Westerdals Oslo School of Arts, Communication and Technology

International Office & Exchange Programme
Our vision at Westerdals Oslo ACT is to be an internationally leading and innovative university college of arts, communication, and technology.

The common goal for all of our study programmes is to provide our students’ future employers with strong communicators. Our skilled faculty helps students turn their creativity and engagement into something tangible. We share our students’ passion and help them reach their potential.

Creativity and competence in communication and technology are qualities sought by most companies, and our former students fill a wide array of jobs. At Westerdals Oslo ACT, we develop and manage our students’ creative talents, and help them become an attractive resource in our target sectors.

We offer our students a highly qualified teaching staff and professional programmes. We are also proud to provide a diverse and exciting study environment.

Current and future employers appreciate people who are creative, colleagues with new ideas, and candidates who question and challenge the status quo. Our students are passionate about what they want to do, and we seek to nurture that passion throughout their studies at Westerdals Oslo ACT.
Teaching Philosophy

Westerdals Oslo School of Arts, Communication and Technology is a unique and innovative university college for students who want to work within the fields of arts, communication and technology.

At Westerdals Oslo ACT, our teaching philosophy is to combine practical assignments, lectures, seminars and guided projects. Students work individually, in groups, and in teams across study programmes.

By collaborating on interdisciplinary projects, students from different programmes have ample opportunity to network and prepare for a professional career. Guest lecturers from Norway and abroad contribute inspiration and further insight into the various industries.

Our teaching principles and philosophy rest on keeping a close relationship with our students, offering instruction individually, and in smaller groups. We also keep a close relationship with the industry and professional scene through extensive use of guest lecturers and actual client assignments.

Westerdals Oslo ACT is a reference point for the relevant academic and research communities, and a place where new and innovative contexts are created.

Read more about the school on our website: westerdals.no/en

Facts

- Accredited university college
- Located in central Oslo
- Approx. 1700 students
- 150 employees
- 26 bachelor’s programmes
- 2 English-language master’s programmes
- Approx. 70 exchange students every year
Bachelor’s Programmes

Westerdals Oslo ACT provides its students with the knowledge, skills and perspectives sought after by business and industry, and by society at large. Projects are carried out in close collaboration with respective industries and are often conducted as actual client projects.

Faculty of Management
Combining practical experience and theory, we provide innovative management programmes directed at the cultural and communication industries.

The faculty has approximately 150 students, and offers the following study programmes:

• Project Management Arts and Creative Industries
• Strategy and PR

Faculty of Technology
We educate future technologists at bachelor’s and master’s levels, providing innovative IT study programmes, in close collaboration with business and industry.

The faculty has approximately 650 students, and offers the following study programmes:

• E-business
• Interactive Design
• Intelligent Systems
• Mobile Programming
• Programming
• Game Programming

Students who wish to complete a full bachelor’s degree at Westerdals Oslo ACT must have a sufficient command of Norwegian, Swedish or Danish.

Students who want an exchange semester can read more about our exchange programme on page 15.

Faculty of Film, TV and Game Design
Films, TV and gaming are undergoing an unrivalled development. Using the latest state-of-the-art technology, we have set up the broadest, most modern faculty in this field in the Nordic region.

The faculty has approximately 500 students, and offers the following study programmes:

• Film and TV
• Game Design
• 3D Graphics
• Scriptwriting
• Visual Effects
• Sound Design

Faculty of Performing Arts
Would you like to work professionally in culture or the arts? We work closely with the relevant industries, to provide students with an education that is job-related and well adapted to market needs.

The faculty has approximately 250 students, and offers the following study programmes:

• Acting
• Lighting and Stage
• Music Production
• Popular Music
• Make-up and Hair Design

Faculty of Communication
Would you like to develop concepts and build brands? We offer a creative communication programme that provides qualifications for work in marketing, graphic design, retail design, or with events. You will develop creative ideas into design and content for a variety of media and channels.

The faculty has approximately 400 students, and offers the following study programmes:

• Art Direction
• Digital Marketing
• Experience and Event Design
• Graphic Design
• Retail Design
• Text and Copywriting
Master’s Programmes

In order to remain competitive, all industries seek employees with excellent information technology and business skills. To address this demand, Westerdals Oslo ACT offers two master’s degree programmes: Information Systems and Applied Computer Science. All our master’s degree programmes are taught in English.

Master’s Programmes

Our master’s programmes provide you with the competency and tools you need to fill the future’s most stimulating and innovative jobs within the fields of information systems, information technology, applied computer science and business development.

- Master of Applied Computer Science – Software Integration
- Master of Information Systems – Management and Innovation
- Master of Information Systems – Digital Business Systems

“Westerdals Oslo ACT is a good school, and its teaching staff has a strong reputation. They offer a programme that fits me to a tee, both with regards to the subjects offered, and to my job”

Dani Berentzen, Master of Information Systems

Academic Research

Westerdals Oslo ACT conducts academic research and development in many exciting fields related to technology, communication and the arts. We also conduct artistic research.

Our research activity provides a sound scientific basis for our innovative educational programmes, in addition to making sure our students fully appreciate the relationship between theory and practice.

Every year, Westerdals Oslo ACT welcomes guest lectures from partner universities to give lectures and cooperate on research, exhibitions and projects with partners and professionals from around the world, through Erasmus+ or other programmes.

Would you like to invite one of our lecturers on a teaching exchange, or do you have a research proposal? Check out our website, or send an email to: international@westerdals.no.
The Student Capital, Oslo

The best thing about Oslo is that everything is no more than 15 minutes away no matter where you are. Whether you’re looking for shops, restaurants and nightlife, or for forests and seaside, it’s just around the corner.

