

# BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN VISUAL COMMUNICATION

Communication within a multi-cultural society is a challenge for all future designers and artists.

## CREATIVITY IS LIFE.

@visualcommunication\_aud

The Visual Communication Program at AUD is designed to develop artistic and imaginative communicators who will creatively and critically lead new visual and digital initiatives that combine practical solutions with contemporary and future oriented concepts. The Program rigorously trains students in the art and design skills and competencies necessary for their success in the advertising, design and creative industries.

The curriculum focuses the relation between aesthetics, technique, concept development, critical thinking and digital technology within the contextual understanding of the cultural and theoretical foundations for art and design.

The Department includes exceptionally talented and award winning faculty who have been instrumental in building the department into one of the most dynamic in the UAE, interconnecting robust programs in Advertising, Digital Media, Graphic Design and Studio Art.

The faculty design and constantly revise courses and programs of study to adopt and sustain the leading edge of contemporary art and design education in the UAE and the broader Middle East, while also being strongly oriented to international standards and global trends.

This quality of training in our programs is reflected in the department being awarded the distinction of Substantial Equivalency by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) in the United States. This means that all majors meet the standards set by this accrediting body and are equal to any American art and design school.

Visual communication is a field relevant to all professions with the ever growing presence of on-line activity to the exploding phenomenon of social media students graduate from the program with a thorough knowledge base whilst appreciating the roles of authorship, personal expression and the responsibilities of proper communication in a growing multicultural society.

#### **B.F.A. IN VISUAL COMMUNICATION**

#### **Program Mission**

The Mission of the Visual Communication Program is to fulfill the professional baccalaureate educational needs of a culturally diverse student population interested in visual arts careers, and to facilitate the creative and scholarly activities of its faculty.

Achievement is reached through excellence in teaching, learning and personal development, resulting in graduates poised for intellectual, personal and professional success in a growing, multicultural society.

The primary goal of the Visual Communication Program is to provide an educational experience based on the best practice and standards of quality institutions of art and design leading to a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with Majors in Advertising, Digital Media, Graphic Design, or Studio Art.

## THE DEGREE

#### **Program Goals**

The goals of the program which reflect this focus are:

- To develop in graduates a strong level of individual critical thinking, problem solving, concept development, technique, and aesthetics;
- To promote the value of an awareness and critical perception of the historical, cultural, and theoretical foundations for visual art and design;
- To foster an appreciation for the roles of authorship, personal expression, and a responsibility for ethical visual communication;
- To provide an academic curriculum, instruction, facilities, and technologies offering full opportunity for learning;
- To recruit and retain a diverse faculty of creative professionals and committed educators, and to support their continued creative and scholarly activities;
- To contribute to the creative professional and cultural development of Dubai, the UAE and beyond.

#### **Program Learning Outcomes**

Students graduating with the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Communication Degree will be able to:

- Effectively articulate the conceptual foundations of visual communication works;
- Demonstrate the design process for developing new, creative visual communication projects;
- Execute the production and presentation of new works of art and visual design;
- Evaluate contemporary art and design works;
- Recognize and integrate the ethical, and sociocultural ideals of the target audience in each work of visual communication.





#### **ADVERTISING**

Advertising is the art and the science of persuasion in communication. Advertising, an integral part of the integrated marketing communication (IMC), is planned and employed to cause a desired change in the behavior of people, while meeting set objectives. This change in behavior can be demonstrated in actions that go beyond the commercial purchase, e.g. vote, donate, discuss, learn, get a medical checkup, etc.

Further, Advertising fulfills key roles in society:

- The Informant, where a certain message is delivered;
- The Mediator, where the exchange of communication is enabled, facilitated and improved;
- The Brand Builder, with every piece of communication, advertising is building the brand's perception in the hearts and minds of its audiences;
- The Guardian of Freedom of choice, where the people are increasingly sharing their thoughts, their preferences and designing their own products and brands.

