

Honours Bachelor of Illustration

Bachelor's Degree Program
Trafalgar Road Campus

Program Code: **PBAAI**

If you require assistance regarding this document, please call 905-845-9430 and select option 4 or go to hub.sheridancollege.ca

If you require this information in an accessible format, or for Accessible Learning at Sheridan go to <https://www.sheridancollege.ca/student-life/student-services/accessible-learning-services>

Contents

Academic Integrity	1
Additional Admission Requirements	2
Portfolio Requirements	2
1. DRAWING TEST	2
2. PORTFOLIO OF ORIGINAL WORK	5

Academic Integrity

By submitting your Admission Requirements, you are agreeing to comply with Sheridan's Academic Integrity Policy. The Academic Integrity Policy states:

Sheridan College is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity. The International Centre for Academic Integrity (ICAI) defines academic integrity as “a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to six fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage. From these values flow principles of behavior that enable academic communities to translate ideals into action”.

Applicants who are found to have falsified transcripts, cheated on admission tests, or submitted fraudulent documents or in any other way attempted to circumvent the admissions process in a manner inconsistent with the principles of academic integrity, will not be granted admission to the College. Those applicants will be ineligible for admission to any Sheridan program or course for a period of not less than 5 years, after which admission to the College will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

For programs where a portfolio submission is required as part of the admission process, portfolio work should represent an applicant's own ideas, writing, projects and creations. Where others have contributed, or non-original ideas have been included, applicants will give proper recognition and reference.

Additional Admission Requirements

Portfolio Requirements

The Portfolio Assessment measures your suitability for the first year of study in Illustration. It also demonstrates your response to assigned tasks and problem-solving skills. The portfolio includes the Drawing Test and Portfolio of Original Work. **Important:** Use of AI-generated imagery or text-to-image tools (e.g., DALL·E, Midjourney, etc.) is strictly prohibited in all portfolio materials. Submissions found to contain AI-generated work will be disqualified.

The mandatory portfolio materials are detailed on pages 2-6. Instructions on how to submit your portfolio are on pages 7-9. Please read and follow all directions carefully.

The deadline for the ONLINE PORTFOLIO SUBMISSION is:
Friday, February 20, 2026, 1:00pm Eastern Standard Time (EST)

By submitting a portfolio to Sheridan College, you acknowledge that you completed the portfolio independently, it was not created by another person, and you did not use anyone else's work.

1. DRAWING TEST

ALL drawings for this test are observational drawing from life. What does 'from life' mean? It means actual physical subject matter. Taking a photo of a person or an object and drawing from that picture IS NOT OBSERVATIONAL DRAWING. Draw the subject freehand. Do not trace, use a ruler or any digital assistance with straight lines, ellipses, or perspective. No grid constructions. Do not submit drawings from an object drawing or life drawing course for the Drawing Test. Do not submit Drawing Test images from past applications to the program.

The Drawing Test counts for 70% of the assessment score. The components are:

1.1. Drawing Test 1

Observational drawing (30 minutes) of a clothed friend or family member seated on a chair holding a book, phone, or game controller (choose one). Draw the entire figure and chair, ensure we can see both hands.

Materials: 8.5" x 11" (minimum size) white paper. Pencil or ink or charcoal.

1.2. Drawing Test 2

Composition, Process, and Reflection: 3 observational drawing process sketches*, a final drawing, and a written reflection.

Select objects from your kitchen (examples: mug, wine glass, piece of silverware, kettle, etc.) and arrange **3 objects** into a still-life composition that expresses the idea of either **agitated OR calm** (choose ONE of the two themes).

1.2.1. Sketch 3 compositional ideas (process sketches) utilizing **different** objects in each sketch to inform your final drawing.

1.2.2. The final drawing should indicate an effective use of composition and lighting (using both line and tone) to express the idea of **agitated OR calm**. (Choose ONE of the two themes). Include a title on your final drawing in the lower right corner with the theme you chose **agitated OR calm**.

Materials: Process: 8" x 10" sketchbook (minimum size) or 8.5" x 11" white paper. Pencil or ink or charcoal. Final Drawing: 8.5" x 11" (minimum size) white paper. Pencil or ink or charcoal.

1.2.3. Write a 150 word or less statement that you will upload as a PDF. The text should be in your own words, A.I. text will not be accepted. Reflect on the decisions you made and choose ONE of the following:

1. Describe how your process drawings helped to develop your ideas and final outcome.
2. How did the objects selected support the composition?
3. Describe the compositional approach you used to express the chosen prompt.

