# Art: Fine Arts Major (ARTA)—BFA Degree

Also see: Art-Art History; Art-Art Education; Art-Digital Arts; Art-Fine Arts; Art-Graphic Design; and Art-Photography minor

Departmental Faculty: Allyn, Chair; Rigby, Academic Advisor; Chak, Fichner-Rathus, Hutton, Kabbash, Kaplowitz, London, Mackie, Miller, Miranda, Nyman, Riccardi, Sanders, Taylor, van der Heijden

Coordinator: Miranda

The Department of Art offers the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree with majors in Fine Arts, Graphic Design, and Digital Arts, and the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree with majors in Art Education and Art History. In addition, students may minor in Art History, Fine Arts, Digital Arts, Graphic Design or Photography. Courses in art foundation studies and liberal learning are integral parts of the curriculum. The Art Department is committed to providing programs of study which develop a high level of conceptual and technical ability, resources beyond the studio for a broader education in the arts, exposure to and understanding of electronic media and methods of communication, and a balance between a demanding course of professional study and a liberal arts education.

The art facility features traditional studios as well as state-of-the-art computing and electronic media labs. The faculty of the Department of Art consists of scholars, exhibiting artists, and active professionals, and it is augmented by guest lecturers and adjunct professors who are practicing professionals in the New York-Philadelphia corridor. The department enjoys an enviable placement record in terms of graduate study and employment, and graduates of the program have attained positions of leadership in their respective fields. The College of New Jersey is located near the major art and design centers of New York and Philadelphia and students are encouraged and often required to visit museums, galleries, design studios, production houses, and other art facilities in these areas.

# Admission Requirements for studio majors

Acceptance to the studio majors (Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Digital Arts, and Art Education) offered by the Department of Art requires a successful portfolio review as well as admission by the College. After the department has received a copy of the student's application from the Office of Admissions, it will review slide or digital portfolios. January admission candidates and early-decision candidates are reviewed in November. Regular September admission candidates are reviewed from December through March.

The portfolio should consist of:

- a) Slides or a CD.
- b) A numbered slide list indicating the title, materials and dimensions of the work.
- c) A one-page personal essay.

#### Slides or CD

Include 12 slides or images on a CD of original works demonstrating the applicant's drawing and technical skills, creativity, and aesthetic ability. A substantial part of the portfolio should feature drawings (still life, figure, self-portrait, and assorted sketches). All work must be original. Copies of other artists' work should not be included in the portfolio. In addition, the slides should document work in other media (painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography, mixed-media, digital media, and video). If possible, please also include at least one slide from a sketchbook. Professional presentation of the work is important. Please present documentation that is in-focus, well lit and shows your best work. Send numbered slides in a 8.5" x 11" clear slide sheet, indicating the front of the slide. A large dot should be placed in the lower left corner of the slide indicating which direction is up.

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If images are saved on a CD, please follow these guidelines:

- 1. Format CD as MAC or cross platform.
- 2. Save all images as .tiff, .jpeg or .gif files.
- 3. Save each file with a name, lowercase and with no spaces. Do not begin a name with a number. An example of an appropriate name is: image\_01 (no spaces, use underscore to denote space).
- 4. Images may also be submitted in powerpoint format.

#### Slide/CD List

Include a numbered slide list along with your submitted work. Indicate your name, date of completion, materials, and dimensions of the individual pieces.

#### Personal Essay

Please include a one-page, single-spaced statement that includes a brief description of who you are and your experience in art and life. Your essay should include your major artistic and academic goals, and your reasons for wanting to specialize in the visual arts.

## Enrollment in Department of Art Courses

All art history (AAH) courses and art courses with specific liberal learning approval are open to all students. A non-major who wishes to enroll in major courses that are not liberal learning courses must obtain permission from the chair of the department or advisement coordinator.

Art minors must report to the advising coordinator or academic advisor for advisement and registration for art courses.

## Attendance Requirements

Participation is considered essential to the learning process. Therefore, more than two unexcused absences per course may be detrimental to the student's final grade.

## The College Art Gallery

The Department of Art offers a program of diversified exhibitions throughout the academic year, including faculty and student work as well as exhibitions featuring the work of emerging and established artists from the United States and around the world. Students are encouraged to participate in the gallery program as gallery assistants.

## Art Students' Organizations

The Department of Art sponsors the student organization, the Art Students Association (ASA). Students are invited to join and become active members.

## Fine Arts Progam

The Fine Arts curriculum consists of an intensive foundation in drawing, 2D and 3D design, color theory, digital arts, a variety of studio disciplines, and a core of Art History courses. It culminates in the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The Fine Arts program offers a flexible course of study in which students may follow a specific advanced curriculum in the major fine arts, or may design their own advanced curriculum through faculty advisement and critique. The senior year includes two capstone courses which result in an exhibit of senior thesis work. The senior capstone courses stress critical thinking, writing and research through short sequential written assignments and semester-long investigations culminating in a senior thesis paper and exhibition.

The Fine Arts program takes advantage of the College's proximity to major museums, galleries, and collections in New York, Philadelphia, and Washington to broaden students' exposure to current trends and traditional concepts and techniques. Students begin to focus on the professional aspects of their careers early in their program of study and are encouraged to exhibit work throughout the College campus as well as in the annual student exhibit and other venues.

