

## **UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES: Bachelor of Arts in Digital Arts AFA11**

Thank you for your interest in applying for the BA (Digital Arts) degree with the Wits School of Arts for 2027.

The BA in Digital Arts degree is a four-year professional degree and brings together the creative and technical aspects of game creation. You will learn a variety of skills, including technical development and programming, illustration, animation, writing, game history and theory, game mechanics, programming, puzzle design, Level design, character design and much more. As the degree progresses, you may choose to specialise in Game Design, Animation, Writing and Interactivity or Interactive Media.

A formal academic application must have been submitted to the Student Enrolment Centre (SEnC) by **30 September 2026**. No late applications will be considered. Online applications are available at [www.wits.ac.za/applications](http://www.wits.ac.za/applications)

In addition, all BA (Digital Arts) applicants are required to submit an **online questionnaire together with a portfolio of artworks and a transcript of recent grades or matric results**.

The BA (Digital Arts) degree is a highly competitive programme for which we receive many applications. There are a limited number of places available, and you should aim to submit your portfolio as soon as possible but by no later than **31 October 2026**. Your application will be considered incomplete WITHOUT A PORTFOLIO.

**Please click <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8UOQDRiFriyCYK0KlbAM3k-aSq5JBCFjBCYRiGELwYdttKw/viewform?usp=header> to complete the questionnaire and upload your transcript and portfolio of artworks.**

Questionnaires will first be live in April 2026. The deadline for submission of the questionnaire is 31 October 2026.

PLEASE NOTE that the outcome of your application is dependent on the evaluation of the complete questionnaire, your portfolio, and your final Matric results. SEnC will confirm if your application is successful once your Matric results have been released in 2027.

Once you have submitted the complete questionnaire and required documents, we will aim to review your application within two to three weeks. You will then receive a letter from the Student Enrolment Centre (SEnC) with an update on the status of your application. You can also view your application status on the student self-service portal - <https://self-service.wits.ac.za/>

A firm offer by the University will allow you to register in January 2027. Registration dates will be published on the Wits website, as well as details about orientation activities and the start of term in February 2027.

## **Important Questionnaire Format and Conduct**

The questionnaire will ask a series of questions. Some of these are about you as an applicant and some of them pertain to the kinds of work we do at Wits Digital Arts.

You will be assessed based on your ability to:

- Problem-solve
- Engage critically

**You must submit the following with your questionnaire:**

1. **A 1-page CV detailing your personal information**

- Include your full name, address, telephone and email contact information, the name of the last school you attended, and year of matriculation (or planned year of matriculation).

2. A transcript of your most recent marks.

- Certified copy of your final grade 11 results, Matric certificate or academic transcript.

3. **A portfolio of work** – This portfolio must **have a minimum of 10 examples** of visual and written work. Your artistic portfolio is an important part of your application and should showcase your creative skills, work and ideas.

Because you are applying for a Digital Arts degree, we are interested to see visual artworks, including drawings, sketches, paintings, and digital renders.

We are also interested in seeing your creative writing work like short stories, scripts etc. If you do not have any work, spend some time working on your portfolio before you submit. Select the artworks you feel strongly about. The portfolio is open to experimental, and hybrid works as long as it showcases your strengths and capabilities towards growth as a digital artist. The portfolio guideline expands further – this can be found in the questionnaire linked above.

Applicants who fail to respond to all questions and submit all documents will not be considered.

For any queries, please contact Liezel Borman ([liezel.borman@wits.ac.za](mailto:liezel.borman@wits.ac.za))

4. **A critical essay (2 pages)**

Write a 2-page essay in response to the following question:

**How does a creative work use its design choices to shape your experience as an audience member or player?**

Choose narrative work such as a game, animated film or series, interactive project (digital or analogue), graphic novel/comic/manga, or novel etc., that you have recently experienced (social media platforms are not allowed). Your essay should not retell the story. Instead, focus on how the work is made. Think about things like visuals, character design, music or sound, worldbuilding, gameplay mechanics, choices, pacing, or structure, depending on the medium. Identify one or two specific elements that you found especially strong or weak and explain why it had such an impact on you. How did these choices affect how you felt, thought, or interacted with the work? Your response should show that you can think critically about how creative and technical decisions influence audience experience.

**Applicants who fail to submit the documentation requested above will not be processed.**

### **TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Whilst the department offers professional courses as part of the BA (Digital Arts) degree, the University is foremost an academic institution. Applicants will be thoroughly assessed on their discursive and academic abilities.

**Minimum Admission Requirements** (*Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission for any applicant*).

#### **National Senior Certificate (NSC)**

Each candidate requires an APS of at least 36 points and a minimum of 60% for English Home Language OR English First Additional Language, as well as a successful questionnaire and portfolio, (and possible interview), to be *considered* for acceptance into the degree. Mathematics and Physical Sciences passed with at least 60% is preferred but not compulsory. The Student Enrolment Centre communicates a FIRM offer only, and not the Wits School of Arts (WSOA).

Applicants with 30-35 APS points and at least 60% for English Home Language OR English First Additional Language, as well as a successful questionnaire and portfolio, (and possible interview), may be wait-listed, subject to place availability in January.

#### **International School-Leaving Qualifications**

##### **Cambridge International Examinations (CIE)**

Relevant exemption from the SA Matriculation Board

English Language O/IGCSE Level A-C | AS Level A-C | A Level A-C

#### **Further info:**

- <https://www.wits.ac.za/undergraduate/entry-requirements/>
- <https://www.wits.ac.za/course-finder/undergraduate/humanities/digital-arts/>