**Note: There is a difference between Process and Progress work. Process work is the research, references and visual sketches and ideation you used to develop your finished work. This is what you should submit for this section. Progress work is the steps you took from sketch to colour rough to final. You should not submit progress work for this section.*

1.3. Drawing Test 3

Observational Drawings. **Two** series of **5** drawings each (total of 10 drawings): follow directions carefully.

1.3.1. Drawing Test 3A

Quick Draw: 5 observational (do not use photo reference) drawings that take under 10 minutes. Do not draw from reference images: we need to see your response to observing the real world.

1. Two drawings that include the figure/s. Draw on transit, at the mall, or at school.
2. Two drawings that include an object. Draw something in your room, bathroom, or kitchen.
3. One drawing that includes nature. Draw a plant or your pet.

Materials: 8" x 10" sketchbook (minimum size) or 8.5" x 11" white paper with pencil or ink or charcoal.

1.3.2. Drawing Test 3B

Draw: 5 observational (do not use photo reference) drawings that take **between 10 and 30 minutes**. Do not draw reference images: we need to see your response to observing the real world.

1. Two drawings that include buildings or cars. (Do not use rulers. Draw freehand.)
2. Two drawings of a person or people in an environment. Draw people in a park, at a coffee shop, at a transit stop or station.
3. A study of drapery with a single light source. Place a sheet or jacket over the back of a chair. Drawing should express the form of the fabric and the direction of the light and shadow.

Materials: 8" x 10" sketchbook (minimum size) or 8.5" x 11" white paper with pencil or ink or charcoal. Tone, value, wash, and/or cross-hatching will aid in expressing the perspective, viewpoint, and form, in this section of drawings.

2. PORTFOLIO OF ORIGINAL WORK

The Portfolio of Original Work counts for 30% of the assessment score and consists of a selection of personal artwork and a sketchbook. You can resubmit Portfolio images and sketchbook images from past applications to the program, but your most recent work is preferred. All work submitted must have been done by you. Follow these instructions:

2.1. Original Art Description: Written image descriptions, uploaded as a pdf. Each description should not be longer than a sentence or two.

Example:

File Name: POW_1.jpg (*How to name files is shared on page 7*)

Description: Oil painting created for a high school art assignment on the theme of sustainability.

Media : Oil on canvas. Size: 18" x 24"

Note: this description only applies to the Original Art section of the Portfolio of Original Work submissions and not your Sketchbook PDF.

2.2. Original Art: Choose a minimum of 10 pieces of your work (max. 15 pieces).

2.3. Sketchbook: Choose between 15 and 25 pages from your sketchbooks. You may include 2-4 of these pages in each finished page of the PDF you upload. The sketchbook is an important part of your submission as it helps us determine your personal engagement with drawing and visual content

The Portfolio of Original Work Submissions

- Include drawing/painting from observation with materials media (Artwork drawn from photography does not help us to determine your observational drawing skills)
- An example of a personally designed imaginative work or character can be submitted. (This does not include anime or fantasy—see below)
- You can include two examples of digital artwork (The Portfolio is intended to assess your knowledge of materials media. A portfolio comprised of many digital artworks does not help us assess this capability.)

DO NOT:

- Do not include work that copies photographs, uses the grid system or directly replicates any other artist's work. Your submission will be disqualified if you copy from another artist's work. Learning and drawing from historical and museum sources is accepted, please cite the artist if you include images using historical sources.
- Do not submit anime drawings, cartoons, fantasy or video game character designs (These do not help us in determining your suitability for admission into the program).
- Do not submit work that uses text to image generative A.I. or apps to convert photography into drawings.

The following are examples of work you may choose to include if you do not have an established portfolio:

- A study of your hands and feet.

- A sketchbook that shows a daily approach to observation drawing and exploration of visual ideas.
- Draw shoes, gloves, etc. and arrange them in a still life with the use of other props or environment that helps tell a story.
- Draw a self-portrait. Sketch friends from observation rather than using photos of celebrities.
- Draw a still-life of objects. Natural or mechanical objects (e.g. plants, tools, appliances...). Use tone and cast shadows.
- Draw from observation interiors or exteriors of architecture (e.g. school, church, or your room).
- Draw or paint a landscape. Explore colour media.
- Draw clothed figure/s in a place that gives the figure a sense of scale. (e.g. transit, the mall, beach...).
- In Year 1, you will be drawing and painting, working with a nude model. Any experience drawing from life models (not from screens) is a great benefit.

The Drawing Test and Portfolio of Original Work measure the suitability of the work submitted for entry into Year 1 of the Illustration program at Sheridan.