



PROGRAMS GUIDE



**VANCOUVER  
FILM SCHOOL**

[vfs.edu](http://vfs.edu)





# CREATIVE VISIONARIES

Since 1987

Artwork by VFS alumni: Thiago Paulino



Vancouver Film School

Top Global Film Schools

VARIETY Magazine

Vancouver Film School

Top Global Game Design Schools

The Princeton Review

Vancouver Film School

#1 Global Animation School

ANIMATION CAREER REVIEW

Vancouver Film School

Top Global VFX Schools

Hollywood REPORTER

Vancouver Film School

#1 Film & Media School

STRAIGHT A

Vancouver Film School

#1 Alumni Network

CAMPUS RANKINGS

## Who we are

*"To comprehend VFS, you might think of any entertainment studio that creates content across a range of industries. VFS functions like a full studio, with multiple production facilities that are essential for creating content for film, TV, games, animation, design, digital applications, and more. Content creation is our core learning tool. We place our education in outstanding facilities with master instructors and mentors, and we regularly update and realign curriculum to be in lockstep with the most current industry standards. This is all to help students originate, produce, and exhibit their best possible creative and technical work."*

- James Griffin,  
VFS President

## View from the outside

*"Every artist from every country should consider VFS as their first choice for professional career training."*

- Animation Magazine

*"VFS honours the fact that acting is a craft. At VFS, a student will learn that their body, mind, and voice is an instrument; how to develop and use it. Training at VFS will be the integral beginning of a lifelong study."*

- Sara Canning, Acting for Film & Television Alumna  
War for the Planet of the Apes, The Vampire Diaries

## Programs

What distinguishes VFS from all others is the immersive, accelerated, and sophisticated way we use content creation as a foundation for learning.

In just one year, VFS students get more direct experience producing, designing, and writing content than through most four-year degrees.

*"Their hands-on curriculum and vast faculty knowledge of the entertainment and media industry has made them one of most desirable programs worldwide."*

- Mauricio Vergara  
Sr. Manager, Education Business Development  
Unity Technologies

	5,000+ student awards in 10 years		Our staff have over 5,500 industry credits on IMDB		218 VFS alumni worked on films nominated for the 2019 Academy Awards
	2,663 student productions created at VFS in 2019		200+ active global partnerships		137 VFS alumni worked on projects nominated for the 2019 Golden Globes
	A global reputation with a 47% international student body from over 75 countries		180,000+ YouTube channel followers		106 VFS alumni worked on shows nominated for the 2019 Emmy Awards
<b>\$19.8B</b>	VFS alumni are credited on \$19.8 billion of global entertainment revenue		19,500+ VFS graduates make up our alumni student network		82 VFS alumni worked on games nominated for the 2019 Game Awards





# School of Film & Television

One of the world's leading film schools as awarded by Variety Magazine and the Hollywood Reporter. VFS offers an unmatched opportunity to create and produce film in its 8-studio film complex.

## Film Production Program

Live-in production for one year.

### Overview:

Working both as individuals and in teams, each student is involved with 17-20 different productions where they receive film credits.

Key Roles (Director, Director of Photography, Producer, Editor Production Designer, and AD). Each student creates their own portfolio and receives key role credits on 1/3 to 1/2 of the films in which they are involved.

For full information and course application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/filmproduction](https://vfs.edu/filmproduction) >









### Starts:

Jan, March, May, June, Aug, Oct

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

### Software:

-  Adobe Creative Cloud
-  Movie Magic
-  Premiere
-  Final Draft
-  Photoshop
-  AutoCAD
-  Avid
-  Sketchup

### Specializations:

Directing, Cinematography, Producing, Production Design, Post-Production

## Acting for Film & Television Program

Deep. Comprehensive. Professional.

### Overview:

VFS is a production-based school where acting students have an unmatched opportunity to grow in multiple disciplines whether on-camera, in the recording booth, or for interactive media. Working with programs such as Film, Sound Design and Game Design, graduates learn professional skills, obtain on-camera experience, learn mental, physical, and emotional preparation techniques, receive extensive industry prep and develop the special skills necessary for motion capture, green screen, sitcoms, heightened dramas and special FX.

