Recognising professional experience

The Graduate Certificate and Master of Visualisation, Simulation, and Immersive Design are programs designed for professionals who need to upskill in immersive methodologies and technologies in live environments and virtual, augmented and mixed realties. We realise that many people have built their careers on their own abilities and capabilities and have gained many years of experience. UNSW recognises the immense and irreplaceable value of this hard earned experience through our Recognision of Prior Learning (RPL) procedure, and offers those with industry experience the following.

Applying for the Graduate Certificate without a Bachelors degree

If you have at least 5 years of industry experience you can apply for alternate entry into the GCVSID via RPL. Given the transdisciplinary nature of the program, your industry experience may be in any discipline, and you do not have to be currently involved with immersive technologies. When submitting your application, you must include a digital portfolio (PDF or website) containing the following:

1. A CV detailing at least 5 years of recent industry experience.
2. 5-10 examples of your professional achievements (examples of work, descriptions of initiatives you've led, patents, awards, etc.)
3. A two page statement which explains:
   a) Your specific strengths and achievements in your field
   b) How you see visualisation, simulation and immersive design impacting your discipline
   c) Your motivations for joining the program, and how you believe the program will enhance your career

The portfolio will be assessed by Art & Design staff who will be looking to see that you have expertise in your current field, a passion to learn more about immersion and simulation, and ideas about how this program will benefit your future.

Moving from Graduate Certificate to Masters

Students in the Graduate Certificate who achieve a Weighted Average mark (WAM) of 65/100 at the end of their study may choose to transfer into the full Master of Visualisation, Simulation, and Immersive Design program. This means that if you maintain a credit average grade in your study in the Graduate Certificate, you can continue into a full Masters program without having to hold a Bachelors degree.

Reduce the duration of your Graduate Certificate or Masters

You can shorten the duration of your program by applying for RPL for credit[1]. This may include 5 years or more industry experience, formal or informal learning, and approved UNSW Art & Design Short Courses. RPL is considered when applying to join a program, and in the case of short courses, you may apply at any time during your study. Short courses are typically the equivalent of between 0.5 and 1 course in a UNSW program, and includes all Asia Pacific Simulation Alliance (APSA) short courses and other UNSW Art & Design short courses where specified on our short courses website nvite.com/community/unswvr. The following limits apply for RPL for credit:

Graduate Certificate (4 courses, 0.7 years full time) – Can be shortened by the equivalent of 2 elective courses to a minimum of 2 core courses which can be completed in 1 term (0.3 years) if undertaken full time.

Masters (11 courses, 1.7 years full time) – Can be shortened by the equivalent of 5 elective courses to a minimum of 6 core courses which can be completed in 2 terms or 0.7 years if undertaken full time.

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1 RPL used to gain entry into a program may not be claimed for additional credit.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is it possible to complete a program while working full time?

Yes. This low-residency program has been designed to accommodate busy professionals. The core courses are conducted online, with two to three intensive face-to-face meet ups per term on campus or at our industry partner facilities. Most meet ups will take place on the weekend to maximise flexibility. You will also have full access to all campus facilities throughout each term. For elective courses you will be able to select from a range of fully online courses and on-campus face-to-face courses with weekly classes.

Will I get to experience and use immersive technologies?

Yes. You will have the opportunity to have hands on experience with a range of different technologies such as headsets, mobile devices, 3D immersive domes, a range of simulators, and high end computer workstations for creating immersive environments.

I have no experience working with technologies or programming, is this program for me?

The program caters for a range of technical abilities, but you do not have to be a programmer or expert to take part. All students will be exposed to and supported in using a range of immersive technologies no matter their level of technical expertise, and those with specialist programming skills will have the option to pursue this through their elective choices, just like a manager would be able to choose to study how to manage simulation or immersive projects.

I already have extensive technical skills, would I benefit from this program?

Where other programs focus only on the technical side of visualisation and simulation, this program augments your existing technical skills by developing your understanding of design principles, human experience, and narrative and sensemaking, to help you solve problems and meet the challenges within contemporary industry practices.

How is this program relevant to my job or profession?

The core courses within the program help you understand the principles of human experience which are the foundation of creating any immersive experience across all disciplines. You will complete a personal portfolio of learning over the program that will enable you to identify and analyse opportunity for effective applications of virtual, augmented, and mixed reality (VR, AR and MR) technologies for your own profession or industry.

Can I talk to someone to find out more about the program?

Yes. Either Associate Professor Simon McIntyre (s.mcintyre@unsw.edu.au), or Dr. Teresa Crea (t.crea@unsw.edu.au) will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

UNSW Art & Design

Personal Details

Student ID:	Are you on a Student VISA?	Yes	No
Family Name:	Given Name(s):		
Postal Address:		Postcode:	
Home Phone:	Mobile:	Email:	

Program Details

Program Code:	Program Name:

Refer to the 9322 Program Learning Outcomes bit.ly/9322CLOs and 7322 Program Learning Outcomes bit.ly/7322CLOs when completing the application. Please tick and complete the appropriate sections below for the type of RPL you wish to apply for:

RPL for Industry Experience or Informal Learning

A maximum of 6 Units of Credit (UOC) towards elective courses only may be granted for informal learning (such as workplace training), or 5 or more years of recent industry experience (unspecified credit[1]). Please attach the following to this application for review:

1. A CV detailing at least 5 years of recent industry experience.
2. A one page statement which explains how your industry experience or/and informal learning contributes to the learning outcomes of the program in which you are enrolled.

RPL for Formal Learning

A maximum of 30 UOC for program 9322 and 12 UOC for program 7322 may be granted for elective courses only (specified or unspecified credit[2]). For each course listed please attach a one page statement clearly explaining how the individual course learning outcomes contribute to the Program Learning Outcomes of the program in which you are enrolled.

Course ID	Course Name	Institution	Year of Completion	OFFICE USE ONLY Unspecified Credit / UNSW Course Eqv	OFFICE USE ONLY UOC Granted
Course Authority Approval Name:		Signature:		Ext: Date:	

1 Unspecified credit: RPL does not replace a specific UNSW course. Rather, the program duration is reduced by the value of unspecified credit granted.

2 Specified credit: RPL awarded replaces a specific UNSW course.

UNSW Art & Design Short Courses

A maximum of 30 UOC for program 9322 and 12 UOC for program 7322 may be granted for elective courses only (unspecified credit). Certain UNSW Art & Design Short Courses have been pre-approved for RPL into programs 9322 and 7322. The UOC value of each course is listed on the UNSW Art & Design Short Courses website nvite.com/community/unswvr.

UNSW Art & Design Short Course Name	Month and Year of Completion	OFFICE USE ONLY Unspecified UOC Value
Course Authority Approval Name:	Signature: Ext:	Date:

Acknowledgement

I have read and understood the guidelines and advice on this application form. I certify that all information, including supporting documentation and certificates, is correct.

Attention International Student Visa Holders: if your application for credit transfer is successful it is almost certain that this will affect the duration of your eCOE. A revised eCOE will be emailed to you in this event.

Student Signature: **Date:**

We cannot accept your application if you do not sign your form.

Program Authority

Name:	Signature:	Date:
Email:		Total UOC Granted:
International Student Visa Holders Only:		
Units of credit required for completion:	Expected date of completion:	
Comments:		