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## Welcome to Daniels

### Our Programs

Our **Architectural Studies** program initiates students into the discipline of architecture, using it as an unparalleled lens through which our students pursue a liberal arts education. At the Daniels Faculty, we are committed to establishing design thinking as an important complement to the humanities and science focus and strength found at the University of Toronto. As a profession, architecture plays a pivotal role in the production of the built environment, bridging the technical and social, practical and theoretical. It is a cultural and artistic practice that is critically engaged with the forces of urbanization and technological change, the challenges of environmental sustainability, and the struggle for cultural expression. It involves the design, production, and organization of material culture from the scale of domestic objects to the scale of the metropolitan region. The aim of our Architectural Studies program is to produce a cohort of graduates with visual literacy and the kinds of critical skills that will prepare them to pursue multiple career paths in fields such as architecture, landscape, urban design and other cultural enterprises that are emerging from our changing societal context.

Our **Visual Studies** program shares a similar focus with many visual studies program; a critical understanding and production of art. Visual Studies at the Daniels Faculty is set within a unique environment focusing on a rigorous investigation of the interdisciplinary and conceptual components inherent to contemporary art and curatorial practice, as well as in critical writing, theory, art history, design, and related areas requiring a high degree of visual literacy. This innovative program of study provides instruction in studio practice in combination with critical discourse involving all aspects of contemporary visual culture through lectures, studio courses, seminars, and field trips. Similar to our Architectural Studies program, Visual Studies also benefits from the strong liberal arts focus of the University of Toronto, providing students with the flexibility to broadly pursue other scholarly interests. This flexibility is a fundamental component of the program, as it encourages students to bring those ideas culled from elsewhere to bear within their own artistic practice, allowing ideas and modes of thought that might be rooted in more conventional forms of making art to be openly refined and challenged.

At the Daniels Faculty we also offer professional graduate programs in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Design and Visual Studies.

### Our Faculty

As a student, engaging with faculty will provide you with the opportunity to learn from some of the industries' greatest designers, researchers, and artists. Our faculty include members of the

Toronto, national and international design communities who are consistently pushing the boundaries of their practice and creating innovative solutions to many of the research challenges facing the fields of architecture, urbanism, design technology and sustainability.

Not only are our faculty engaged in research, many are also practicing architects, landscape architects, urban designers and artists bringing an important practical element to the classroom. At the Daniels Faculty we recognize the symbiotic relationship between art and architecture which provides the foundation for our unique first year core curriculum as well as informs some of the research collaborations that exist among various members of our faculty.

## Our Environment

The environment in which you will be studying is an important factor to consider for your education. Our home at One Spadina Crescent is a bold work of architecture and landscape on a landmark urban site, set between the University of Toronto's St. George campus and the vibrant center of Toronto. Our space includes extensive design studios, fabrication laboratories, a library and reading room, various student commons, a student run cafe, and numerous research hubs. Our new galleries and lecture hall have expanded our already extensive roster of lectures, symposia and exhibitions, all of which will allow you to enhance your education well beyond the studio and classroom.

Our context is among our greatest assets. The greater Toronto region serves as a dynamic laboratory for Daniels students and faculty, while the University of Toronto, which year after year ranks among the top universities in the world, provides a wealth of knowledge and expertise that we all draw on. Our location in one of the art & culture hubs of Canada provides our students with the opportunity to take their learning off campus to many of the art galleries and design spaces within the city. Toronto is also home to many Canadian and international architecture, landscape architecture and urban design firms, providing students with many occasions to network and begin engaging with the professional communities, well before graduation.

## Our Students

Like Toronto, Daniels students are incredibly cosmopolitan in sensibility, hailing from every part of the world, with a variety of interests and skills. The diversity of our students' interests builds the dynamic student experience of the Daniels Faculty. Our students are involved in student government, varsity and intramural athletics, numerous academic, social and cultural student organizations in addition to artistic endeavors across the University and beyond. We look forward to welcoming you to become a part of this dynamic community!



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