ART

The Curriculum

Course work takes place on four levels: Fundamental (100 level), Introductory (200 level), Intermediate (300 level), and Advanced (400 level). At all four levels, students are asked to develop their ability to experiment with visual language so that they may more effectively understand and convey ideas in non-verbal forms. This development is realized through improving technical control of particular media and deepening their understanding of visual expression. Both in studio courses and art history offerings, students study the work of other artists, past and present, in order to understand the significance of visual culture. Whether doing studio or art historical research, students are expected to widen their understanding of the visual world and become increasingly visually literate.

The purpose of art history courses is to develop a greater understanding of human creativity as manifested in the visual imagery, architecture, and artifacts of all societies across time. Students develop analytical, research, writing, and verbal skills, as well as a descriptive vocabulary as they investigate the artistic achievements of diverse societies, historical periods and styles, and critical theories and methodologies. Art history courses support the studio by offering students a wide range of creative solutions to the various technical and intellectual problems. Studio courses, in turn, support the work in art history by providing students with opportunities to experience the creative process first hand and to become personally aware of the potential and the limitations of art making.

Goals of the Department

By the end of the senior year, a student majoring in art has thoroughly investigated the discoveries he found most compelling while in the foundations and intermediate-level courses. He has determined for himself what is required to work in a disciplined way as an artist and/or art historian. He has realized that art making or art historical study is a process which involves testing new areas of thought, methods, and/or materials. He has developed a critical engagement with the past, especially with historical questions and experiments, and has begun to evaluate his own work and contemporary practices in light of a broader context. Benefiting from discourse with peers and faculty, the student has also begun to discover his own strengths and has accepted responsibility for both seeking and solving interesting problems. He has sufficient mastery of his chosen field, is able to articulate express insights regarding his discipline, and generates work worthy to be included in a capstone course. The culmination of this work, for majors, is the Senior Exhibition, which—in the best cases—challenges viewers to think and see the world differently.

Requirements for a Major

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ART-125</td>
<td>Drawing</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART-126</td>
<td>Studio Art Fundamentals</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART-219</td>
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<td>Expanded Digital Production</td>
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<td>ART-223</td>
<td>Ceramics</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART-224</td>
<td>Photography</td>
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Required Credits: 4

Recommended Courses

Students considering graduate school in art should meet early and often with departmental faculty to discuss future goals and course selection. Students anticipating graduate school should plan to take an eleven-course major including ART-311 Art Theory and Criticism and ART-312 Postmodern Art & Culture.

Requirements for an Art Minor

There are two Art Minor Tracks—a Studio Art Track and an Art History Track.

Studio Art Track

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Required Credits: 4
ART-224 Photography  
ART-225 Topics in Studio  
ART-226 Cinematic Environments: Digital Space  
ART-227 Sculpture  
ART-228 Painting: Mixed Media  
ART-330 Advanced Studio  
ART-331 Advanced Studio  

Art History Course  
Select one credit from the following:  
ART-103 Greek Art & Archaeology  
ART-104 Roman Art & Archaeology  
ART-202 Art in Film  
ART-204 Art & Archaeology of Ancient Americas  
ART-205 Renaissance Art  
ART-206 Baroque Art  
ART-208 Nineteenth Century Art  
ART-209 Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Art  
ART-210 Topics in Art History  
ART-311 Art Theory and Criticism  
ART-312 Postmodern Art & Culture  

Total Credits 5

Art History Track  

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<td><strong>Art History Courses</strong></td>
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<td>Select four credits from the following:</td>
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<td>ART-103 Greek Art &amp; Archaeology</td>
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**Studio Course**  
Select one credit from the following:  
ART-125 Drawing  
ART-126 Studio Art Fundamentals  
ART-181 Historic Techniques & Ideas  
ART-219 Special Topics in Documentary Filmmaking  
ART-220 Digital Filmmaking  
ART-222 Expanded Digital Production  
ART-223 Ceramics  
ART-224 Photography  
ART-225 Topics in Studio  
ART-226 Cinematic Environments: Digital Space  
ART-227 Sculpture  
ART-228 Painting: Mixed Media  

