university](#) or affiliated college in Ontario.

UHIP provides international students with basic coverage for doctor and hospital services during their exchange. It does **not** provide extended coverage for prescription medication and dental care. For details, go to www.uhip.ca.

The UHIP fee will be included in the student's fees account.

Course Selection and Registration

All incoming exchange students must maintain full-time student status for the duration of their studies at OCAD U. The normal full-time course load is five 0.5 credit courses (2.5 credits) per term with a minimum of three 0.5 credit courses (1.5 credits).

There are 3 hours of class time per week for each 0.5 credit course during the fall and winter terms.

A 0.5 credit course is equivalent to 6 European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

It is ultimately up to the home university to determine the number of credits students are required to take during their exchange period at OCAD U.

Please note that course availability varies from year to year and space is available on a first come first served basis. Once admitted, students will receive an email with instructions on how to pick their courses. We advise all incoming exchange students to be flexible in their course selection and course schedule.

Tuition and Fees

Students are exempt from regular tuition fees. However, they are required to pay mandatory fees, including [University Health Insurance Plan \(UHIP\)](#), [course materials](#) and [software](#) (required for certain programs of study).

Students with Disabilities or Special Needs

The Office of International Student Support & Exchange Programs will connect students with the appropriate person at the Student Accessibility Services and other student services (if needed) prior to their arrival on campus.

Please note: It is the student's responsibility to self-identify to OCAD U prior to their arrival to ensure that we will be able to provide the required disability support services.

Housing

OCAD U does not have an on-campus student residence, so students will have to look for off-campus accommodation. Housing information is provided on our website at www.ocadu.ca/housinginfo.

OCAD U Transcripts

Following the exchange, OCAD U will forward an official transcript to the International Office at the student's home institution. Transcripts will not be released for students with outstanding accounts (e.g. UHIP fee, AV loans, library fines, production materials fees, etc.).

If student need a copy of their transcript or need it to be sent to another institution, they must submit a [Request for Transcript](#) to the Office of the Registrar at regservices@ocadu.ca.