Cyclical Program Review Library Report: Fine Art & Music

- BA Art History
- BA Music
- BA Studio Art
- MA Art History and Visual Culture
- MFA Studio Art

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June 1, 2021
Summary

Overall, the library provides strong support for the University of Guelph’s School of Fine Art and Music programs.

Recommendations

• Consider embedding information literacy instruction into:
  ▪ a required course for Studio Art graduate students.
  ▪ an upper level art history course to build on the introductory workshop for ARTH*2480.
  ▪ AVC*6100.

In our experience, building in academic skills support at the curriculum level is more effective for students. It ensures that students gradually improve their skills and confidence over time.

• Consider regularizing writing workshops in AVC*, FINA*, and SART* courses.

• Encourage students to contact the library to learn more about how they can use our institutional repository services for sharing and preserving creative works.

Part 1: Collections

In general, access to the broad literature related to both Fine Art and Music is very strong, with excellent e-journal, monograph, and index coverage. Library participation in national and provincial purchasing consortia results in better collections than would be expected at comparable, less well-connected institutions. Many resources are acquired in electronic format facilitating convenient and ubiquitous access. Because of the comprehensive curriculum coverage of the School of Fine Art and Music, the library takes a wide-ranging approach to collections in these disciplines. This is further enhanced by the university’s historic interdisciplinary strengths in the humanities and social sciences.

Journals

The library invests heavily in providing access to online journals that support the research and curricular needs of students and faculty at the University of Guelph. Currently, the library subscribes to approximately 55,000 online journals, most of which are discoverable at the article level through the library’s Omni catalogue. The library subscribes to nearly-complete collections of journals from major scholarly publishers, including Cambridge University Press, Duke University, Gale Cengage (18th and 19th Century Collections Online), Johns Hopkins UP, JSTOR, Periodical Archives Online, Project Muse, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Springer, Taylor & Francis, and Wiley-Blackwell.

In addition to complete “bundles” of journals from publishers, the library also subscribes to select titles on an individual basis, as well as many open access journals which are published by academic institutions, scholarly societies, or cultural organizations. The library adds new subscriptions in response to evolving demand and as budgets permit. The number of open access titles in the humanities has increased greatly over the past decade, and the library links
to all titles on the Directory of Open Access Journals list, especially those relevant to the curriculum.

The library provides either print or electronic access to an impressive collection of academic journal titles in the subject areas relevant to both Fine Art and Music, including 93% of the journal citations retrieved through relevant subject heading searches in the core databases for fine arts and for music. In addition to journals directly relevant to fine art and music, the collection of academic journals in related or supporting disciplines such as cultural studies, classical studies, computing, history, philosophy, sociology, and women’s and gender studies is also strong.

**Books and E-books**

The library regularly acquires books classified under the specialized subject headings (and appropriate geographic sub-headings) relevant to the study of fine art, music, and their related disciplines. Many books that are purchased on behalf of other programs and courses at Guelph also support students enrolled in the School of Fine Art and Music programs.

While the library continues to purchase many print books, the acquisition of e-books is increasing steadily to facilitate remote access and to support the integration of affordable course content into the campus course management system.

The library’s book collections for fine art and for music in recent years are comparable to those of Ontario peer institutions such as Brock University, the University of Waterloo, and York University.

**Search Tools to Access the Literature**

Omni is the library’s core academic search tool which lets users simultaneously search the University of Guelph library collections plus the library collections of most of the other university libraries in Ontario. Omni facilitates access to full-text books, articles, streaming media, and much more by linking to library subscriptions and Open Access scholarly works.

The library subscribes to a wide variety of online indexes to the humanities scholarly literature, including:

- Academic OneFile
- Academic Search Premier
- Année Philologique
- Art Bibliographies Modern
- Art Abstracts
- Art Index Retrospective
- ArtBibliographies Modern
- Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals
- Bibliography of Native North Americans
- Cairn.Info
- CBCA (Canadian Business & Current Affairs)
- Canadian Music Periodicals Index
- Canadian Periodicals Index Quarterly
- Érudit
- Feminae: Medieval Women and Gender Index
- Historical Abstracts
- HLAS Online (Handbook of Latin American Studies)
- International Bibliography of Art
- International Medieval Bibliography
- iPortal: Indigenous Studies Portal
- Iter
- JSTOR
- Nineteenth Century Index (C19)
Multimedia resources