The Advertising curriculum facilitates building an applied knowledge and skills throughout the creative process in advertising

Conception: Research, analysis, strategy and planning, campaign development and management;

**Execution:** Ideation, media planning, art direction, copywriting and content development across platforms (print, outdoor, promotions, digital, social, devices, technology, film etc.);

**Presentation:** Crafting and finishing of output, verbal articulation and written explanation and justification of the creative solution;

**Production:** Technical and digital production processes across platforms;

Evaluation: Campaign management and assessment;

#### **Potential Career Paths**

This degree offers its graduates the opportunity to think lateral in their career choices:

Creative Artist, Art Director, Copywriter, Digital Art Director, Social Media Manager, Content Developer, Strategic Planner, Account Manager, Media Planner, Brand Manager etc.

The Advertising program is accredited by the International Advertising Association in New York. Students completing the degree requirements receive upon graduation, in addition to their AUD degree, an IAA Certificate in Marketing Communications.

Opposite Visuals: Aisha Al Mohtadi, TVAE Live Brief, Campaign Executions



Yusif El Awawdeh, Androi 1, 3D Game

#### **DIGITAL MEDIA**

Digital Media is any design, motion graphics, moving image, advertising, or art in which computers play a role in the production or display. Designers and artists who work with digital media work with the latest technologies to communicate ideas and create visuals and sound. The Digital Media major is designed to nurture creativity and to provide students with the practical expertise and critical skills required to adapt to the constantly evolving trends and technologies of the highly competitive creative industry.

Digital Media graduates are employed locally and internationally as Producers, Film & Digital Media Faculty, Colorists, Editors, Art Directors, Design Managers and Animators.

Digital Media graduates have been accepted in top graduate programs in the USA and Europe including but not limited to: Berklee College of Music, The University of Southern California, New York University, Northwestern University, Cranbrook Academy of Art, University of the West of Scotland.

#### What can I do when I graduate?

The Digital Media major prepares students for careers in the following professional specializations:

Web design & net-based art, Animation, Motion graphics, Concept art & design for time-based media, Digital video/film, Interactive media & design, Visual effects/compositing, Sound design, Interactive media performance, Electronic/digital & sound installation, New media art



#### **GRAPHIC DESIGN**

Graphic Design is the art of creating visual solutions that convey ideas or messages.

Students learn to study cognitive, physical, cultural, and social factors while planning and executing adequate designs solutions to everyday problems.

Graphic Design plugs in to a wide spectrum of disciplines and platforms in communication which makes it a versatile profession with skillsets that are high in demand. Designers view themselves as socially responsible with duties that comprise creating a better visual experience for communities.

#### What can I do when I graduate?

Graphic design caters to various industries with the below specializations:

Publication and Book Design, Advertising and Poster Design, Packaging Design, Corporate Identity and Branding Design, Information Design, Web Design and Multimedia, Motion Graphics, Environmental Design, Exhibition Design, Type Design and more.

Fadl Mhanna, Arabic Typeface Design, Capstone Project

#### **STUDIO ART**

Studio Art is an examination of our environment and humanity, combined with a passion for the creation of work that is expressed visually. The Studio Art major offers an interdisciplinary approach to art-making with students studying painting, sculpture, print making and photography among other options, with a rigorous final year that includes a self-directed studio project and a written thesis supporting the studio work.

#### So what can I do when I graduate?

Studio Arts graduates are employed as Artists, Illustrators, Curators, Consultants, Gallery Managers or as Creative Directors.

Studio Art graduates opt for further study and have secured places in significant graduate arts programs including Central St Martins, London and Concordia University Montreal, or successfully applied for programs such as the Salama bint Hamdan Emerging Artists, while some have gone on become Artists in their own right exhibiting in prestigious international Art events such as the Venice Biennale.





