



Studies in Arts & Culture (STAC)

What is the Studies in Arts & Culture program?

The Centre for Studies in Arts and Culture (cSTAC), part of the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, is concerned with the cultural production, reception and interpretation of the fine and performing arts. Our students simultaneously examine theory and practice: through the critical analysis of works of art, dance, film, video, music, theatre or digital media, students will gain an awareness of the ways artistic media have functioned in the past and the new ways in which the arts continue to grow. Our students focus upon specific creative disciplines that interest them and the critical thinking, theorizing, and writing that inform both historical and contemporary approaches to these disciplines.

Students in cSTAC can choose courses from a wide array of options in the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, as well as from the Department of Communications, Film, Popular Culture and the Centre for Canadian Studies. Whether courses focus on historical, critical and theoretical study or hands-on practice-based approaches, cSTAC students will learn in an environment that links thinking and doing. cSTAC courses are taught by artists, directors, musicians, writers, critics, arts administrators, academics and other creative professionals active in their fields.

What are my study options?

Undergraduate Programs

- Four-year BA (Honours)
- Minor in Studies in Arts & Culture
- Concentration in Curatorial Studies

Why pursue Studies in Arts & Culture at Brock?

- Our program provides an opportunity to study across departments and faculties - its a true interdisciplinary experience.
- The Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts is a vital and growing centre of creation and study in the Niagara Region and the Golden Horseshoe.
- Programming by the member departments and cSTAC will give you a rich and diverse experience you will not find in many programs elsewhere.
- The School will be developing a facility in the heart of St. Catharines in tandem with the new Niagara Centre for the Arts. These will become the centre of the intense cultural vitality of our city.
- The cSTAC program is an excellent foundation for further study in Masters of Arts programs in Digital Communities, Art History, Critical Curatorial Studies, and Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts.
- The Brock campus offers a whole-life learning environment: good athletic facilities, a location in the rich and temperate biosphere of the Niagara Escarpment just minutes from Lakes Ontario, Erie, and the Niagara River, and diverse opportunities for enriched academic study.

Campus Tours
Monday to Friday
10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

Fall Preview Day
Sunday, Nov. 8, 2009
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Open House
Sunday, March 7, 2010
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Find out more at
brocku.ca

Sample Courses in Studies in Arts & Culture

This section outlines courses you may take in first year, as well as a small sample of the courses offered as part of your degree program. You will also choose elective credits. You may view descriptions of all available courses in our 2009/10 Undergraduate Calendar at brocku.ca/webcal/

Year 1

two credits from:

STAC 1P95

Digital Image, Method and Concept

Basic technical foundations of digital images, media methods and concepts including digital photography, image processing software, web based imaging and printing of digital images; Basic technical foundations of digital media in video, audio and computational production and post-production. Contemporary digital practices within the broader history of visual and media arts. A prerequisite for all digital media courses.

CANA 1F91

Introduction to Canadian Studies

Interdisciplinary examination of critical themes in Canadian culture, history, society and citizenship from the contact period to the present drawing on artistic, political and historical texts, inquiring into the development of, and challenges to, the Canadian nation.

DART 1F93

Introduction to Drama

Fundamentals of dramatic criticism. Study of selected dramatic texts from ancient Greece to the present emphasizing genre, theatrical and literary conventions and historical context.

DART 1F95

Introduction to Drama in Education and Society

Application of core theories, methodologies and practices of Drama in Education and Applied Theatre, emphasizing interactive teaching strategies.

*MUSI 1F00

Music in Popular Culture

Survey of developments in blues, jazz, rock and related genres of popular music.

MUSI 1F10

Introduction to Classical Music

Concepts and terminology of Western classical art music from the 17th through 20th centuries. Development of critical listening and writing skills.

VISA 1Q98

Introduction to Visual Culture

Concepts of art, its vocabulary, structure and varied cultural contexts. Problems of meaning, visual perception and formal structure of the visual arts, functions of art in contemporary society, the function of galleries and museums, and the role of patrons and critics. Contemporary critical methodology.

VISA 1Q99

Introduction to the History of Western Art

Analysis of key monuments and on the prerequisite technology, as well as on various ways of looking at the visual past and present. Focus on the visual arts from prehistory through the early 20th century.

One of:

COMM 1F90

Introduction to Communication

Approaches and issues in communication from both humanities and social science perspectives. Topics include the cultural use of symbols and signs, qualitative and quantitative mass media analysis, critical analysis of texts, the cultural character of the Canadian media and the impact of the media and media institutions upon society.

or

FILM 1F94

Introduction to Film Studies

Critical and historical approaches to world cinema. Close analysis of selected films in relation to their cultural contexts.

one language credit

one Sciences context credit or

one Social Sciences context credit.

Careers

Brock graduates enjoy one of the highest employment rates of all Ontario universities at 96.5%. A degree in Studies in Arts & Culture will prepare you for a wide variety of careers.

- Artistic direction
- Arts, Culture and Heritage policy development and management, including with local and regional governments
- Cultural Programming in the Private and Public Sectors
- Arts Criticism, Journalism, and Publishing
- Curatorial Research and Exhibitions Development
- Arts Education and Outreach Coordination

*Please note some careers may require additional professional or graduate qualifications.