Across higher education, there has been a movement toward the integration of video resources into the curriculum. In support of this trend, the library has developed a robust streaming media collection providing access to documentaries, instructional videos, feature-length films, news clips, and audio files. Streaming collections include:

- Alexander Street Press
- American History in Video
- Audio Ciné Films (feature films)
- Criterion on Demand (feature films)
- Curio (from CBC and Radio-Canada)
- Digital Theatre Plus (recent British theatrical productions)
- Docuseek (international documentaries)
- Films on Demand (international documentaries and media clips)
- Kanopy (feature films, international documentaries)
- LinkedIn Learning (skills-based training videos on a variety of technical and creative topics)
- Music Online: Classical Music Library
- Music Online: Jazz Music Library
- Music Online: Smithsonian Global Sound for Libraries
- Naxos Music Library (classical music)
- Naxos Music Library Jazz
- News in Review (CBC news)
- NFB.ca (National Film Board of Canada)
- PBS Video Collection
- Sage Video: Media, Communication and Cultural Studies Collection
- Soundzabound (a royalty free music library which offers a wide variety of music, audio themes and sound effects)
- TED Talks
- TVO (TV Ontario)

Titles which are not already included in one of the library’s subscription collections and which are requested by faculty are sourced, licensed and hosted on the library’s local educational media server and linked in Omni and the Ares course reserve system.

In 2018, the library began a retrospective format migration project which has converted our most heavily used VHS titles into streaming format for hosting on the library’s educational media portal.

Curriculum Resources

The E-learning & Reserves unit makes resources readily available to students with integrated links in the course management system, CourseLink, and with access points in Omni. Where possible, course reserves resources are made available online.

To ensure that all students have access to required textbooks for their courses, the library purchases at least one copy of the required textbook for most undergraduate courses via the
Course Reserves service. Instructors are notified via email when the required textbook(s) for courses they are teaching have been placed on reserve and are available for students to use.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the E-learning & Reserves unit has undertaken significant efforts to ensure that students continue to have affordable access to their course readings, even if they aren’t able to access the in-library course reserves collection. This team has worked with library colleagues, faculty instructors, and publisher partners to find new access models or alternative course materials that ensure students can access their readings even if they can’t access the library.

**Part 2: Academic and Professional Skills**

*Research and Information Literacy (IL) Skills*

Information Literacy (IL) librarians support students by providing:
- Individual appointments.
- In-class guest lectures.
- Co-curricular workshops such as Dissertation Boot Camp and Brain Food for thesis management.
- Customized digital learning objects, such as online course guides, videos, and tutorials.

The IL team prioritizes support to large required and core courses that have research skills or digital media literacy assignments. IL librarians aim to scaffold information literacy instruction throughout the curriculum to provide students with the opportunity to build on their skills year over year.

**Music**

IL librarians have worked with the Music program over the last decade to integrate scaffolded IL support across core music history courses, including the provision of workshops in MUSC*1060, MUSC*2330, and MUSC*4450 (or substantive asynchronous content where classes are offered in distance format). The content of these workshops has consistently been scaffolded to align with the progressively more challenging research expectations across these core courses so all students in the program benefit. This has been a successful model for the integration of IL into other programs at the university. As the Music program undergoes curricular changes in the years ahead, we hope that this successful collaboration will continue.

### Information Literacy Guest Lectures for Music

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>MUSC*1060</td>
<td>These are all required or restricted elective courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MUSC*2330</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MUSC*4450</td>
<td>Identi cal support was provided in previous years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>MUSC*1060DE</td>
<td>Asynchronous research modules created for DE iteration of MUSC*1060</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Studio Art**

While we occasionally support BA students doing research assignments in upper-year elective courses, IL librarians are not involved in any of the core courses within the undergraduate
program (as these do not often require students to complete research assignments). During the 2020-2021 academic year there was a sharp increase in IL support for the MFA program. A brief introduction to library services during the new student orientation led to one-on-one consultations with more than half the students in the program. Through these consultations, it became clear that the students often have very little sense of where to start a research project, how to use the available library resources, and how to translate the ideas surrounding their artwork into strategies for literature searching. We recommend integrating a library research workshop into a required course, or requiring all students attend an extracurricular library workshop designed for Studio Art graduate students. When this has been implemented in other programs, it has provided the opportunity for all students to develop their core research skills and help us manage our capacity for supporting students one-on-one. IL librarians would welcome an opportunity to discuss how best to implement such support.