#### **FACILITIES**

Fully equipped 3-D studio,
Fully equipped print making studio;
VC Studio for painting and drawing;
Chemical photo darkroom;
Hybrid media studio;
Photo studio;
Two large Ceramic Kilns;
Several Apple Mac labs;
Fully equipped gallery/exhibition space;
State-of-the-art multipurpose editing suites,
Extensive printing and 3D printing facilities
Media Resource Center



THE AWARDS

AUD, University of the Year 2015, 2017 and 2018, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity

Sharon George, First place winner, Print Advertising Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2018

Hanin Hasan, First place winner, Print Advertising Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2017

Saman Alavi, First place winner, Integrated Campaign Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2018

Asma al Aloosi, First place winner, Integrated Campaign Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2017

Heela Daudzai, First place winner, Integrated Campaign Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2014 and 2015

Reem AlAni, First place winner, Integrated Campaign Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2015

Zein Khoury, Second place winner, Print Advertising Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2018

Lina Ibrahim, Third place winner, Print Advertising Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2018

Lina Ibrahim selected to represent AUD, UAE and the whole of Arabia, at the Roger Hatchuel Academy, Cannes Lions Festival of Creativity 2018

Previous Spread: Winning Advertising Students, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity 2018

Opposite: Saman Alavi, First Place Winner, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity 2018





Asem Askar selected to represent AUD, UAE and the whole of Arabia, at the Roger Hatchuel Academy, Cannes Lions Festival of Creativity 2017

Reem Al Ani, selected to represent AUD, UAE and the whole of Arabia, at the Roger Hatchuel Academy, Cannes Lions Festival of Creativity 2016

Anam Kibria, Portfolio Night 2014 by the One Club. First place winner, represented the UAE in New York.

Rashid Bin Haider, Third place winner, Print Advertising Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2016

Radhi Raut, Fourth place winner, Print Advertising Competition, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity, 2016

Mohammed Abulqumsan, First Place winner, IAA - Dentsu Poster Competition 2014

Advertising Class of 2016, Silver medal winners, IAA Global Apprentice Conference 2016, 24 hr pitch

Sharon George, First Place Winner, Dubai Lynx Festival of Creativity 2018 "Color Me Nature" Shouq Al Sayegh Official Selection SIKKA ART Dubai 2018

"Within Your Mind" Sarab Sahni Official Selection SIKKA ART Dubai 2018

"Hikayti" Reem Sabobeh Official Selection SIKKA ART Dubai 2018

"Virtuality" Sarah El Mahi Official Selection Computer music Conference (ICMC) South Korea 2018

"Pandora's Box" Dina Bashaireh Official Selection Computer music Conference (ICMC) South Korea 2018

USC Karina Saidi Outstanding MS in Journalism Scholar Award USA 2018

"War Sweet Home." Haya Al Tamimi Writer, Director, Producer Best Social Relevance Film Emirates Short Film Festival UAE 2018

"War Sweet Home." Haya Al Tamimi Writer, Director, Producer BEST DRAMA FINALIST My RØDE Reel USA 2017

"War Sweet Home." Haya Al Tamimi Writer, Director, Producer Official Selection Red Rock Film Festival USA 2017

USC Karina Saidi Annenberg Leadership Scholarship USA 2016

"Adam" Andrew Dous Semifinalist Video Editing / Post-Production / Animation / Motion Graphics Adobe Design Achievement Award International 2016

USC Gabriella Gomes Annenberg Graduate Fellow USC Cinematic Arts USA 2015

"Sounds of the Sea"" Haya Al Tamimi Assistant Director Documentary with Emirati Director, Ms. Nujoom El Ghanim Dubai 2014

"A Metaphor of the Mind" Gabriella Gomes Third Place in Multimedia Sheikha Manal Young Artist Award Dubai 2013

"Me, My Mother, and Technology" Nargis Dhirani People's Choice Award Video Installation

Sheikha Manal Young Artist Award Dubai 2012

"We Get Away" Aya Atoui Multi-Media Ist Prize Single channel video loop Sheikha Manal Young Artist Award Dubai 2010



