ART

Program Description

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree in Studio Art is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career as a professional artist or entering graduate school for further studies. It combines a strong foundation in design, drawing, and art history with a broad technical base in the disciplines of ceramics, sculpture, painting, printmaking, and photography. With this base in place and as their interests develop, each student artist can then tailor their degree path by focusing on one or more of these disciplines. The coursework develops critical and creative thinking, visual and conceptual problem solving, keen aesthetic judgment, effective communication, and a broad cultural awareness. The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree emphasizes studio art professional practices and culminates in professional portfolio development and a required senior thesis exhibition in the university gallery.

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Studio Art is designed for students interested in studio art who would like to combine their artistic and creative skills with majors or minors in other disciplines. There is less of an upper division intensive portfolio development focus, when compared to the Studio Art BFA, so that students can tailor their degree to choose from a variety of career paths. For example, owning and operating a gallery or art related business (combine the BA in Studio Art with a business major/minor) or art therapy (combine the BA in Studio Art with a psychology minor/major). This degree helps students develop the essential skills of critical thinking, creative problem solving, effective communication, aesthetic judgment, and cultural awareness. Students will become proficient with the materials, tools, and techniques of drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and photography. Art History studies engage students in historic and contemporary artists, art movements, and styles. Students can customize their course selections to meet their individual needs. This degree does not require a senior gallery exhibition.

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Art History combines strong curriculum requirements in art history and a sampling of studio art, design, and time-based media courses. Students in this major engage in an in-depth study of historic and contemporary artists, art movements, and styles. This degree can lead to professional employment in art museums and galleries, art publishing houses, and other areas of art services. The degree also prepares students for advanced, graduate-level art history studies.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree in Art, concentrating in K-12 education, leads to licensure for Colorado K-12 Art Education. The visual art emphasis includes coursework in theory, art history, and studio art. Art teaching methods courses in elementary and secondary art are an integral part of the degree plan. Students accumulate over 200 hours of classroom experience before beginning student-teaching. School districts throughout western Colorado provide opportunities to gain experience with children of all ages and backgrounds in a variety of school settings. Please see the Teacher Education Admission Packet for further information on admissions criteria for entering the Teaching Program at CMU.

The Studio Art Minor acquaints students with some of the core elements in either two- or three-dimensional studio art. Students develop skills, sensitivity and aesthetic judgment while pursuing individual interests within studio areas such as drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, or photography. A background in the visual arts can provide a variety of opportunities in the areas of studio art, art gallery organizations, art therapy, and applied design.

Contact Information

Department of Art and Design
Fine Arts Building 200
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Programs of Study Bachelors/Minors

- Art History (BA)
- Art History (Minor)
- Education: K-12 Education, Art (BFA)
- Film Studies and Digital Production (Minor)
- Studio Art (BA)
- Studio Art (Minor)
- Studio Art, Art (BFA)