### Information Literacy guest lectures for Studio Art

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>SART<em>2190, SART</em>4700</td>
<td>Neither are required courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>MFA Orientation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Art History

For the past 7 years, IL librarians have delivered a workshop to Art History students in ARTH*2480 (the core introduction to art theory and criticism). This workshop introduces students to basic research methods and tools for art history research. While we have occasionally been involved in other core courses, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss ways of further integrating research education into the program that builds on the introductory workshop for ARTH*2480. IL librarian involvement in Art & Visual Culture has concentrated on the proseminar, AVC*6100, though the extent of such involvement in this core course has varied. A conversation between the program and IL librarians about how to regularize such support would be beneficial to students to build their research skills and confidence.

### Information Literacy guest lectures for Art History/ Art & Visual Culture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>ARTH<em>2480, ARTH</em>3340</td>
<td>One required course and one elective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>AVC*6100</td>
<td>Required course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>ARTH*2480</td>
<td>Required course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>AVC*6100</td>
<td>No synchronous workshop. Asynchronous support provided.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Archival & Special Collections

Over the past eight years, Archival & Special Collections’ support of SOFAM has focused primarily on Art History. While our seven core collections (Culinary, Scottish, Lucy Maud Montgomery, Theater, Agricultural History & Rural Heritage, Landscape Architecture, Rare Books, and Regional & Early Campus History) are not specifically focused on the SOFAM disciplines of studio arts, art history, and music, we have worked with SOFAM faculty to
integrate primary source materials from these collections into experiential learning opportunities for students in these programs.

**Archival & Special Collections experiential learning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th># Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter 2016</td>
<td>MUSIC* 2630</td>
<td>Supported class research on the Guelph Music Festival Archives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2016</td>
<td>ARTH*4800</td>
<td>UCEE (University Experiential Exhibition) project instructors, Melissa McAfee (Special Collections Librarian) and Christina Smylitopoulos (Associate Professor, Art History) supervised students in curating a physical case exhibit, “The Clan Leslie: A Celebration of 950 years of Leslies in Scottish History, Literature, and Culture.” The students were part of a team of curators, and they learned how to research and interpret materials from our Scottish Studies Collection and thematize and install an exhibit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter 2017</td>
<td>ARTH*4800</td>
<td>UCEE (University Experiential Exhibition) project instructors, Melissa McAfee (Special Collections Librarian) and Christina Smylitopoulos (Associate Professor, Art History) supervised students in curating a physical case exhibit, “Text &amp; Textiles.” The exhibit explored the intersection of textiles and literature in the L. M. Montgomery Collection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter 2017</td>
<td>ARTH*4800</td>
<td>UCEE (University Experiential Exhibition) project instructors, Melissa McAfee (Special Collections Librarian) and Christina Smylitopoulos (Associate Professor, Art History) supervised students in curating a physical case exhibit, “Prints &amp; Pages: Fables &amp; Narratives in Prints and Chapbooks.” The exhibit examined the roles of inexpensively produced art through the medium of prints in the Bachinski Chu Collection (SOFAM) and Scottish Chapbooks in Archival and Special Collections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter 2017</td>
<td>ARTH*4800</td>
<td>UCEE (University Experiential Exhibition) project instructor, Christina Smylitopoulos (Associate Professor, Art History) and technical support, Melissa McAfee (Special Collections Librarian) assisted students in curating a physical cases exhibit, “Spaces of Wonder, Wonder of Space: Encountering the Eighteenth Century Through Image, Object, and Text.” Some materials from our Rare Books and Scottish Collections were selected to be in the exhibit. Students learned how to fabricate and design the exhibit. The exhibit catalog [<a href="https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/handle/10214/14739">https://atrium.lib.uoguelph.ca/xmlui/handle/10214/14739</a>] accompanying the exhibit was recognized with a Leab</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Award from the Association of Research Libraries’ Rare Books and Manuscripts Section.

