

	Undergraduate Degree Requirements Policy #4.8	
CATEGORY: Senate Policy	APPROVAL DATE: November 29, 2021	
EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2023 for new admissions to OCAD University	REVIEW DATE:	
APPROVAL: Senate		
SPONSOR: Vice-President, Academic & Provost		
CONTACT: Office of the Vice-President Academic & Provost		
PREVIOUS VERSIONS: November 25, 2019		

Description:

This policy details the minimum requirements for completion of an OCAD University Bachelor’s degree.

Policy:

The award of a Bachelor’s degree at OCAD University requires the completion of 20.0 credits, which will include:

- a Major program, normally limited to a maximum of 10.0 credits of a 20.0 credit degree
- Arts & Science requirements, totaling a minimum of 5.0 credits of a 20.0 credit degree

The remaining 5.0 credits (minimum) of a student’s 20.0 credit degree remain open for the completion of electives, minors, requirements for accreditation or other degree-level credentials.

In completion of their Arts & Science requirements, students may be required to complete specific courses depending upon their declared major and year of admission. Students should consult their Program Guides and Student Advising accordingly.

The following chart illustrates OCAD University’s undergraduate degree requirements:

	TOTAL CREDITS	Of those credits, the following applies:
Bachelor’s Degree	20.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 6.0 credits at the 1000 level • At least 5.0 credits at the 3000 level or higher

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 1.0 credit at the 4000 level or higher <p>Note: completion of requirements for the Major and Arts & Science requirements, both clarified below, are also counted towards these degree requirements (e.g., 0.5 credit of English at the 1000 is counted towards the maximum 6.0 credits of 1000-level courses)</p>
Credit Components of Degree:		
Major requirements	10.0 maximum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 6.0 credits may be specifically required courses at the 1000, 2000 or 3000 level
Arts & Science requirements	5.0 minimum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.5 credit of English at the 1000 level (may be at the 2000 level for some programs) Minimum of 1.0 credit in Visual Culture – History & Theory (VISC) / Indigenous Culture: History (IVCV) at the 1000 level. Major programs may include courses in these subject areas as part of the 10.0 credits of program requirements which will count towards this requirement as well Minimum of 1.5 credits of breadth elective courses in at least two of the following areas: English (ENGL), Humanities (HUMN), Indigenous Focus Breadth (IVCL), Science/Technology/Mathematics (SCTM) or Social Sciences (SOSC). Major programs may include courses in these subject areas as part of the 10.0 program credits, but any of these program requirements will not count towards breadth elective requirements Minimum of 1.0 credit in VISX/IVCV at the 2000 level or higher. Major programs may include courses in these subject areas as part of the 10.0 credits of program requirements which will count towards this requirement as well Minimum of 1.5 credits of Arts & Science must be completed at the 3000 or 4000 level in any of ENGL/HUMN/IVCL/SCTM/SOSC/IVCV/VISA/VISC/VISD/VISM
Unspecified/open	5.0 minimum	

Definitions:

Bachelor’s Degree: As per this policy, a Bachelor’s degree, including the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Design and Bachelor of Fine Arts, is awarded following the completion of 20.0 credits of courses at the 1000/2000/3000/4000/5000 level, a Major program, Arts & Science requirements and elective courses, as identified in the table above. As per OCAD University’s Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP), fulfilling the components of the degree as per this policy, and in accordance with requirements for individual Major programs, is recognized as meeting the expectations outlined in OCAD University’s Undergraduate Degree-Level Expectations.

Major program: At OCAD U, the Major is an identified set and sequence of courses, and/or other units of study, research and practice within an area of disciplinary or interdisciplinary study, which is completed in fulfillment of the requirements for the awarding of a degree, and is recorded on the graduate's academic record. All Majors are subject to the requirements of OCAD University's Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) for the approval of new programs and for major and minor modifications of existing programs.

Arts & Science Breadth Elective requirements: All Bachelor's degrees at OCAD University require the completion of Arts & Science breadth course requirements. Breadth courses are courses that are intended to contribute to a student's development of critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, written and oral communication skills, knowledge of society and culture, and skills relevant to civic engagement. An Arts & Science breadth course is defined as an Arts & Science elective course at the 2000/3000/4000/5000 level in the subject areas English (ENGL), Humanities (HUMN), Indigenous Focus Breadth (IVCL), Science/Technology/ Mathematics (SCTM) or Social Sciences (SOSC) that is outside the primary area of focus or related fields in a student's Major. There may be programs, because of their specific area of study, that exclude some courses from counting as breadth even though they are within these subject areas. An example of this is the Creative Writing BFA program does not count any ENGL courses as a breadth course as this is directly related to their area of study. Students should consult their Program Guides and Student Advising accordingly. The completion of Arts & Science breadth course requirements may also be counted towards completion of requirements for a Minor or other degree-level credentials unrelated to a student's Major.