

Emily Carr University of Art + Design (ECU), in partnership with Surrey Schools, the Vancouver School Board, and School District No. 43 (Coquitlam), is proud to support the next generation of artists and designers as they begin their journey to post-secondary education. Through the Head Start in Art dual credit pathway, selected high school students have the opportunity to take a first-year university course at ECU. While still in high school, students can earn both university credit toward an undergraduate degree and high school credit toward graduation, gaining early exposure to the creative learning environment at ECU.

WHO IS THIS PROGRAM FOR?

The Head Start in Art program is for students who:

- Are currently in grade 11 or 12 or are recent graduates from the secondary schools in the following school districts: Surrey Schools, Coquitlam School District, Vancouver School Board
- Are considering post-secondary studies in visual art, media art or design.
- Want to get a jumpstart on their post-secondary education and earn **dual credit** before officially beginning undergraduate studies.

The course will particularly benefit students developing a portfolio for admission to post-secondary programs.

COURSE DETAILS

Foundation 108 – Creative Processes (3 credits)

Dates: Fall Semester 2026
Day + Time: Saturdays, 9:30am - noon
Location: Emily Carr University

In this course, students will:

- Be introduced to the methods, materials, and concepts of drawing as a visual language and as a tool for enhancing perceptual awareness.
- Begin to acquire the skills to translate immediate observation and ideas into two-dimensional form while investigating processes and developing a critical vocabulary.
- Gain hands-on experience with in-class projects and assignments encompassing various aspects of drawing.
- Explore contemporary and historical art and design ideas through visual presentations and class discussions in a supportive, inclusive environment.

Space is limited.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

As this is a **university-level course**, students must meet all the following ECU academic admission requirements:

- English 11 or 12 (minimum “C” grade)
- Two other grade 11 or 12 academic courses
- Two grade 11 or 12 electives (Visual Art 11 or 12 recommended)
- Overall grade point average of 2.5 (“C+” or 67%)

APPLICATIONS

In order for your application to be complete, you must submit the following:

- An Application Form (signed)
- Diploma Verification Form OR transcript of grades
Note: Students may apply having only completed English 11; however, English 12 and Grade 12 academic and elective classes are the final requirements for future admission to Emily Carr University.
- A Recommendation Letter from your home school’s art teacher (or equivalent)
- Consent form (signed)

Applicant materials must be submitted to the appropriate Career Department at each school district.

Application forms are available through the high school Career Center or on the School District’s websites.

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition for the course is paid by the school district. Students are responsible for the Head Start program fee, which includes the capital refresh, technology, materials and learning access fees. For a full breakdown of ECU mandatory fees, please visit:

<https://ecuad.ca/tuition-fees-undergrad>

Tuition: \$471.06

Head Start program fee: \$195.51

This program is open to domestic (Canadian) students only.