#### **About the Dubai Wave Podcast**

The concept with Dubai Wave is to look at big picture Dubai. Each episode focuses on a unique topic, such as Dubai Fitness; Dubai Social Media; Dubai Food Scene; Dubai Music, etc., with the goal to illuminate a 360-degree viewpoint of all the exciting things happening here, the gem of the Middle East. The impressive guest list to date includes the founder of Dubai's most influential MMA gym, Tam Khan (Dubai MMA); successful entrepreneur, Anas Bukhash (Dubai Entrepreneurship); the editor of What's On Dubai, Laura Coughlin (Dubai Magazines); the host of Virgin Radio Dubai, Brent Black, (Dubai Radio); and the first Emirati filmmaker to achieve International acclaim and standing, Ali F. Mostafa, (Dubai Film). Previously, Dr. Striker, with help from talented Digital Media and MBRSC students, launched a successful podcast called Digital Media & Tech in Dubai, focused on the Dubai tech industry, with eight episodes to date, featuring Dubai's most exciting digital thought leaders.

Renowned Artist El Seed and Afra Atiq, hosted by Prof. Striker and students, Dubai Wave Podcast Sara Al Hadad-represented UAE at 2017 Venice Biennale, SEAF Fellow

Amna Al Dabbagh - exhibited her work in DUCTAC, Sikka Art Fair, Emirates Palace, ME Collectors Room in Berlin, UAE Unlimited, and the Wind Festival in Germany. She was also an artist-in-residence in Yarat Contemporary Art Centre, Baku, Azerbaijan.

Sara Masinaei- MFA Central St Martins University of the Arts; numerous exhibitions, residencies, etc.

Mona Ayyash-MFA Concordia University, Montreal; numerous exhibitions, residencies, etc.

Several winners of the Sheikha Manal Young Artists Award including Sadaf Rezaei, Momet Shabanpoor and Malda Smadi.

Salama bint Hamdan Emerging Artists Fellowship – including Rania Jishi and Abdelghani Al Nahwi.



### THE ADVISORY BOARD

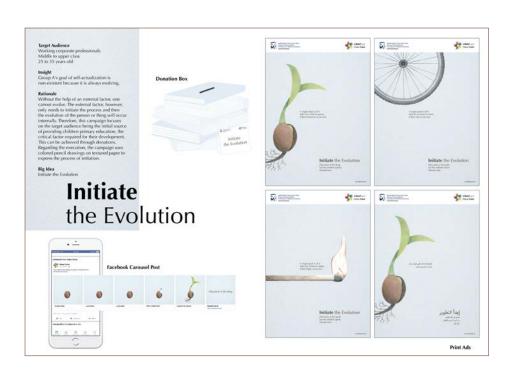
#### ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

The Advisory Board of the Department of Visual Communication at the American University in Dubai includes the following members:

- Mr. Arz Azar, Creative Director, Tribal Worldwide
- Mr. Firas Medrows, Executive Creative Director, DDB
- Mr. Mahmoud Khawaja Creative Director, The Living Room
- Ms. Marie Sukkar, Head Designer, Landor
- Mr. Simon Parkinson, Creative Director, Consult Dragoman
- Ms. Nisrine Chahine, Founder and Head Designer, Hatch
- Mr. Najati Husseini, Founder, Scratch
- Mr. Samer Asfour, Producer & Head Of Post Production, Filmworks Dubai
- Mr. Manasvi Gosalia, Executive Producer, Deja Vu
- Ms. Patricia Millns, Artist, Freelance
- Ms. Hetal Pawani, Director, The Jamjar
- Ms. Marjan Farjam, Director, The Farjam Foundation
- Ms. Pamela Policarpio, Cultural Office Officer, Sheikha Manal Award
- Mr. Khalil Abdulwahid, Visual Arts Manager, Dubai Culture
- Ms. Myrna Ayyad, Communication and Art Activist
- Ms. Heela Daudzai, Strategic Planner & AUD Alumna, TBWA RAAD
- Mr. Andrew Dous, Animation Artist, Prime Minister's Executive Office
- Ms. Farah Gamal, Senior Designer, Super Union

