



COURSE INFORMATION

National Certificate: Photography SAQA ID 73298

About VSS

VSS is an accredited private visual arts education and training provider where outcomes-based education and training focus on boosting creativity. Vocational education prepares students for jobs or careers at various levels.

VSS recognises the tremendous power of visual communication in advertising, the media and education. VSS therefore strives to teach students how to learn not only the theory and techniques of visual arts, but also develop the ability to use visual communication and presentation skills to give effect to the reasons for creating visual images such as those used by the visual media industry.

Legal status

Visual Skills School (Pty) Ltd Registration number: 2011/005518/07

Accreditation

VSS is registered with the MICT Seta and accredited as a private provider of education and training. MICT Seta accreditation number: ACC/2014/07/3059

Distance Learning Program

This course is offered by distance learning. In this way VSS makes visual arts education accessible and affordable to all creative students in South Africa.

The advantage of distance education is that you can complete a course in your own time and at your own pace in the comfort of your own home. Your lecturer is only an email away! It does, however, take commitment, self-discipline and effective time-management to complete a course like this successfully.

Course Content

The course consists of a core, fundamental and elective component totalling a minimum of 128 credits on the NQF. The learning path consists of the following fields of learning:

1. Photography
 - a. Photo Science
 - b. Photo Technique
 - c. Digital Darkroom (Post-processing)
 - d. Applied Photography
2. Professional Practice
 - a. Communication
 - b. Professional Practice
 - c. Business Studies
3. Visual communication

Course Duration

Twelve to eighteen months from registration, depending on the student's progress. Students can register throughout the year.

Admission Requirements:

Matric Certificate or equivalent

A Grade 11 report may be submitted for evaluation and possible admission

You do not need a portfolio for admission.

Equipment Requirements:

1. Camera equipment:
 - a. DSLR camera supporting a RAW format.
 - b. Lenses – at least a kit lens
2. Valid email address
3. Laptop or PC
 - a. System Requirements:
 - b. Intel® Core 2 or AMD Athlon® 64 processor; 2 GHz or faster processor
 - c. Microsoft Windows 10
 - d. 4 GB of RAM (8 GB recommended)
 - e. 3.1 GB of available hard-disk space for 64-bit installation; additional free space required during installation
 - f. 1024 x 768 display (1280x800 recommended) with 16-bit color and 512 MB of dedicated VRAM; 2 GB is recommended*
 - g. OpenGL 2.0–capable system
4. Internet connection and registration are necessary for required software activation, validation of subscriptions, and access to online services.
5. Software:
 - a. Adobe Lightroom
 - b. Adobe Photoshop

Study Fees:

Study fees for the National Certificate: Photography is R29 000.00 payable strictly as follow:

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|---------------------------|---|
| Confirmation fee: | R12 000.00. |
| Monthly fee: | R 1 200.00 per month for twelve months. |
| Summative Assessment Fee: | R2 600.00 on submission of final Portfolio of Evidence. |

Fee payment procedures and rules:

The total amount of the Confirmation Fee must be paid immediately once you have been accepted as a student. On receipt of the full confirmation fee, VSS will despatch all study materials in hard copy. This includes Handbooks, Study Guides and mnemonics like DVDs, etc.

The monthly fee is payable strictly before or on the last Friday of the month.

Application Procedure:

1. Do you comply with the requirements?
2. Request an application form from VSS by email: admission@vsscreative.com
3. Complete the application form. Make sure you fill in all the fields in this form. Please make sure that the information is correct, truthful and verifiable.
4. Sent your complete application form together with:
 - a. A copy of your ID
 - b. A copy of your Matric Certificate or Statement of Results for Grade 11
5. Acknowledgement of receipt of your application will be send to your email address.
6. Applicants who do not meet the full admission requirements, for example with only a Grade 11 statement of results, will be notified in writing that their applications for admission are subject to testing.
 - a. You will receive a questionnaire to complete.
 - b. You have to write a short essay on the topic provided.
 - c. Submit both the questionnaire and essay for assessment and evaluation.
 - d. If your application was successful, you will receive a letter of acceptance for admission.

Registration and Commencement Dates:

Students can enrol throughout the year. Your commencement date will be the date that your study materials have been despatched.

Registration Procedure:

1. After acceptance, students will be invited to confirm enrolment; and
2. Pay a confirmation fee of R12 000.00 into VSS's bank account. This fee is non-refundable once study materials have been despatched. Use your surname and initials as reference on your payment.
3. NB: If you use the incorrect reference, the fees paid will not be allocated to the correct student account.
4. You will receive a confirmation of registration with your student number.
5. Study materials will be despatched by SA Post Office courier services to address on your registration form. If you live in Pretoria, you may collect your study materials from the College.
6. You will receive the tracking number at the SA Post Office for collection of your study materials.
7. Subsequent study materials and feedback will only be sent electronically.

Submission of Assignments:

Assignment submission dates are indicated in the Tutorial Letters that you will receive throughout the course of your studies.

Submission must be done electronically in the prescribed file formats as explained in your Assessment Guide.

Assessment and Feedback:

Formative assessment takes place throughout the course based on these assignments.

Feedback will be provided after formative assessment on each assignment.

After feedback has been received, the student may use this feedback to improve on the assignment.

Summative assessment and moderation takes place at the end of the course when students submit their Final Portfolios of Evidence.

Student Support:

Connect with your lecturer by email, Whats App or telephone.

Visit the facebook page regularly.

Make contact with fellow students and form study groups where possible.

Attend workshops when possible.

Visit the College to receive face-to-face support.