THE DEPARTMENT OF ART

Course and Advising Guide
For Students
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The Art Department

The Department of Art is devoted to nurturing the production and understanding of artistic expression, one of the oldest, most vital, and human of endeavors. The department offers programs in art history and studio art leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Our goal of fostering a greater appreciation of the arts is especially fitting at The Catholic University of America, given both the Catholic Church, and the outstanding resources of Washington, D.C. Through courses both within and outside the department, art majors are provided with a broad introduction into the practice, theory, and appreciation of the arts.

The Department of Art has responded to the growth in creative digital technology in artists’ studios and in the modern workforce by offering a series of classes in the digital arts, including digital photography, cell phone photography, video production, 3-D sculpting, screen printing, graphic design, and web design. These classes utilize the most advanced professional design software and are held in the department’s new state-of-the-art digital lab.

“The Art Department at CUA is a close-knit community made up of passionate and engaging professors who truly care for their students. I feel that I have found my niche at CUA here in the Art Department.”

- Ashley Wilson, Senior Art History Major
Community:
Campus life here at CUA is great! Between Campus Activities and Campus Ministry there are always tons of fun events going on such as lectures, open mic nights, and even events off campus. There are also many student organizations in which you can get involved in, including the Art Club.

Location:
CUA is located in the Nation’s capital, Washington, DC! There is a metro stop right on campus and from there you have access to the whole city. Many students go out to the National Mall to see the monuments and museums, to Chinatown for a bite to eat, Georgetown for shopping, U Street for a concert. The city offers so much that between campus activities and adventures in the city you’ll never be bored.

Resources:
Since CUA is located in Washington, it gives students access to incredible resources, and most of them are free. Students have easy access to some of the World’s greatest museums and galleries: National Gallery of Art, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Freer Gallery of Art, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Phillips Collection, Dumbarton Oaks, Smithsonian American Art Museum, National Portrait Gallery, Renwick Gallery, to name just a few. These museums have daily activities and many programs for students to get involved in. There are also world-class resources for research. The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world and it’s just a few metro stops away. The libraries at the National Gallery of Art and the Archives of American Art are equally close; they are also superb resources for papers and projects.
Academic Concerns for Art Majors

Double Majoring and Minoring
While you cannot double major or minor in Art History and Studio Art, you can combine an Art major with a major or minor in another subject that interests you. Recent students have double majored in art history and classics, studio art and psychology, and have minored in anthropology, business, chemistry, French, philosophy, psychology and religious studies. They have also completed multiple tracks in the Honors Program.

Internships:
With so many museums and galleries in DC, there are numerous internship opportunities. Whether your interest is in art conservation, art education, art therapy, curating, graphic design, museum or gallery management, or public relations, you can find something that suits you.

Studying Abroad
It is important to consider studying abroad as early as possible because some programs have strict language requirements that you must fulfill prior to going abroad. Think about where you might like to go: Europe, Asia, South America, Africa, Australia. How long do you want to be abroad? CUA offers year, semester, and summer programs and even trips over spring break. One of the most important things to figure out is when you can go. For Art History majors it is usually best to study abroad in spring of sophomore year or fall of junior year. Studio Art majors should work with their advisor in determining the optimal time to go abroad; often it is in the spring of junior year.

CUA has two flagship programs CUA Rome in Italy and CUA Oxford in England. These are both great programs, but you are not restricted to them. CUA has a strong relationship with IES Abroad and CIEE Study Abroad, which both offer programs all over the world. There is also a study abroad fair each year where different companies come to tell you about their exciting programs. If you decide to choose a non-CUA program you must receive approval from CUAbroad and your academic advisor.
Course Guide for Art History Majors

Freshman Year
Survey of Art History

Art 211 – History of Art: Prehistory to the Middle Ages
A survey of Western art from prehistory to the Middle Ages. Assists the student in a visual and critical understanding of the art of the past. The Western tradition investigated, with emphasis on such art forms as sculpture, painting, and architecture.

Art 212 – History of Art: Renaissance to Modern
A survey of Western art from the 15th century to the present. Investigates Renaissance, Baroque, Neoclassical, Romantic, Realist, Impressionist, and Modern masterworks in terms of their formal development and cultural context through readings, lectures, class discussions, and field trips. Special emphasis on developing skills of visual literacy and critical thinking.