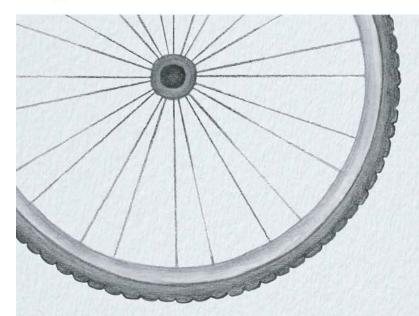


THE WORK









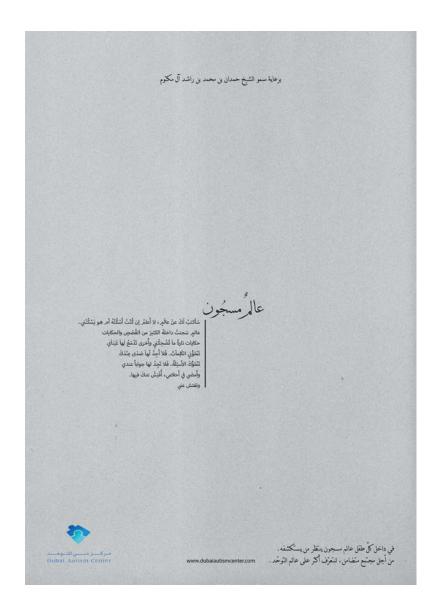
A single push is all it takes for a wheel to move. It then rolls on its own.

Previous Spread: Radhi Raut, Digital Concept Painting, Computer Graphics

Above and Opposite: Saman Alavi, Advertising Campaign, Concept, Copywriting and Art Direction

### **Initiate** the Evolution

Education is the push. Let the children move. Donate now.



Above: Jamila Hamdan, Advertising Execution, Arabic Copywriting, and Art Direction

Opposite: Asem Askar, Advertising Execution, Concept, Copywriting and Art Direction