For full information and course application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/acting](https://vfs.edu/acting) >

### Starts:

Jan, March, May June, Aug, Oct

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

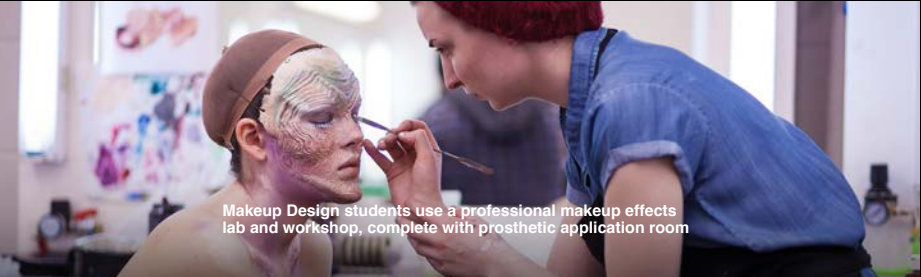
### Direct experience:

Voice Acting, Audition Skills, On Camera Techniques, Movement and Special Effects

 Casting Workbook



Get direct production training using the latest industry-standard equipment, including 6K RED Dragon and 4K Sony Pro FXW-FS7 cameras



Makeup Design students use a professional makeup effects lab and workshop, complete with prosthetic application room



Sound Design students work in five mixing labs, six industry-grade recording rooms, and a dual icon control surface equipped theatre

## Writing for Film, Television & Games Program

Every writer should make a living writing.

### Overview:

A program for people who want to write at a professional level. Students will write for different content types and genres, including shorts, features, pilots, episodes, and video games, reflecting the convergence of modern creative media and optimizing their ability across all production types.

For full information and course application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/writing](https://vfs.edu/writing) >

### Starts:

Jan, May, Aug

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

### Software:

-  Final Draft
-  Movie Magic

### Specializations:

Film, TV, Games

## Makeup Design for Film & Television Program

Extensive, practical and prestigious.

### Overview:

This is comprehensive, production-based practical effects training. From period fashion to contemporary glamour and covering, students gain proficiency in airbrushing, injury simulation, hair-styling, beard laying, hair fabrication, sculpting, molding and prosthetic fabrication.

For full information and course application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/makeup](https://vfs.edu/makeup) >

### Starts:

Jan, May, Aug

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

## Sound Design for Visual Media Program

Storytelling through sound.

### Overview:

Unique to VFS, students collaborate with the production departments in Film and Game Design, working both individually and with teams to experience a wide array of media genres. Through training in sound design, mixing, sound editing, in-studio and on-set work, students prepare themselves for sound design in the film industry, music, games and beyond.

For full course description and application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/sound](https://vfs.edu/sound) >

### Starts:

March, June, Oct

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

### Software:

-  Wwise
-  Fmod
-  Pro Tools

All graduates are Pro Tools 110 certified.



# School of Animation & Visual Effects

*"...going to Vancouver Film School  
could be the best decision of your life."*

ANIMATION  
CAREER REVIEW

## Classical Animation Program

Bring life to your  
wildest imagination.

### Overview:

This program is known globally for its high standard of production and phenomenal quality of student work. Subjects of study include animation, character and background design, composition, life drawing, perspective, effects animation, story boarding, layout, colour theory, digital ink & paint, sound and workflow.

For full information and course  
application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/animation](https://vfs.edu/animation) >


### Starts:

Jan, May, Aug

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

### Software:

 Adobe  
Animate

 Toon  
Boom

 Photoshop

 DigiCel  
Flipbook

 Premiere

 After  
Effects

## Animation Concept Art Program

Develop story through art.

### Overview:

Visual story development and previsualization are indispensable to the entertainment industries. These powerful industry skills are honed through multiple concepting projects, including game vehicle design, project storyboarding, environment design, project animation, character cast development, e-character design, remix design, and project pitch packages.

For full information and course  
application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/concept-art](https://vfs.edu/concept-art) >