| Winter 2020 | ARTH*4330 | Presentation on nine medieval manuscripts on loan from Les Enluminures for a research paper assignment. | 17 |
| Winter 2020 | ARTH*3330 | Presentation on nine medieval manuscripts on loan from Les Enluminures. | 70 |
| Winter 2020 | ARTH*2540 | Presentation on medieval manuscript on loan from Les Enluminures. and “speed dating” with the manuscripts. | 65 |

**Writing Services**

Writing specialists support students by providing:

- Individual writing appointments.
- In-class guest lectures.
- Curricular support and resources for instructors and graduate student supervisors.
- Co-curricular programming such as Dissertation Boot Camp, Brain Food for thesis management, Writing Tune-Up for grammar, and Academic Writing Style.
- Academic integrity support through Academic Integrity at the University of Guelph [www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca](http://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca) and by helping students understand and prevent academic misconduct.

We see approximately 1,000 students for individual writing consultations from the College of Arts annually; however, we see only one or two students a year from MUSC courses, and an average of ten a year from FINA* or SART* courses.

Writing Services has provided workshops for AVC* courses on research questions, graduate writing practices, and research proposals. We have provided workshops for FINA* courses on the MFA thesis support paper, annotated bibliographies, and thesis statements. We have provided workshops for SART* courses on artist statements. These workshops have all been well-received by both undergraduate and graduate students. We recommend that Writing Services continue to offer writing workshops in these courses.

**Writing guest lectures in Fine Arts courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th># students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>SART* 6640</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>AVC* 6100</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>SART* 4750</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>FINA* 6540/6640</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>SART* 4240</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>AVC* 6200</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>FINA* 6540/6640</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>AVC* 6300</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>AVC* 6100</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>SART* 4240</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>AVC* 6100</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>FINA* 6540/6640</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>FINA* 6540/6640</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>FINA* 6540/6640</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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English as an Additional Language (EAL)

English language programming supports students to develop skills in English communication, pronunciation, presentation, reading, and writing skills. Support is offered through:

- Individual appointments.
- Co-curricular workshops and short courses such as EAL Graduate Writing Camp, Pronunciation Groups, Talk like an Academic, and Write like an Academic.
- Curricular support and resources for instructors and graduate student supervisors.

Learning Services

Learning Specialists support students’ academic skill development through:

- Individual appointments.
- In-class guest lectures.
- Working with faculty to develop assignments, assessment, and in-class workshops on topics such as working in groups, presentation skills, poster presentations, and exam preparation, and customized student resources (such as an error analysis worksheet for midterms).
- Co-curricular programming such as Brain Food (thesis management), Presentation Boot Camp, and Control Academic Stress.

Learning Services has not provided any workshops specific to Fine Arts and Music students over the past several years.

Scholarship and Data Services

The Research & Scholarship (R&S) team provides support for students’ data and research activities, especially at the senior undergraduate and graduate levels. through:

- Individual appointments.
- In-class guest lectures.
- Co-curricular programming such the Data Skills Workshop Series, the Scholarly Communications Workshop Series,
- Customized digital learning objects such as instruction sheets, videos, and tutorials.
- The library’s Data Resource Centre which provides access to statistical data resources and software and specialist support for the use of GIS data, statistical software, and survey software.
- Administration of the University’s institutional repositories:
  - The Atrium for institutional open access research.
  - Dataverse for research data from all disciplines created by researchers at the University of Guelph.
  - The Agri-Environmental Research Data Repository to preserve and provide access to agricultural and environmental data produced during University of Guelph research projects.
- R&S has partnered with the THINC Lab (The Humanities Interdisciplinary Collaboration Lab). The THINC Lab provides space, programming, resources, and support for the exploration and adoption of digital methods for research and publication, within and in collaboration with humanities research.

Although we do not collect program level data about students in our individual appointments, most are graduate students including those from SOFAM. A large proportion of
students seek data analysis, cleaning and visualization support, including help with NVIVO, Tableau, Qualtrics and other qualitative supports.

Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD)

University of Guelph Institutional Repository, the Atrium, houses University of Guelph student theses and dissertations.

2 MA Art History and Visual Culture theses were deposited to the Atrium in 2019-2020.