Total Credits 5

**ART-101 History of Western Art**  
This course will survey the history of Western art, from the end of the ancient world in the fourth century to the end of Modernism in the late 20th century and beyond. We will look at Medieval and Gothic art, the Renaissance and Baroque, Modernism, and Postmodernism, taking note of the unity and the ruptures in this broad sweep of Western cultural production. We will examine the various media of physical and visual expression: architecture, sculpture, and painting. We will inquire into the connections between the art of Western culture and the processes of historical change that affected that culture and its institutions. Along the way, we will acquaint ourselves with the methodologies of art history, and with the particular, established vocabularies of art description. The student will learn to articulate, verbally and in writing, the specifically visual qualities of works of art, as well as their many historical circumstances.  
**Prerequisites:** none  
Credit: 1  
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts  

**ART-103 Greek Art & Archaeology**  
A consideration of the art and architecture of Greece from an archaeological and art historical point of view. The course will cover material from the Bronze Age to the Hellenistic Age.  
**Prerequisites:** none  
Credit: 1  
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts  
Equated Courses: CLA-103  

**ART-104 Roman Art & Archaeology**  
A consideration of the origin and development of Roman art and architecture from the Etruscans to late imperial Rome.  
**Prerequisites:** none  
Credit: 1  
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts  
Equated Courses: CLA-104  

