

Art (Fine Arts)-1

Art: Fine Arts Major (ARTA)—BFA Degree

http://www.tcnj.edu/~art/fine_arts.php

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

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

[*Click here for Fine Arts courses.*](#)

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 (*Note: these admission requirements are not necessary for students applying for an Art History major*)

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

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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.

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 courses (AAH) are open to all students. Art courses which have 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.

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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 Program

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.

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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
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

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AAH 105/Art History I

or

AAH 106/Art History II

1 course unit

WRI 102/Writing (if not exempted)*

1 course unit

**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,
or AAH 217/Arts of the Islamic World

1 course unit

AFA 202/Printmaking
Sophomore Review

1 course unit

Total for year

8 course units

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

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Second Semester

AFA 499/Fine Arts: Thesis Project	1 course unit
AFA Fine Arts Advanced Studio Concentration	1 course unit
Art Elective	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**