Sophomore Year
Subject Requirements: 1 Classics, 1 Renaissance or Baroque, 2 Modern & Contemporary

Classics/Medieval

Art 317 – Greek Art and Architecture
Surveys the art, architecture, and archeology of Greece from its Minoan and Mycenaean antecedents through the late Hellenistic era, with emphasis on the Classical period.
Art 318 – Roman Art and Architecture
Surveys the art of the Roman Empire from its Etruscan origins (8th century B.C.) until the age of Constantine (early 4th century A.D.). Examines city planning, architecture, sculpture, painting, and the decorative arts in Rome and its provinces in the context of political developments. Special emphasis on public and private patronage of funerary, religious, and commemorative (propagandistic) arts.

ART 335 – Medieval Art and Architecture
Surveys the art and architecture of the Middle Ages in Western Europe, from the age of Charlemagne through the Ottonian, Romanesque, and Gothic periods, and from England to the borders of the Byzantine and Islamic worlds. Slide lectures, readings, and discussions consider secular and vernacular art forms in addition to art created for the use and glory of the Christian church.

Renaissance/Baroque

Art 319 – Renaissance Art
A survey of key monuments, artists, patrons, and subjects of art from about 1300 to 1575 in Italy, with an emphasis on the 15th and 16th centuries and Tuscany, Rome, and Venice. Works will be discussed in relation to the cultural, political, social, and/or technical circumstances in which they were made. Artists studied will include Giotto, Donatello, Botticelli, Mantegna, Leonardo, Michelangelo, Raphael, and Titian.

Art 320 – Baroque Art
Features the painting and sculpture of such 17th century masters as Caravaggio, Rubens, Velasquez, Bernini, and Poussin.
Modern/Contemporary

**Art 326 – American Art**
Serves American artistic and cultural expression from the Colonial Period to the end of the Civil War. Introduces American painting, sculpture, architecture, decorative arts, photography, and graphic work in a broad social and historical context, including the work of Copley, Cole, Bierstadt, Brady, Greenough, Jefferson, and the Peale Family.

**Art 323 – Nineteenth Century Art**
An illustrated survey of the art of the 19th Century, one of the most dynamic periods in the development of Western culture. Includes discussion of Neoclassicism, Romanticism, Realism, and Impressionism. Considers some of the sweeping transformations that took place in art and society during the century and traces the rise of modern art in the painting, sculpture, and design of this vital turbulent age. Artists discussed include David, Ingres, Gericault, Delacroix, Friedrich, Goya, Courbet, Manet, Degas, Cassatt, Monet, and Renoir.

**Art 324 – Impressionism and Realism**
A focused, illustrated study of two brilliant movements in modern art history through the work of some of the greatest artists of the mid-to-late 19th century, including Millet, Courbet, Manet, Monet, Degas, Cassatt, Renoir, and Rodin. Addresses the innovative production of these artists in relation to the tumultuous cultural and political circumstances of the late 1800s. Explores the pivotal influence of Realism and Impressionism upon the development of Vanguard Modernism.
Art 331 – Modern Art

Surveys European and American art and art theory from the last Impressionist exhibitions through the rise of Fauvism, Expressionism, Dadaism, and Cubism. Examines the pioneering production of early Modernist artists such as Cézanne, Van Gogh, Matisse, Picasso, Kandinsky, Mondrian, and Duchamp, whose innovative work addressed the problems of the modern condition and transformed the very boundaries of artistic expression.

Art 332 – Contemporary Art

A study of European and American art and art theory from 1945 to the present. Examines the major movements of High Modernism and Post-Modernism (including Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Performance Art, Minimalism, and Appropriation) in relation to biographical and formal concerns, contemporary social and political conditions, and current art history debates.

Junior Year

Junior Seminar, 2 Art Electives, Studio Requirement

Art 361 – Junior Seminar

Studio Art Electives

Art 201/202 – Drawing and Composition

Exploration of drawing as an art form for the novice or for those with some experience. Emphasis on the development of visual awareness, appreciation, and discrimination. Various media and techniques employed in drawing from life and in varied visual exercises. Studio, six hours per week.
Art 303/304 – Painting
Elemental problems of painting on a two-dimensional surface; structure and composition, color, flat pattern, modeling and light, paint handling, and texture. Students work from varied life sources and imagination in oil. Studio, six hours per week.