### Starts:


March, June, Aug, Oct

### Duration:


1 year / 6 terms

### Software:

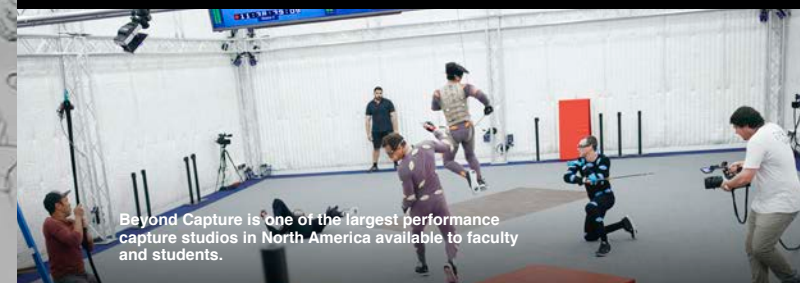
 Zbrush

 Photoshop

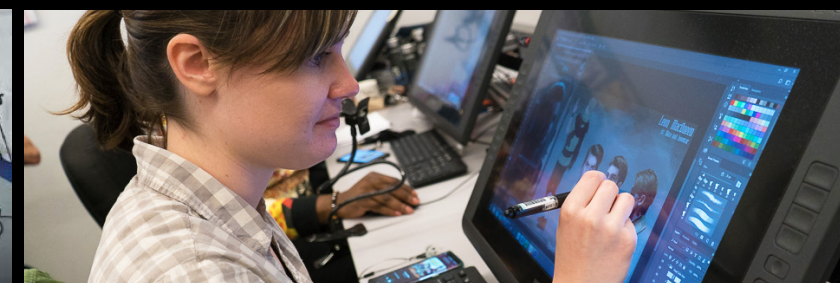
 Toon  
Boom

 Sketchbook  
Pro

 Cintiq  
Pro



Beyond Capture is one of the largest performance capture studios in North America available to faculty and students.



## 3D Animation & Visual Effects Program

"The best animation school  
in the world."

- Animation Career Review

### Overview:

This program's comprehensive nature covers an intense array of subjects, including 3D generalist skills, animation, visual effects, rigging, lighting, modeling, match-moving, compositing, texturing, rotoscoping, and matte painting. Students have the option to specialize after building comprehensive foundation skills. Depending on specialization, each student will complete 6-9 film showcases and content pieces.

For full information and course  
application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/3D](https://vfs.edu/3D) >

### Starts:

Jan, March, May,  
June, Aug, Oct

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

### Software:

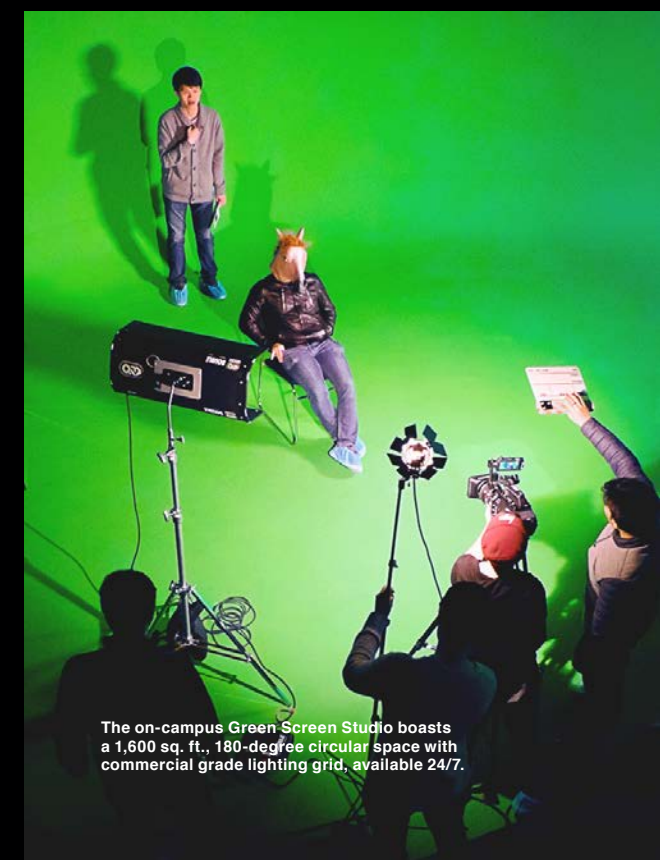
 Maya  Premiere

 Zbrush  Substance  
Painter

 Nuke

### Specializations:

3D Animation, Modeling  
Visual Effects



The on-campus Green Screen Studio boasts a 1,600 sq. ft., 180-degree circular space with commercial grade lighting grid, available 24/7.



# School of Games & Creative Design

The New Creative Intersection of Games, Design, VR/AR, and Programming.

## Game Design Program

Design the games you  
want to play.

### Overview:

This program offers exclusive advantages including access to an in-house commercial motion capture studio and the opportunity to work with production programs in acting & sound design, with the end result being highly polished and focused gaming experiences crafted from beginning to end with modern development toolsets.