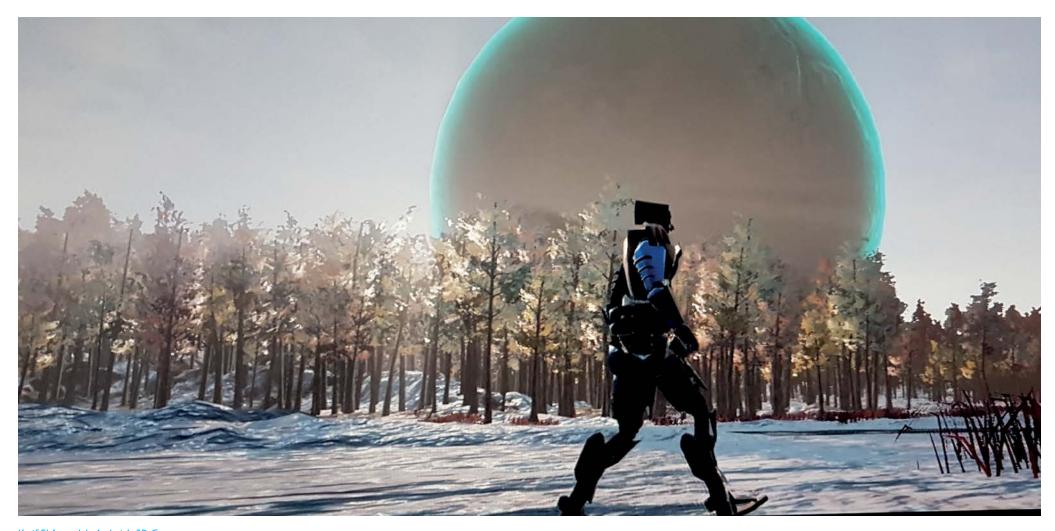
دبي **العطاء** 

Dubai Cares

### This Ramadan, review your current lifestyle,



Educating Children for Generations to Come



Yusif El Awawdeh, Androi I, 3D Game

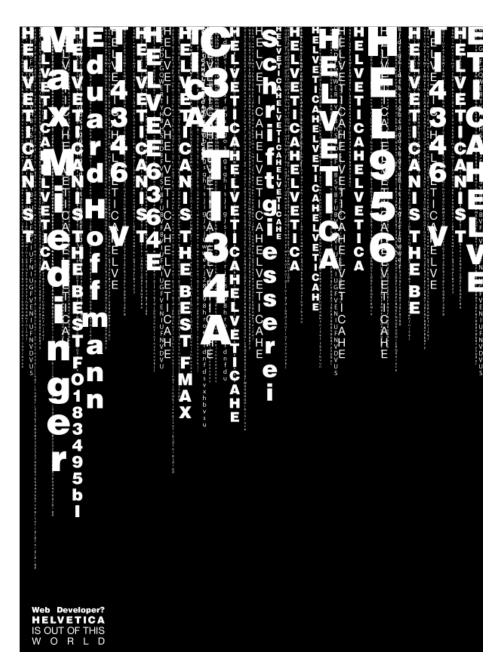


Dr. Hendrik Wahl, Astronomy, 3D Rendering

Dada, Packaging, Graphic Design



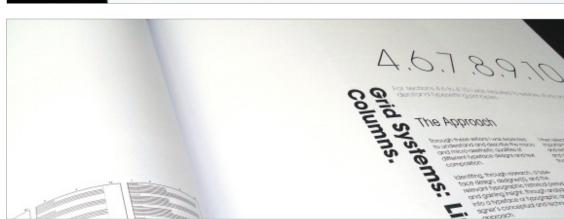




Dada, Typography Studies, Graphic Design







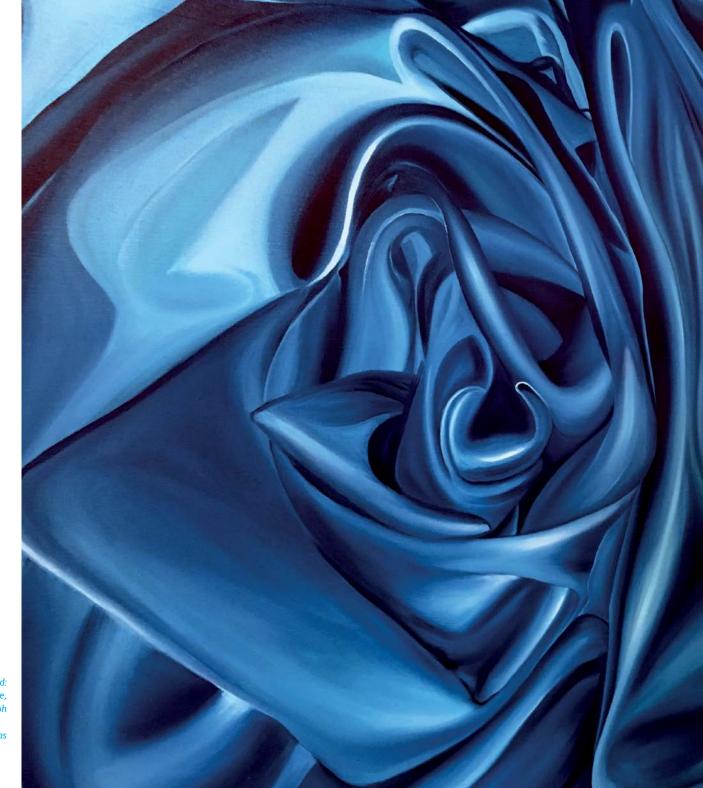


Shamsa Al Abbar, Arabic Typography and Calendar Design, Graphic Design









Previous Spread: Right, Mandana Ziaei, Uncaged, Mixed Media Sculpture, Left, Gilda Gilbradi, Inside my Mind, Photograph