Senior Year
*Senior Seminar, 3 Art Electives*

Art 451A – Senior Art History Coordinating Seminar
Art History Major Checklist (suggested order of courses)

**Freshman Year:**
*Survey of Art*
- ______ Art 211 - History of Art: Prehistory to the Middle Ages
- ______ Art 212 - History of Art: Renaissance to the Modern
1 Art Elective
- ______ (________________)

**Sophomore Year:**
1 *Classics/Medieval*
- ______ Art 317 - Greek Art and Architecture
- ______ Art 318 - Roman Art and Architecture
- ______ Art 335 - Western Medieval Art and Architecture
1 *Renaissance or Baroque*
- ______ Art 319 - Renaissance Art
- ______ Art 320 - Baroque Art
1 *Modern*
- ______ Art 326 - American Art
- ______ Art 323 - Nineteenth Century Art
- ______ Art 324 - Impressionism and Realism
- ______ Art 331 - Modern Art
*Contemporary* (**required course for all majors, recommended before spring of junior year)**
- ______ Art 332 – Contemporary Art**

**Junior Year:**
*Junior Seminar*
- ______ Art 361 - Junior Seminar
1 *Studio Requirement*
- ______ Art 201/202 - Drawing and Composition
- ______ Art 303/304 - Painting
2 Art Electives
- ______ (________________)

**Senior Year:**
*Senior Seminar*
- ______ Art 451A - Senior Art History Coordinating Seminar
2 Art Electives
- ______ (________________)
- ______ (________________)
Course Guide for Studio Art Majors

Freshman Year

Survey of Design

**Art 101 – Fundamentals of Design I**
Introductory studio art course; primary goal is the development of an awareness and appreciation of the visual experience and of the limitless possibilities for making things of beauty and delight. Learning based largely on a conscious amassing of visual experiences and the development of seeing, upon which, eventually, to realize one's own visual language and visual value judgments. Studio exercises and lectures consider two-dimensional work and color. Studio, six hours per week.

**Art 102 – Fundamentals of Design II**
Introductory studio art course. Studio projects and lectures include work in two and three dimensions plus problems in color. 101 not prerequisite to 102.
**Sophomore Year**

*Survey of Drawing, Survey of Art History*

**Art 207 – Drawing and Composition for Artists I**
Exploration of drawing as an art form for the novice or for those with some experience. Emphasis on the development of visual awareness, appreciation, and discrimination. Various media and techniques employed in drawing from life and in varied visual exercises. Studio, six hours per week.

**Art 208 – Drawing and Composition for Artists II**
Exploration of drawing as an art form for the novice or for those with some experience. Emphasis on the development of visual awareness, appreciation, and discrimination. Various media and techniques employed in drawing from life and in varied visual exercises. Studio, six hours per week. 201 is not prerequisite to 202.

**Art 211 – History of Art: Prehistoric to the Middle Ages**
A survey of Western art from prehistory to the Middle Ages. Assists the student in a visual and critical understanding of the art of the past. The Western tradition investigated, with emphasis on such art forms as sculpture, painting, and architecture.

**Art 212 – History of Art: Renaissance to Modern**
A survey of Western art from the fifteenth century to the present. Investigates Renaissance, Baroque, Neoclassical, Romantic, Realist, Impressionist, and Modern masterworks in terms of their formal development and cultural context. Special emphasis on developing skills of visual literacy and critical thinking.
**Junior Year**

*Junior Seminar, 1 Class in Concentration, Contemporary Art, 1 Studio Art Elective*

**Art 353 – Junior Studio Art Seminar**

Junior Studio Art Seminar introduces studio art majors to advanced independent work. This seminar will include field trips, readings and discussions of contemporary art, art criticism, and the role of historical events and cultural values in the production and reception of art. Each student will produce an independently conceived project in preparation for the Junior Exhibition.

**Art 332 – Contemporary Art (1945- Present)**

A study of European and American art and art theory from 1945 to the present. Examines the major movements of High Modernism and Post-Modernism (including Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Performance Art, Minimalism, and Appropriation) in relation to biographical and formal concerns, contemporary social and political conditions, and current art history debates.

**Senior Year**

*Senior Seminar, 3 Courses in Concentration*

**Art 451 – Senior Studio Art Coordinating Seminar**

*Students must have three semesters in one of the following areas: painting, sculpture or digital arts, and one in one of the remaining two areas.*
Studio Art Major Checklist (suggested order of courses)

**Freshman Year:**

*Survey of Art*
- ______ Art 101 - Fundamentals of Design I
- ______ Art 102 - Fundamentals of Design II

**Sophomore Year:**

*Survey of Drawing*
- ______ Art 207 - Drawing and Composition for Artists I
- ______ Art 208 - Drawing and Composition for Artists II

*Survey of Art History*
- ______ Art 211 - History of Art: Prehistoric to the Middle Ages
- ______ Art 212 - History of Art: Renaissance to the Modern

