Art, B.F.A.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in art requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 62 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences General Education Program.

Bachelor of Fine Arts students majoring in art may count a maximum of 62 s.h. earned in art and art history courses toward the degree; they must earn at least 58 s.h. of credit in courses outside the School of Art and Art History in order to graduate.

The major provides a foundation in art history as well as an understanding of the formal traditions and contemporary practices in studio art. It also includes a concentration in studio art.

Students select one studio art discipline, choosing from ceramics, graphic design, three-dimensional (3-D) design, drawing, intermedia, jewelry and metal arts, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture. They may not select bookbinding, calligraphy, or papermaking as their studio art discipline. Although students may choose only one B.F.A. discipline, they gain exposure to other studio areas through the B.F.A. program of study.

Students who complete an elements course and decide to pursue either major or minor work in the area of studio art may elect to substitute the elements course for the corresponding discipline beginning or introductory studio arts course, such as ARTS:1080 Elements of Sculpture for SCLP:2810 Undergraduate Sculpture I.

Students majoring in art begin their study in the Bachelor of Arts program. They may apply to the Bachelor of Fine Arts program after consulting with the faculty in the studio discipline of their choice. Students are admitted to the B.F.A. program through a process called “clearance,” which is conducted once each semester; they must be admitted to the B.F.A. program at least one semester before they graduate. Students who wish to enter the B.F.A. program should consult the faculty in their major studio art discipline for information about the required portfolio review.

In order to sit for B.F.A. clearance, students must have completed:

- the two studio art foundation courses ARTS:1510 Basic Drawing and ARTS:1520 Design Fundamentals;
- one introductory course in the B.F.A. studio art discipline; and
- two upper-level courses in the B.F.A. studio art discipline (students may be enrolled in the two upper-level courses when they sit for clearance).

B.F.A. students complete all requirements for the B.A. major in art (required courses) plus additional studio work. They also must present a show of their work through ARTS:4195 B.F.A. Exhibition before they graduate.

Students interested in teaching art in elementary and/or secondary schools may apply to the art education program; see “B.F.A. with Teacher Licensure” below.

The B.F.A. with a major in art requires the following work:

| Required Courses | 39 |
| Additional Studio Art Courses | 23 |
| B.F.A. Exhibition | |
| **Total Hours** | **62** |

Required Courses

The following course work is required (39 s.h.).

**Art History**

Two of these:

- ARTH:1040 Arts of Africa 3
- ARTH:1050 From Cave Paintings to Cathedrals: Survey of Western Art I 3
- ARTH:1060 From Mona Lisa to Modernism: Survey of Western Art II 3
- ARTH:1070 Asian Art and Culture 3
- ARTH:1095 American Indian Art 3

**Additional Art History Courses**

Two art history courses not in the list above, excluding ARTH:1000, ARTH:1080, ARTH:2975, ARTH:3985, ARTH:3995, and ARTH:4999

**Foundational Studio Art**

Studio art majors are required to complete ARTS:1510 Basic Drawing and ARTS:1520 Design Fundamentals by the end of their first academic year. Majors can enroll in one beginning or introductory studio arts course during the same semester they are enrolled in either ARTS:1510 or ARTS:1520.

Students may take introductory level 2-D and 3-D courses while taking the foundational studio art courses.

Both of these:

- ARTS:1510 Basic Drawing 3
- ARTS:1520 Design Fundamentals 3

**Studio Art 3-D Courses**

Two of these:

- CERM:2010 Exploring Forms in Clay I 3
- INTM:2710 Introduction to Intermedia 3
- MTLS:2910 Introduction to Jewelry and Metal Arts 3
- SCLP:2810 Undergraduate Sculpture I 3
- TDSN:2210 Problems in 3-D Design 3

**Studio Art 2-D Courses**

Two of these:

- ANIM:2125 Introduction to Animation 3
- DRAW:2310 Life Drawing I 3
- DSGN:2500 Graphic Design I 3
- PHTO:2510 Beginning Digital Photography 3
- PRNT:2410 Painting I 3
- PRNT:2610 Introduction to Printmaking 3
Required Electives
School of Art and Art History elective courses must bring the total credit for the major to a minimum of 62 s.h.

Additional Studio Art Courses
All of these:
- One introductory course and three upper-level courses in the student’s studio art discipline
- One introductory course and one upper-level course in a second studio art discipline
- One introductory course and one upper-level course in a third studio art discipline

B.F.A. Exhibition
Students must present a show of their work in ARTS:4195 B.F.A. Exhibition during the semester in which they graduate. Variations must be approved by the B.F.A. faculty advisor and academic advisors. The show must be advertised using flyers and other media. Students planning to graduate with honors in the major may combine their honors project and their B.F.A. show. Students must meet with faculty and academic advisors to complete the required documentation before they present their show.

Transfer Students
Transfer students should contact the undergraduate academic advisors for information about transfer portfolio review and specific course work that satisfies the requirements for the major in art. Students may count a maximum of 21 s.h. of approved transfer credit toward the B.F.A. major in art.