Opposite: Raghad Al Redha, Untitled, Acrylic on Canvas







Previous Spread: Left, 2D Design Students, The Girl With The Coffee Cup Earring, Recycled Coffee Pods Right, Ghalia Khalid, Proportion, Pencil Drawing

Above, Emily Habib, Contour Hand, Pen Drawing Opposite, Zoha Bagasrawala, Peppered, Mixed Media Mask





THE ACTION





Previous Spread: 2D Design Students, Mural in Recycled Ballons, Um Kulthoum

Above and Opposite, Portfolio Critique Nights, students and Advisory Board members join in preparing for the critiques





Previous Spread: Ceramics students watching a demonstration by the renowned Magdalene Odundo OBE

Opposite: Mohamed Hindash, artist and social media influencer, during a work session at the AUD studios





Previous Spread and Above Underwater Videography in Action







Portfolio Critique Nights, External jurors reviewing the works of graduating students from all majors.

### GET LIFE READY.

@visualcommunication\_aud

### **ADMISSIONS CHECKLIST**

Please make sure that the following items are included with your application. Your admission will depend on the receipt of all required documents throughout the review of your application.

Official English translations of all supporting educational documents must be submitted. Translations must be literal (i.e., word-for-word).

- Completed Application for Undergraduate Admission
- Official school records for grades
   10 and 11 stamped by the school.
- Official school records for grade 12 should be attested by the appropriate authority of the U.A.E. Ministry of Education – Higher Education Affairs.
- Attestation for international students: grade 12 transcript and diploma must be attested by the Ministry of Education of home country, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of home country and U.A.E. Embassy in home country. Please note that true copies of your grade 12 documents must bear original attestations.
- High school diploma original required for verification.
- Equivalency letter is also required from the Knowledge & Human Development Authoruty (KHDA) (following the referring educational zone) for students who graduated

- from the U.A.E. & the U.A.E. Ministry of Education for students who graduated from outside the U.A.E.
- Paper-Based TOEFL® min. score of 550 + 4.0 on TWE (essay) or
- Internet-based TOEFL® min. score of 79 + 24 on the writing part, or
- Academic IELTS<sup>™</sup> min. score of
   6.5 + 6.5 on the writing part
- EMSAT min. score 1550 + C1 on the writing part
- SAT® Reasoning Test scores with min. 560 in Math (Engineering and Architecture applicants are also required to take a Math placement test at AUD).
- Two recent passport size photographs
- Passport photocopy with validity page
- Photocopy of UAE Residency Visa
- Photocopy of Emirates ID (both sides)
- Army exemption letter for all UAE nationals
- Non-refundable application fee of AED 420. A reservation deposit (non-refundable) of AED 5,000 which is fully applied toward tuition, is required upon acceptance for admission.
- Completed Health History Form.
   This form must be signed and stamped by a Physician.



### School of Architecture, Art and Design

The School of Arts and Sciences exemplifies the tradition that a college education liberates the mind. The School values the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake and believes that all college graduates are capable of studying a broad spectrum of subjects and of following a rational process to draw conclusions and inferences.

#### **ADMISSIONS AT AUD**

The mission of the Office of Admissions is to admit to AUD's degree programs students who possess appropriate credentials and the demonstrated capacity and potential to successfully complete the educational programs provided by the university and meaningfully participate in the total educational experience offered by AUD.

The Admissions Office consists of a professional team that assists prospective students gain accessibility to opportunities in higher education. The Admissions team is held to a high level of integrity and is charged with providing quality service and accurate information to all students.

#### **AUD ADMISSIONS OFFICE**

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admissions@aud.edu

www.aud.edu

For specific admissions requirements, please check the AUD Undergraduate Catalog on our website or contact the Admissions Office.

#### IN THE UAE & THE USA

AUD is officially licensed by the U.A.E. Ministry of Education – Higher Education Affairs (MOE-HEA) The Ministry has accredited the university's undergraduate and graduate programs, in addition to Certificate programs in Middle Eastern Studies and Professional Teaching. The university is also accredited in the USA by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

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