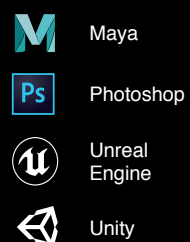
### Start Dates:

Jan, May, Aug, Oct

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

### Software:



### Specializations:

Game Art, Level  
Design, Coding

For full information and course  
application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/gamesdesign](https://vfs.edu/gamesdesign)



## Programming for Games, Web & Mobile Program

Rated #1 web and mobile  
program in the world.

- The Rookie Awards

### Overview:

Students create a cloud project that utilizes Amazon web services and synthesizes their year's work in a professional-quality website showcase. Graduates of this 1-year program are authenticated programmers successfully competing with graduates from 4-year programs.

For full information and course  
application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/programming](https://vfs.edu/programming)



### Starts:

Jan, Aug

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

### Software:



### Languages:

HTML5/CSS,  
Javascript, Ruby on  
Rails, C++, C#

### Specializations:

Web Development,  
Game Development

## Digital Design Program

Art. Design.  
Content. Convergence.

### Overview:

A VFS signature production program where students learn to synthesize design and content across digital mediums. Subject areas include graphic & motion graphic design, interaction design, interface design, user experience design, communication design, product design and video production. Students will learn industry-standard techniques and processes.

For full information and course  
application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/digitaldesign](https://vfs.edu/digitaldesign)



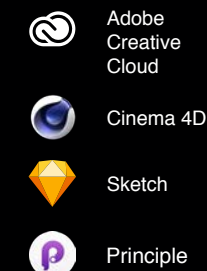
### Starts:

Jan, May, Aug

### Duration:

1 year / 6 terms

### Software:



### Specializations:

UX/UI or Motion

## VR/AR Design & Development Program

Brave new worlds.

### Overview:

A new senior production program with specific admission requirements. Its goals are to enhance programming, design, storytelling and artistic skills, empowering students to construct rich VR/AR environments across a wide range of early adopting industries.

For full information and course  
application requirements visit

[vfs.edu/VRAR](https://vfs.edu/VRAR)



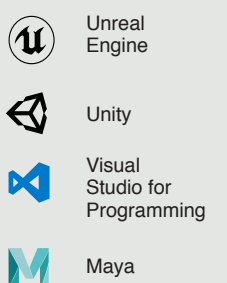
### Start Date:

Jan

### Duration:

8 months / 2 terms

### Software:







# Preparatory Programs

VFS preparatory programs equip students with foundational knowledge in various disciplines at an accelerated pace. These programs are designed to dovetail with advanced production programs offered at VFS, but can also provide the basis for success in other professional paths.

## Foundation Visual Art & Design Program

A gateway program.

Discover and develop your unique visual media talents as you refine your artistic vision and techniques. Specialize in animation, film, games or digital design, and create a professional portfolio that takes you on the next step of your career or academic path.

**You'll Graduate With:**

Diploma in Foundation Visual Art & Design; Portfolio that satisfies entrance into VFS full-time academic programs and for the next step in your career or academic path; exposure to multiple creative mediums

No portfolio requirement needed

**Starts:**

Jan, March, May  
June, Aug, Oct

**Duration:**

1 year / 6 terms

**Software:**

 Adobe Creative Cloud

 Maya

 Pro Tools

 Final Draft

**Specializations:**

Animation, Film, Digital Design, Game Design

## Acting Essentials Program

A perfect place to start your acting training.

**You'll Graduate With:**

Certificate in Acting Essentials, a foundation to build on in your creative career, potential invitation to join VFS's Acting for Film & Television one-year program

**Direct Experience:**

Acting skills, Camera techniques, Audition, Voice, Movement, Text Analysis and Improv

**Starts:**

Jan, March, May  
June, Aug, Oct

**Duration:**

4 months / 2 terms

## English for Creative Arts Program

Improve your English while learning skills in film, photography, animation, and game design. This program focuses equally on industry-relevant communication skills and the production of media art, using a variety of techniques in photography, video and Photoshop.

**Requirements:**

IELTS 5.0 - TOEFL ibt 60 or equivalent

**Learning Outcomes:**

Develop the language and communication skills essential to a successful career in media arts

**Path:**

Satisfies ESL requirements to enter VFS full-time academic programs

**Start Date:**


Jan, March, May  
June, Aug, Oct

**Duration:**

4 months / 2 terms

**Software:**

 Premiere

 Photoshop

## Summer Intensives

Our 1-week Summer Intensives run from July to August. Each course spans 5 days and provides the perfect opportunity to experience firsthand what life is like at VFS and what our full-time programs offer.