**ART-125 Drawing**  
An introductory exploration of the making and meaning of "the mark." Students will practice different approaches to creative research in order to explore historical and contemporary issues related to drawing both as a fine art and as a strategy for problem solving. Participants will utilize a variety of drawing media to explore the technical and conceptual issues related to composition. There is an emphasis on drawing from direct observation, and subjects will range from traditional still life to the human form. Students will be expected to apply critical and creative problem solving skills as they experiment with visual language as a vehicle for expression.  
**Prerequisites:** none  
Credit: 1  
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts
ART-126 Studio Art Fundamentals
Making art in the 21st century draws upon a long tradition of methods, materials, and conceptual and philosophical perspectives, and combines those traditions with new and expanding approaches. This course is intended to be a hands-on introductory exploration of both traditional and contemporary materials and ideas that influence contemporary practices of design and fine art. Students will be introduced to methods of creative research, with projects and discussions designed to help illuminate the considerations one must take into account when designing two-dimensional imagery, three-dimensional objects and spaces, and time-based or virtual projects. There will be a strong emphasis on understanding how these three categories relate to one another, and on the practice of “reading” visual information in a more sophisticated manner. Traditional and emerging media—including but not limited to drawing, painting, sculpture, and digital technologies—will be explored.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-140 Special Topics in Museum Studies
In this course, students will develop exhibitions and written materials for Wabash's Art Galleries. In addition, students will develop art displays of the Permanent Collection of Art across campus. Students will do research, interpretation, and exhibition design and implementation, using American Alliance of Museums standards.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-181 Historic Techniques & Ideas
Have you ever wanted to paint like Van Gogh? Or invent like Da Vinci? This course is the course for you! A hybrid between art historical research and hands-on studio research, this course is designed to introduce students to the historical methods used by artists. Students will research methods and complete projects using processes including, but not limited to: grinding pigments, painting with egg tempera, carving marble, sculpting with clay, learning perspective, drawing with silver, preparing a fresco painting, and photographing using a pinhole camera.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-202 Art in Film
This course will explore the dynamic relationship between film and art from the late 20th century to the present, examining how visual art and important art historical moments and persons are featured in film. By studying films about art, the course will address the impact of visual arts and the ways that films use particular effects of the moving multi-sensory image to capture characteristics of art history.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-205 Renaissance Art
This course will survey painting, sculpture, and architecture in Europe from the early 14th through mid-16th centuries, with emphasis on developments in Italy. The veneration of classical antiquity and the development of logical systems of representation will be examined. In addition, the elaboration of visual expression that valorized the human figure as a basic unit of meaning will be explored. Patterns of patronage such as wealthy merchant classes, family dynasties, and papal courts will be given special consideration, as will the idea of the artist as an individual genius. The course will study artists such as Giotto, Botticelli, Donatello, Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Titian, Raphael, Jan Van Eyck, Bosch, and Durer.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-206 Baroque Art
This course will look at painting, sculpture, and architecture in Europe from the late 16th through mid-18th centuries. Art will be examined in the context of this age of innovation and turmoil, which is marked by religious conflict, absolute monarchies, economic and colonial expansion, and the formation of art academies. Individual artists as transnational entrepreneurs will be explored, such as Caravaggio, Bernini, Rubens, Rembrandt, Anthony Van Dyck, Vermeer, and Velazquez.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-208 Nineteenth Century Art
This course will survey painting, sculpture, and architecture in Europe from the end of the Baroque age and the beginning of Modernism, an era characterized by philosophical Enlightenment, political revolution, and scientific discovery. The art of this turbulent period was often in conflict with tradition and the established structures of artistic training, production and patronage; much of our contemporary understanding of the nature and role of artists and their work was formed in the crucible of this fascinating period. The dramatically shifting styles of this century of art history will offer us rich opportunities to develop our tools of formal, descriptive analysis, and to articulate the connections between visual styles and the cultural conflicts which produced them.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-209 Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Art
This course will survey the history of Modern art from the 1900s to the present, beginning in Paris, expanding to Europe, and eventually to New York and beyond. We will ask several questions about the works we look at: What is modern about modern art? Why does the way art looks change over time, and what directs that change? What is the relationship between art and the artists and societies that produce it? What is its relationship to our lives today? Is Modernism over? To answer these questions, we will look closely at the artworks themselves, as well as the writings of artists and critics, and the history of the society and culture that considered itself “modern.”
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts
ART-210 Topics in Art History
The objective of this class is to develop the student's understanding of art history. Through the analysis of a particular theme or topic, students will gain a greater understanding of visual communication and its history. Since the content of this course varies from year to year, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval. Examples of course topics: Building for the Spirit; Religious Architecture from Antiquity to the Present; Women in Art; The Image of Man; Monumentality; Introduction to African Art; African American Art; The Art of the Ancient Americas; and Latin American Art. Refer to the Course Descriptions document on the Registrar's webpage for topics and descriptions of current offerings.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-219 Special Topics in Documentary Filmmaking
In this course, students will create a documentary film about an art history topic. The course will involve a wide variety of research, filming, scriptwriting, and various aspects required to finish a documentary. It will also require some field trips to relevant locations. A strong project-oriented commitment is required.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-220 Digital Filmmaking
This filmmaking studio production course is an introduction to high-definition digital filmmaking and ephemeral media as an expressive art form. It will provide a basic understanding of digital film technology, techniques, and terminology. Course assignments may include: exploring archival footage mash-ups, chroma key composites, 2-D key-frame animation collages, voiceover, and experimental/narrative live-action projects. No previous editing, sound, or camera experience is required.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-222 Expanded Digital Production