Advanced studio courses may be repeated for credit to gain the desired depth in the studio areas. Independent study is available to upper-level art majors with three courses in a studio or lecture area in which they have earned a minimum 3.33 GPA. A minimum of 12 course units must be taken in the Art Department at The College of New Jersey. Personal advisement and portfolio preparation counseling are available to those students who wish to prepare for graduate school.

# **Enrollment in Department of Art Courses**

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## **Studio Art Major General Requirements**

All studio art majors are required to take AAH 105 and/or 106; AAH 215, AAH 216 or AAH 217; and AAH 250; AFA 111, 112, 113, 118; and ADA 180.

While the department supplies many materials, students are required to purchase materials in most studio courses. Art history and studio courses may require field trips at students' expense.

Students who receive a grade of C– (1.67) or lower in a major required course must repeat the course.

## **Attendance Requirements**

Participation is considered essential to the learning process. Therefore, more than two unexcused absences per course may be detrimental to the student's final grade.

## **Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards**

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for art programs. Minimum grades are noted in parentheses:

- Retention in the art studio majors (Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Digital Arts, and Art Education) is based on the following performance standards in these "critical content courses": AFA 111 (B), AFA 118 (B), and AFA 113 (B).
- Transfer into the art studio majors from another program within the College is based upon the following performance standards in this "foundation course": AFA 111 (Drawing) (B).
- Graduation requires a GPA of 2.0 in courses for the program and earning a minimum grade of C in the following courses: all major courses.

## **Course Requirements**

## **Major Core:**

AFA 111/Drawing I

AFA 112/Conceptual Art Studio

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AFA 113/Color Theory/2D Design

AFA 118/3D Design

ADA 180/Digital Arts: Imaging I

## Major Requirements: (one course unit each unless otherwise indicated)

ADA 278/Digital Arts: Imaging II

AFA 201/Figure Drawing

AFA 211/Painting

AFA 202/Printmaking

AFA 230/Sculpture I

AFA 280/Photography I

AAH 105/Art History I: Caves to Cathedrals or AAH 106/Art History II: Renaissance to Revolution

AAH 215/Arts of South Asia, AAH 216/Arts of East Asia, or AAH 217/Arts of the Islamic World

AAH 250/Contemporary Art

Fine Arts Advanced Studio (4 courses)

AFA 498/Fine Arts: Theory and Practice

AFA 499/Fine Arts Thesis Project

# **Recommended First-Year Program of Study**

#### **First Semester**

FSP	First Seminar	1 course unit
AFA	111/Drawing I	1 course unit
AFA	118/3D Design	1 course unit
AFA	113/Color Theory/2D Design	1 course unit

### **Second Semester**

AFA	112/Conceptual Art Studio	1 course unit
ADA	180/Digital Arts: Imaging I	1 course unit

AAH 105/Art History I

or

AAH	106/Art History II	1 course unit
WRI	102/Writing (if not exempted)*	1 course unit

<sup>\*</sup>It is recommended that students exempted from this course take another liberal learning course.

## Total for year 8 course units

## **Recommended Second-Year Program of Study**

#### **First Semester**

AFA	230/Sculpture I	1 course unit
AFA	201/Figure Drawing	1 course unit
AAH	250/Contemporary Art	1 course unit
Liberal	Learning	1 course unit

# **Second Semester**

AFA	280/Photography I	1 course unit
AFA	211/Painting I	1 course unit
AAH	215/Arts of South Asia, AAH 216/Arts of East Asia,	1 course unit

or

AAH 217/Arts of the Islamic World

AFA 202/Printmaking 1 course unit

Sophomore Review

Total for year	8 course units
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# **Recommended Third-Year Program of Study**

## **First Semester**

ADA 270/Digital Arts: Imaging II	1 course unit
AFA 301/Advanced Drawing	1 course unit
Liberal Learning	1 course unit
Liberal Learning	1 course unit

# Second Semester

AFA	330/Advanced Sculpture	1 course unit
AFA	311/Advanced Painting	1 course unit
AFA	381/Photography II	1 course unit
Liberal	Learning	1 course unit

# Total for year 8 course units

# **Recommended Fourth-Year Program of Study**

#### **First Semester**

AFA	498/Fine Arts: Theory and Practice	1 course unit
AFA	Fine Arts Advanced Studio Concentration	1 course unit
AFA	Fine Arts Advanced Studio Concentration	1 course unit
Liberal	Learning	1 course unit

## **Second Semester**

AFA	499/Fine Arts: Thesis Project	1 course unit
AFA	Fine Arts Advanced Studio Concentration	1 course unit
Art Ele	ctive	1 course unit
Liberal Learning		1 course unit

# Total for year 8 course units

# **Fine Arts Minor Concentration Options**

Requires a portfolio review and permission of the department chair or academic advisor. A minimum of 4 course units must be taken with The College of New Jersey Department of Art.

AAH	106/Art History II	1 course unit
AFA	111/Drawing I	1 course unit
AFA	113/Color Theory/2D Design	1 course unit
AXX	XXX/Art Studio	1 course unit
AXX	XXX/Art Studio	1 course unit

## Total required 5 course units