

# NATIONAL ART SCHOOL

## Academic Credit / Recognition of Prior Learning Policy

National Art School (NAS) will endeavour to recognise any relevant previous study, that does not disadvantage the student in their experience of and/or transition into the course and does not damage the integrity or learning outcomes for the course.

Academic Credit may be granted to students who have completed the equivalent of National Art (NAS) units at another institution within the last 10 years from the date of current enrolment at NAS.

When assessing an application for Academic Credit we assess the following:

1. The AQF level (or equivalent) of previous study
2. The volume of learning (i.e. equivalent hours of study)
3. The content and learning outcomes of previous study.

In order for credit to be granted the previous study must be of the same level and closely aligned in terms of volume of learning and content.

### Specific Credit & Block Credit

Specific Credit can be awarded where previous study closely matches all the criteria for a specific unit of study. Whereas block credit can be granted where the level, volume of learning and learning outcomes of unit(s) are closely aligned, but there is variation in the content of the previous study

*(For example block credit toward AHT Electives may be awarded where student has completed units of study at AQF level 7, with similar volume of learning to an AHT unit of study but in an area of Art History & Theory that NAS does not currently offer as an AHT Elective.)*

### Advanced Standing

Advanced Standing is a form of Block-credit which recognises the previous study of an applicant that is equivalent to the 1st year of study of the Bachelor of Fine Art or Master Fine Art. Provisions for Advanced Standing are detailed in the NAS Admissions Policy.

### Maximum Credit

Under normal circumstances NAS will not offer for more than 50% of total credit points towards a degree.

NAS may offer more than 50% of total credit points as academic credit in response to requests for replacement courses for those affected by a provider closure or in other compelling circumstances.

## **Work and Life Experience**

NAS is unable to offer any form of academic credit on the basis of work experience or life experience, unless specifically provided for in the NAS Admissions Policy.

## **Applying for Academic Credit**

Students may apply for academic credit using the Academic Credit Application on the Student portal.

Applicants for Advanced standing must confirm their application for Advanced Standing with Student Services prior to Interview. Further detail can be found in the published Application Guidelines.

## **Evidence Requirements**

Students applying for Academic Credit will need to provide:

- Unit Description(s) of previously completed study units, which includes details of the content and learning objectives
- Course Description related to the previously studies units
- An official copy of Academic Transcripts.

## **International Students**

International Students are able to apply for Academic Credit and/or Advanced Standing on the same basis as Domestic Students, however International Students must be able maintain a study load suitable to the conditions of their Visa.

## **Approval**

Academic Credit is approved by the Registrar where equivalence has been previously established and in consultation with senior academic staff for all other credit applications.

Students will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application. Approved Academic Credit will appear on your NAS Academic Transcript as: RPL Recognised Prior Learning. Students whose Academic Credit has not been approved must enrol into the subjects they were seeking exemption for.

## **Tuition Fees and Census Dates**

Tuition fees are not charged for units of study awarded as academic credit.

Applications for Academic Credit for unit in which the student is currently enrolled must be submitted before or on the census date for the said unit of study. Where Academic credit is approved for units in which the student is currently enrolled ( and received prior to census date) the student will receive a full-refund for any fees paid for the unit of study.

## **Advice & Guidance**

Students can seek advice on the process of applying for Academic Credit from Student Services, and on the equivalence of previous study from the relevant Head of Department.

## **Complaints and Appeals**

If a student wishes to appeal a decision made under this policy, they can do so by using the NAS Complaints Policy & Procedure.

## **Retention of records of Applications for Academic Credit**

NAS will retain enrolment records and receipts in line with the NAS Student Records Policy, and for at least 2 years after the student ceases their enrolment with the School.