Manipulate, remix, and create audio and video media using industry-standard post-production tools and technology. In this course, students will develop skills and a rich understanding in editing, special-effects, layering, and mixing. The goal is to navigate and process the moving image and dynamic sounds in the context of the media-saturated society of which we are all a part. No prerequisites.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-223 Ceramics
An introduction to the basic techniques of clay. The course will investigate the methods and aesthetics of ceramics, both functional ware and sculptural form. The course will also explore the historical and cultural uses of pottery and the contemporary use of clay as a sculptural medium.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-224 Photography
Students will gain significant skills in photographic techniques and critical understanding of how our brain reads, evaluates and creates the images we view. Students will gain manual command of DSLR cameras while learning lighting, experimental, lens and photoshop techniques, allowing them to discover and refine their own artistic voice for creating visual media. The course will also cover general history of photography and its technical illusions and cultural impacts.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-225 Topics in Studio
The objective of this class is to develop the student's ability to think visually. Through the analysis of a particular theme, topic, medium, or technique, students will gain a greater understanding of visual communication, creative expression, and its history. Since the content of this course varies from year to year, it may be repeated for credit upon the instructor's approval. Refer to the Course Descriptions document on the Registrar's webpage for topics and descriptions of current offerings.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 0.5-1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-226 Cinematic Environments: Digital Space
Cinematic & Environments: Digital Space & the Miniature is an imaginative filmmaking studio production course that incorporates aspects of digital image making as well as theater. Students will create High Definition video projects composited together from numerous sources. The scope and range of the projects may involve set design, 2-D and 3-D miniatures, digital environments, chroma-key compositing, basic key frame 2-D animation, lighting and experimental sound design, theatrical mask construction, and character design. No previous editing, sound, or camera experience is required.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-227 Sculpture
An investigation of techniques, procedures, and vocabulary necessary for three-dimensional visual expression. Sculptural concepts, both traditional and contemporary, will be explored through applied problems. Media: plaster, clay, wood, and steel.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-228 Painting: Mixed Media
A thorough investigation of the historic and contemporary materials, techniques, and conceptual concerns related to painting. Participation in this course will allow students the opportunity to explore the process of composing images, begin practicing studio research, and experiment with both traditional and contemporary approaches to making art.
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts
ART-311 Art Theory and Criticism
This course will explore the major currents in the theories of meaning in
and aesthetic response to works of visual art. What is the origin of the
category “art”? Does it have universal validity? Are judgments about art
merely subjective, or can they expect universal consensus? These are
only some of the questions which will open the course; we will go on to
consider the central problems of modern and postmodern art, and their
role in our lives today. We will locate the roots of the issues of modern
art criticism and theory in the Western philosophical tradition. We will
pay particular attention to the relationship between visual expression
and writing about visual art, between art and its criticism, and the
ever narrowing gap between the two. Students should expect to do a
significant amount of reading and writing. This course is typically offered
in the first half of the fall semester.
Prerequisites: ART-101, 103, 104, 105, 207, 208, 209, 210, 311, or 312
Credits: 0.5
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-312 Postmodern Art & Culture
Modernism, as an art form and a historical/cultural condition, took
many distinct forms and set out various contradictory goals. It has
been said not only that the project of modernity is unfinished, but that
every modernism has its own postmodernism. What does it mean to
say that we are no longer modern, that the new is now old? Together
we will discuss these questions from a variety of different angles,
equipped with a variety of approaches. The course will concentrate on
the relationships between art, culture, politics, and critical, theoretical
writing. We will attempt to make sense out of what is often contentious,
playful, contradictory, or even willfully obscure in contemporary art and
criticism. This course is important for anyone wishing to participate in
the contemporary public debates about the meaning and value of art
and culture. This course is typically offered in the second half of the fall
semester in odd-numbered years.
Prerequisites: ART-209
Credits: 0.5-1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-330 Advanced Studio
For students wishing to continue serious pursuit of art making in any
of the studio areas, including multi-media and other non-traditional
means of expression. This course emphasizes greater independence in
approach to research of materials, techniques, and concepts. This course
is typically offered in the fall semester.
Prerequisites: Two credits from ART-125, 126, 223, 224, 225, 227, 228, and
229. At least one credit must be from the 200 level.
Credits: 0.5-1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-331 Advanced Studio
For students wishing to continue serious pursuit of art making in any of
the studio areas, including multi-media and other non-traditional
means of expression. This course emphasizes greater independence in approach
to materials, techniques, and concepts.
Prerequisites: Two credits from ART-125, 126, 223, 224, 225, 227, 228, and
229. At least one credit from the 200 level.
Credits: 0.5-1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-387 Independent Study
Individual research projects. The manner of study will be determined by
the student in consultation with the instructor. Students must receive
written approval of their project proposal from a department member
before registering for the course.
Prerequisites: 2 Courses from ART
Credits: 0.5-1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-388 Independent Study
Individual research projects. The manner of study will be determined by
the student in consultation with the instructor. Students must receive
written approval of their project proposal from a department member
before registering for the course.
Prerequisites: 2 courses from ART.
Credits: 0.5-1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-398 Experimental Photography
Prerequisites: none
Credit: 1

ART-432 Senior Studio
Art majors must examine a specific visual theme or concept, develop
the idea through their selected mediums, and install an exhibition of the
results of that study. The exhibition may be a one-man or group exhibit,
depending on the requirements of the project and the availability of
exhibition space. This course is offered in the fall semester.
Prerequisites: ART-330 or ART-331
Credits: 0.5-1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

ART-433 Senior Studio
Art majors focusing in studio must examine a specific visual theme or
concept, develop the idea through their selected mediums, and install an
exhibition of the results of that study. The exhibition may be a one-man
or group exhibit, depending on the requirements of the project and the
availability of exhibition space.
Prerequisites: ART-330 or 331.
Credits: 0.5-1
Distribution: Literature/Fine Arts

Art (ART) Faculty
Damon M Mohl
Elizabeth Gron Morton (chair)
Susannah Ruth Strader
Matthew Weedman