Fastest growing capital in Europe
Oslo is a fairly big and fast-paced city and it’s growing quickly. In fact, Oslo is the fastest growing capital in Europe. If you decide to settle here, you will find everything from large to small, few to many, cold to warm, culture to nature, rags to riches. But most of all you’ll find a clean, well organised and safe city in which to live, thrive and study.

The great outdoors
Our climate is milder than the latitude would suggest. This is especially true for the centre of Oslo, which is usually snow and ice free for most of the winter. But Oslo’s inhabitants can still enjoy winter activities in the surrounding hills. During the summer it is a totally different story. With the sun up from 4 am to 11 pm, the city is alive around the clock.

This in turn makes Oslo a remarkably green city. There are more than 8 km² of urban area parks, and 50 percent of the city area is in fact forest. Oslo is one of the world’s largest capitals in terms of area, so with a population of half a million, naturally a lot of it is nature. Nature of which you are free to roam at your own leisure due to few restrictions, whether you choose to walk, ski, cycle, kayak, swim, or even camp.

SiO Student Welfare
As a student at Westerdals Oslo AOT, you are a member of the Oslo student welfare organisation (SiO), which provides a number of services: affordable student gyms, medical, dental and advisory services, student associations and childcare. You can also apply for student housing year-round, but you are well advised to apply early, as waiting lists tend to pile up in late summer. Read more about the offers at www.sio.no, or by downloading the SiO app.

Explore Scandinavia!
Oslo is also the perfect point of departure for discovering Norway. Gardermoen Airport, one of Scandinavia’s major hubs, is 20 minutes by train from the city centre. So if you want to see the northern lights, go on a whale safari, or visit Copenhagen or Stockholm, this is the place to start.

“Siloen” is one of SiO’s student houses, located right next to Campus Vulkan.

Are you the adventurous type?
The wonderful internet site www.ut.no and its equally terrific app helps you discover the hidden treasures of Oslo and Norway.
Get around
The citizens of Oslo are proud of the islands, forests, lakes, and mountains surrounding the city. All are easily accessible by public transportation, or by bike. Some even use Oslo as the starting point to hike the long Jotunheimen trail into the mountain ranges in central Norway. But most will hop on a bus, train, or plane to swiftly and conveniently access fjords or mountains – and the wonderful network of hiking trails that allows you to experience them first-hand, and on a budget. Happy hiking!

Feed me
Restaurants come in all varieties. From the top notch, super-pricey food temples, to simple street food. Asian food can be cheaper in restaurants than if you try to make it at home.

Coffee to go?
Oslo is known as one of the European cities with the most cafes, and is a great city for coffee. It was actually named one of the world’s 10 best coffee cities by USA Today in 2012. Prices aren’t all that bad and you will also find fairly affordable food.

Party on
Oslo is small yet vibrant. With 5 000 concerts performed here every year, Oslo is actually the city in Europe with the highest number of concerts per capita. You will also find clubs, pubs, and bars in all shapes and sizes. The atmosphere, guests and prices vary from neighbourhood to neighbourhood.
Exchange Programme

Westerdals Oslo ACT welcomes international students. We cooperate with a wide variety of partner institutions, mostly in Europe, within all our study programme areas.

“All these projects that we’ve done were exciting! Working so much for organisations and companies is awesome, you’ve got a real challenge with your work. It’s not a simple project for the school: it’s a project that you have to sell to the client, you have to understand what they want, and this is very very nice!”

Yann Guenot (20), exchange student, Bachelor of Film & TV

International Vision

Our activities have an international focus, in the form of research, student and teacher exchanges, participation in international conferences, and contributions to publications, competitions, exhibitions, and many other activities.

Erasmus Charter for Higher Education

Westerdals Oslo ACT holds the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and accepts applications from students at all of our partner institutions. Incoming bachelor’s students enter our programmes in the fifth semester, while incoming master’s students usually enter our master’s programmes in the third semester.

You will find updated information about our exchange programme and partner institutions on our English website: westerdals.no/en.
New facilities in 2016

All our campuses are located in a creative hub along the river Akerselva, in the popular Grünerløkka neighbourhood.

Campus Fjerdingen
Located only a few minutes away from the Oslo Central Station, Campus Fjerdingen is a former industrial building, which was renovated in 2016. This is the home of the faculties of Communication, Technology, and Management. The Faculty of Performing Arts also has some customised rooms at Campus Fjerdingen - as well as facilities in our other campuses. Campus Fjerdingen is our biggest campus, with space for exhibitions, concerts and student events of any kind.

The cafeterias in Campus Vulkan and Campus Fjerdingen are both worth a visit, serving a variety of healthy food and snacks at student-friendly prices.

Customised for master students
The master’s programme students will have access to specially adapted rooms, including a technology lab containing eye tracking equipment, meeting facilities, and several smaller auditoriums, bringing students closer to lecturers.

Campus Brenneriveien
A few minutes further upriver is Brenneriveien 9, specially designed for our students of the Make-up and Hair Design programme. Blå, one of Oslo’s top creative venues, is located next door, along with many other small businesses, schools and cultural places.

Campus Vulkan
Next to Brenneriveien is Vulkan, a former industrial area which has been recently revamped and renovated. The area includes the National Stage for Dance, the main food hall in Oslo, “Mathallen”, and our Campus Vulkan. In order to accommodate for the Faculty of Film, TV and Game Design, the campus has also been renovated. Campus Vulkan also houses the students of the Acting programme.

Customised studios, ‘Harvard’ classrooms and working areas for all types of study.

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