- Film Production
- Acting for Film & Television
- Digital Design
- Introduction to Film, Animation & Design
- 3D Animation & Visual Effects
- Writing for Film & Television
- Game Design
- Makeup Design for Film & Television

[vfs.edu/summerintensives](https://vfs.edu/summerintensives)







# Degree Pathways

VFS has established several exclusive pathway partnerships with post-secondary institutions worldwide. Depending on the partnership, it is now possible for international students to complete an undergraduate degree, be industry-ready in as few as two years, and become eligible to apply for a post-graduation work permit.



Eligible VFS Programs:

- Film Production
- Writing for Film & Television
- Acting for Film & Television
- Digital Design



Royal Roads University  
Victoria, B.C., Canada

- Bachelor of Arts in Professional Communication (1 year - on campus)
- Bachelor of Arts in Professional Communication (2 years - blended)



[vfs.edu/pathway/rru](https://vfs.edu/pathway/rru)

Eligible VFS Programs:

- Digital Design
- Acting for Film & Television



Capilano University  
North Vancouver, B.C., Canada

- Bachelor of Design in Visual Communication (2 years)
- Bachelor of Performing Arts (2 years)



[vfs.edu/pathway/capu](https://vfs.edu/pathway/capu)

Eligible VFS Programs:

All Advanced Production Programs (excluding Makeup Design for Film & Television) and Foundation Visual Art & Design



British Columbia  
Institute of Technology  
Metro Vancouver, B.C., Canada

- Advanced Business Management Diploma (2 semesters)
- Bachelor of Business Administration (5 semesters)
- Technical Arts Advanced Diploma (3 semesters)



[vfs.edu/pathway/bcit](https://vfs.edu/pathway/bcit)

Eligible VFS Programs:

All Advanced Production Programs (excluding Makeup Design for Film & Television) and Foundation Visual Art & Design



University of the Fraser Valley  
B.C., Canada

- Bachelor of Media Arts (2 years)
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (2 years)
- Bachelor of Arts (2 years)
- Bachelor of Integrated Studies (2 years)



[vfs.edu/pathway/ufv](https://vfs.edu/pathway/ufv)

Eligible VFS Programs:

- Acting for Film & Television
- Film Production
- Writing for Film, Television & Games



Wilfrid Laurier University  
Ontario, Canada

- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Film Studies (3 years)
- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) English (3 years)
- Combined Bachelor of Arts (Hons) English and Film Studies (3 years)



[vfs.edu/pathway/laurier](https://vfs.edu/pathway/laurier)

Eligible VFS Programs:

- Acting for Film & Television
- Film Production
- Writing for Film, Television & Games



Regent's University London  
London, UK

- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Acting for Stage & Screen (2 years)
- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Film & Screen: Film Production (2 years)
- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Film & Screen: TV & Digital Media Production (2 years)
- Bachelor of Arts Film & Screen: Screenwriting & Production (2 years)



[vfs.edu/pathway/regent](https://vfs.edu/pathway/regent)





# Student Life

## Student Counselling

We're committed to the success and well-being of all students at VFS. We promote and provide a healthy educational environment with responsive and accessible services. For students experiencing acute challenges, we offer short-term counselling and crisis support while they regain clarity, developing healthy coping strategies, and continuing to build toward their academic and life goals.

[vfs.edu/student-counselling](https://vfs.edu/student-counselling)

