Welcome!

You are about to begin your studies with us as a new UTM student. We recognize that you have department specific questions and so we deliver this week a special edition just for students aiming for the Visual Studies track: welcome to NEXT STOP: Visual Studies @ UTM. In this issue, we address some of the most frequently asked student questions regarding course registration, introduce you to your department advisors, and deliver valuable Visual Studies-specific content. Also, you won't want to miss the inspiring welcome from UTM's Principal!

We are excited to have you join us here at UTM and are eager to help you succeed! Stick with us over the summer and we'll help you get to your NEXT STOP!

- The Department of Visual Studies, the Office of the Registrar, and the Office of Student Transition

Getting Prepared: Orientation & LAUNCH

At the Department of Visual Studies, we want to encourage you to participate in two opportunities created specifically for YOU: Visual Studies Orientation @ O-Week, and LAUNCH! We have seen how these programs have benefited our students in the past and cannot recommend them more. Be sure to register soon to reserve your spots.
Visual Studies Orientation @ O-Week:

Date: Wednesday, August 31
Time: 9 am – 11 am
Room: IB 140
Register: uoft.me/O-Week

Everyone is encouraged to attend this important orientation. Meet other new students, first year faculty, and learn about academic expectations. Registration is not required, but guarantees your spot in other Orientation Week events with limited space.

utm103H5F LAUNCH: Humanities and Social Science

Date: Weekly during the Fall term
Time and room: There are 6 sections to choose from!
Register: Register for utm103H5F on ACORN.

Did you know that there is a hanging speech bubble at UTM? Do you know how to study effectively? Did you know that you can use up to 6GB of internet bandwidth per day while on campus?

Whenever starting a new journey, there are always tips and tricks to making that journey easier and more fun. Who’s better at providing these tips and tricks than someone who has already been through the entire experience?

LAUNCH pairs you with a successful upper-year mentor in your academic discipline to assist you in transitioning successfully to UTM.

Here’s how LAUNCH can help you as a Visual Studies student:

- Are you interested in meeting people studying in your field?
- Do you want to develop your critical and creative thinking?
- Would you like to learn how to be academically successful?
- Do you want to find out about campus resources available to students?
- Do you want make friends and learn about ways to relax and have fun on campus?

LAUNCH is not-for-credit - there is no homework, assignments, or tests! Instead, earn a notation on your Co-Curricular Record (CCR) for completing, in addition to learning some valuable skills, making friends, and having a good time!

Don’t miss out on all the fun! LAUNCH into your UTM experience with us!
What Courses to Take: Core, Required, Pre-/Co-Requisite Courses

Courses options vary depending on the Program you wish to take. Here is a quick guide:

**Art History Specialist Program:**
FAH101H5, VCC101H5 and 1.0 credit in FAH at the 200-level

**Art History Major Program:**
1.5-2.0 credits: FAH101H5, VCC101H5, and a further 0.5-1.0 credit in FAH at the 200 level

**Art and Art History Specialist Program:**
1.5 credits: FAH101H5 and 1.0 credit in FAH at the 200 level
2.0 FAS credits from FAS143H5, FAS145H5, FAS147H5, FAS232H5, FAS236H5, FAS248H5. All of these courses are open to first-year students.

**Art and Art History Major Program:**
1.0 credits: FAH101H5 and a further 0.5 credit in FAH at the 200 level. 2.0 FAS credits from the following: FAS143H5, FAS145H5, FAS147H5, FAS232H5*, FAS236H5*, FAS248H5*. All of these courses are open to first year students.

**Visual Culture and Communication Specialist Program:**
2.5 credits: CCT109H5, CCT110H5, FAH101H5, VCC101H5, and CIN101H5

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Choosing Programs: Program Entry Requirements

You may be considered for Program entry after you have completed 4.0 credits so please consider this when taking your courses. Think about taking your electives in Social Science or Sciences or additional courses in the program to make up the credits. Enrolment in the VCC Program is highly competitive and will be limited as follows (meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission):
1. Minimum of 4.0 credits to include CCT109H5, CCT110H5, FAH101H5, and VCC101H5.
2. Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) determined annually. It is generally between 2.7 and 3.0 and never lower than 2.2. Minimum 65% average among CCT109H5, CCT110H5, FAH101H5, and VCC101H5 with at least 60% in each course.

Program Advising: Department Contact Information

If you have any questions please email the Undergraduate Counsellor - Steph Sullivan at: s.sullivan@utoronto.ca.

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Welcome to UTM!

On behalf of everyone at UTM and the University as a whole, Dr. Ulli Krull, your Vice-President and Principal, would like to welcome you to the UTM family. In this week’s special edition of NEXT STOP, we look to inspire you with Dr. Krull’s useful tips and insightful comparisons about getting the most out of your university education.

Click here to watch!
**What should I do if the course I want is full?**

If a course is full, put yourself on the wait list. Make sure you select other courses as a Plan B or Plan C, while you wait for movement in wait lists (as students add and drop courses or as class sizes potentially get adjusted). Be a little flexible in building an alternate timetable. Think about other courses that you can take this year.

**I have a course conflict, what should I do?**

It is the responsibility of the student to resolve a conflict by finding another section or course option. If you are finding it difficult to build a conflict-free timetable, come speak with an Academic Advisor at the Office of the Registrar.

**How many courses should I take in my first year?**

3.0 credits or more categorizes you a full time student. Note that you need to complete at least 4.0 credits to be considered for entry into Program(s) of Study. You also need to consider taking on average 5.0 credits per year to complete your degree in 4 years.

**Why can’t I add a course listed on the timetable?**

You may not be able to add a course due to enrolment controls. Please check the timetable: [https://student.utm.utoronto.ca/timetable/](https://student.utm.utoronto.ca/timetable/) for more details.

**What if my tutorial or practical is closed? Are they required?**

Tutorials and practicals are required. If you are unable to get into a corresponding tutorial or practical, please speak with your Department Advisor.

**How do I select my Program of Study (POSt)?**

Students request their programs at the end of their first year, as all UofT students are admitted to a general first year program (such as Life Sciences or Humanities). You need to complete a minimum of 4.0 credits as well as any other program enrollment criteria (such as CGPA) before you can be considered for entry into a program. Please refer to the [Subject POST Guide](https://student.utm.utoronto.ca/timetable/) for more information.
Opportunities with the Department of Visual Studies

The Department of Visual Studies is very active in promoting students’ work to the students, faculty, and staff at UTM. Together with the UTM Department of Visual Studies Student Society, they host art sales, workshops, film festivals and screenings, showcases, and more. Follow them at the Department of Visual Studies website, on the Facebook pages of the Department and the Society, and visit the Blackwood Gallery to see their current exhibition, The Cage is a Stage.

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@UTMississauga
@UTMRegistrar
Office of the Registrar Website

@ostutm
@ostutm
transition.utm@utoronto.ca
See past newsletters on our website

You are receiving this newsletter as a new UTM student. Please note that this newsletter will stop when classes start in the fall.

Our mailing address is:
3359 Mississauga Road, Mississauga, ON L5L 1C6
Davis Building, Room 2090
W: utm.utoronto.ca/transition
E: transition.utm@utoronto.ca