**Junior Year:**

*Junior Seminar*
- ______ Art 353 - Junior Studio Art Seminar

*Contemporary*
- ______ Art 332 - Contemporary Art

1 Course in Concentration
- ______

1 Elective
- ______

**Senior Year:**

*Senior Seminar*
- ______ Art 451 - Senior Studio Art Coordinating Seminar

3 Courses in Concentration
- ______
- ______
- ______

***Students must have three semesters in one of the following areas: painting, sculpture or digital arts, and one in one of the remaining two areas.***
## Career Options for ART Majors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industries</th>
<th>Employers</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising, Graphic Art, Computer Graphics, Illustration</td>
<td>Books/magazines/newspapers / trade publications, Advertising agencies, Design firms, Product design divisions or large companies, Stores, TV/cable/ motion picture industry, Internet media companies, Freelance</td>
<td>Develop a strong portfolio. Gain computer/technical skills. Secure an internship in a related area. Consider supplementing curriculum with coursework in advertising or business.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Consultant</td>
<td>Business corporations, Hotels, Private collectors, Museums, Galleries</td>
<td>Undergraduate degree in art history, suggested MA in art history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Journalism, Art Critic</td>
<td>Newspapers, Magazines, Art-world internet sites</td>
<td>Dual degree or major/minor in art history or studio art and media studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Law</td>
<td>Legal representation for museums, galleries, or individual artists, as well as government agencies.</td>
<td>Law degree required. Gain experience by volunteering for organizations such as Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Libraries, Visual Resource Archives</td>
<td>Libraries, Museums, Galleries, Art Organizations</td>
<td>Usually requires MA in art history and Masters in Library Science. Suggested proficiency in French, German, or other appropriate language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Museums, Galleries, Museums (Government or Private), Local Historical Societies, Galleries</td>
<td>Art museums and galleries with departments in Education, Administration, Curatorial, Conservation, Registrar, Collections Management, Sales, Publications, Development, Public Relations, Exhibit Design/Preparation, Archivist, Tour Guides/Docent</td>
<td>Intern or volunteer in an art museum. Develop strength in art history areas. Acquire skills in research, marketing, communications, education, management. Undergraduate degree in art history recommended; earn an advanced degree for advancement or entry level (depending on position).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Organizations, Non-Profits</td>
<td>Organizations which promote development of the arts</td>
<td>Gain experience by volunteering and participating in the desired field of organizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Sales</td>
<td>Galleries, Museums, Auction houses, Specialty stores</td>
<td>Gain sales experience. Establish contacts by attending shows/openings. Volunteer in museums, membership drives, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Examples</td>
<td>Requirements/Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Therapy</td>
<td>Hospitals, Nursing homes, Mental health facilities, Rehabilitation centers, Nonprofit organizations</td>
<td>Earn an advanced degree/certification in art therapy. Supplement curriculum with coursework in psychology; gain experience volunteering.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation, Preservation</td>
<td>Art museums, University research centers</td>
<td>Undergraduate degree in art history, with chemistry classes and studio portfolio required for admission to MA or PhD program in conservation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curatorial</td>
<td>Art museums, Art galleries, Corporate companies</td>
<td>Undergraduate degree in art history or studio art. Strong foreign language skills in German, French, or another relevant language. PhD in art history normally expected, depending on the institution. Gain experience by interning with museum or gallery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, Studio Art, Fine Arts, Art History</td>
<td>Art schools, K-12 schools, Colleges/universities, Adult/Community Programs, Libraries, Museums, Alternative schools, Group homes</td>
<td>Obtain certification for public school teaching (graduate degree usually required for post-secondary teaching). Recommend majoring or minoring in education. Gain experience working with target population (children or adults).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fashion, Textile, Interior Design</td>
<td>Pattern companies, Apparel manufacturers/textile mills, Interior design firms, Commercial/residential design firms, Freelance</td>
<td>Develop a strong portfolio. Complete an internship in a related area. Create and fit costumes for stage productions. Research requirements for entry into different career areas, as some may require specialized training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Agencies</td>
<td>National Endowment for the Arts, Historic Landmark sites and trusts, State Arts Councils and Offices of Cultural Affairs</td>
<td>Degree in art history or studio art. Must be proficient in writing and communication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Museums and historical societies, Media organizations, Photo agencies/studios/auction houses, Libraries, Freelance, Large corporations, Hospitals</td>
<td>Prepare a strong portfolio (b&amp;w, color). Obtain a staff photographer position with the yearbook, campus newspaper, or magazine. Act as a/v assistant or projectionist. Apprentice with a freelance photographer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Art Department expresses its gratitude to the co-authors of this brochure Ashley E. Wilson and Rachel Tanzi.

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