## Accommodation

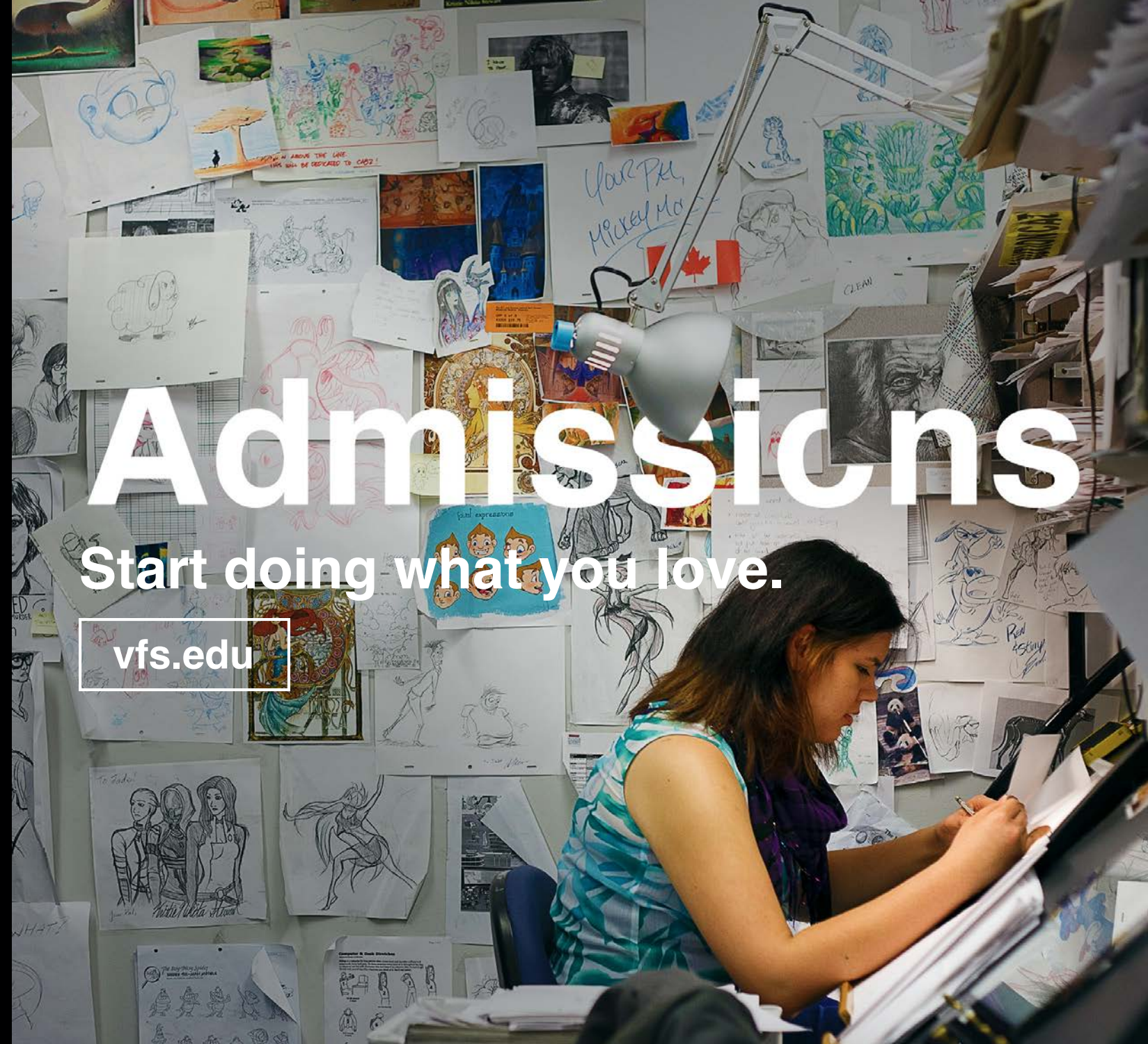
Our Housing Coordinator can help you find the housing and/or roommates that best meet your needs and budget.

[vfs.edu/accommodation](https://vfs.edu/accommodation)

## Student Services

Our Student Services team will help to support you throughout your year of study at VFS. We offer help with housing, medical insurance, budget concerns, and guidance regarding your rights and responsibilities while residing in the province of British Columbia.

[vfs.edu/student-experience](https://vfs.edu/student-experience)



# Admissions

Start doing what you love.

[vfs.edu](https://vfs.edu)

## General Requirements

To qualify for programs at VFS, you must meet certain criteria and specific requirements.

- Application Form
- Portfolio
- 2 x Reference Letters
- Copy of Transcripts
- Current or recent school transcripts

### Book a 1-on-1 Review

Curious if your creative portfolio meets VFS requirements? Show us your work and we'll give you real-time feedback.

- Creative Portfolio Review
- Acting Auditions

**Contact our Advisors for assistance if you have questions during the admissions process.**

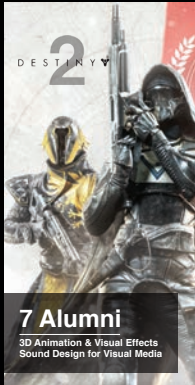
[vfs.edu/contact](https://vfs.edu/contact)

1 604.685.5808

1 800.661.4101

\*Toll-Free North America





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