Study Abroad
Students who wish to study abroad must meet with the undergraduate advisor before they depart in order to confirm approval of the courses they plan to take.

Students who take studio art courses abroad must bring their artwork back to campus and present it in a portfolio review, which determines whether the work satisfies a requirement for their major. The portfolio review is not required if the study abroad course was taught by a School of Art and Art History faculty member who gave the student a grade for the course.

Students who plan to take art history courses abroad must present the course syllabus to their advisor well in advance of their departure. The head of the art history program determines whether the study abroad course is equivalent to a course required for the major; if it is, the student is credited with fulfilling the requirement once the course is completed with a passing grade.

B.F.A. with Teacher Licensure
Majors interested in earning licensure to teach in elementary and/or secondary schools must complete the College of Education’s Teacher Education Program (TEP) in addition to the requirements for the art or art history major and all requirements for graduation with a B.F.A. degree. The TEP requires several College of Education courses and student teaching. Students must satisfy all degree requirements and complete Teacher Education Program licensure before degree conferral. Contact the Office of Student Services in the College of Education for details.

Honors
Honors in the Major
Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Honors students must maintain a cumulative University of Iowa g.p.a. of at least 3.33 and a g.p.a. of at least 3.50 in their major. They also must complete an application to graduate with honors in the major.

In order to graduate with honors in the major, students must complete a studio art project during the semester in which they plan to graduate. They must find a studio art faculty member willing to supervise their honors project; must display the completed project in a show; and must complete a title page, abstract, and CD of images for their project. They earn credit for the project by enrolling in ARTS:4190 Honors in Studio Art.

University of Iowa Honors Program
In addition to honors in the major, undergraduate students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the University’s honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the art major.

Academic Plans
Four-Year Graduation Plan
The Four-Year Graduation Plan is not available for the B.F.A. major in art. Students should work with their advisors to develop individual graduation plans.

Sample Plan of Study
Art (B.F.A.)
The major is open by selection; students should consult with their advisor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year Fall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTS:1510</td>
<td>Basic Drawing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTS:1520</td>
<td>Design Fundamentals</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHET:1030</td>
<td>Rhetoric (GE: Rhetoric or other General Education course)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE: Diversity and Inclusion</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CSI:1600</td>
<td>Success at Iowa</td>
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Hours 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL:1200</td>
<td>The Interpretation of Literature (GE: Interpretation of Literature)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major: art history survey course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major: introductory-level studio 2-D course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major: introductory-level studio 3-D course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE: Natural Sciences without a lab</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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Hours 15
**Second Year**

**Fall**
- Major: introductory-level studio 3-D course 6 3
- Major: art history survey course 4 3
- GE: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning 3
- GE: World Languages or elective course 3-5
- Elective course 2 3
- **Hours** 15-17

**Spring**
- Major: art history non-survey course 7 3
- Major: introductory-level studio 2-D course 5 3
- Major: upper-level studio course in B.F.A. discipline 3-4
- GE: World Languages or elective course 3-5
- Elective course 3
- **Hours** 15-18

**Third Year**

**Fall**
- Major: art history non-survey course 7 3
- Major: elective art course 8 3
- Major: upper-level studio course in B.F.A. discipline 3-4
- GE: Natural Sciences with a lab 4
- GE: World Languages or elective course 3-5
- **Hours** 16-19

**Spring**
- Major: elective art course 8 3
- Major: upper-level studio course in B.F.A. discipline 3-4
- Major: upper-level studio course outside of B.F.A. discipline 3-4
- GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts 3
- GE: World Languages or elective course 3-5
- **Hours** 15-19

**Fourth Year**

**Fall**
- Major: elective art course 8 3-4
- Major: elective art course 3-4
- Major: upper-level studio course outside of B.F.A. discipline 3-4
- GE: Historical Perspectives 3
- GE: Values and Culture 3
- **Hours** 15-18

**Spring**
- ARTS:4195 B.F.A. Exhibition 0
- Major: elective art course 8 3-4
- Major: elective art and art history course 8 1-4
- Major: elective art and art history course 3-4
- GE: International and Global Issues 3
- GE: Social Sciences 3
- Elective course 2
- **Hours** 15-20
- **Total Hours** 121-141

1. General Education (GE) courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses. For more information, view the General Education Program.

2. Students may use their elective courses to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

3. Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE: World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.

4. Select art history survey course from ARTH:1040 Arts of Africa, ARTH:1050 From Cave Paintings to Cathedrals: Survey of Western Art I, ARTH:1060 From Mona Lisa to Modernism: Survey of Western Art II, ARTH:1070 Asian Art and Culture, and ARTH:1095 American Indian Art. Some introductory-level art history courses will fulfill GE requirements; students should consult with their advisor.


8. Students may select an elective art course until they complete a maximum of 62 s.h. of art courses, or select a non-art elective course.

**Career Advancement**

Many graduates pursue careers that match their degree specializations, for example, commercial or graphic designer, conservation or museum curator or administrator, art educator, public artist, or community art center coordinator or instructor. Others go on to graduate study in areas such as art history, art therapy, architecture, design, medical illustration, studio art, or disciplines outside of art.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.