School of Art

Charlie White, Head
Location: College of Fine Arts 300
www.art.cmu.edu/ (http://www.art.cmu.edu/)

The School of Art’s undergraduate program bridges traditional studio practice with the experimental practices of new and unconventional media. The School offers two tracks for undergraduates—the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree and the four interdisciplinary degrees collectively known as the BXA Intercollege Degree Program—along with a minor in art.

The program provides focused foundational instruction over the first year that builds toward a broad range of individualized study in the following three years. In their first year, students experience a wide array of intensive medium-specific studio courses, developing both technical skill and critical thinking. Following the completion of their foundation year, students direct their study across four primary concentrations with the freedom to pursue either in-depth study, hybrid study across concentrations, or specialized practices. Throughout the entire curriculum, the program emphasizes a conceptual approach to artmaking, challenging students to expand their ideas of artmaking and reconsider art’s possibilities.

The four primary concentrations are:
I. Foundation Courses
II. Intermediate Studios
III. Advanced Studios
IV. Contextual Practice

IV. Contextual Practice

Studio courses comprise over sixty percent of the course of study and academic courses comprise the remainder.

The School of Art occupies over 50,000 square feet of fabrication facilities, multi-purpose classrooms, media-specific studios and workshops, student and faculty studios, presentation rooms, and exhibition spaces, offering students access to both traditional and state-of-the-art tools. All juniors and seniors have dedicated, independent, 24-hour studio space.

The School’s distinguished faculty includes pioneers in computer animation and new media; artists and scholars exploring the complexity of queer thought and culture; and emerging practitioners confronting some of society’s most pressing issues. Throughout the program, these professors provide one-on-one support and feedback, helping each student foster an individualized artistic practice.

The program emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to learning and art making, and students are encouraged to take advantage of the many resources of the College of Fine Arts and of the University. These include: the IDeATe network, the STUDIO for Creative Inquiry, the Miller Institute for Contemporary Art, and the Center for Arts in Society, among many others.

Graduates from the School of Art pursue diverse careers paths including traditional studio practice, animation, game design, positions with leading technology companies, and founding their own start-ups.

Using five categories of courses, the curriculum presents art-making in a unique manner which respects tradition and encourages innovation. The course categories are:
I. Foundation Courses
II. Intermediate Studios
III. Advanced Studios
IV. Critical Studies Courses
V. University Academic Courses

I. Foundation Courses

In their first year of study, students take a total of six foundation studio courses, exploring a range of mediums and conceptual processes. These studios ensure that all students have an exploratory experience with all of the media resources of the school. They also serve as preparation for intermediate and advanced studio work.

In addition, the Art First-Year Seminar introduces you to facilities, faculty, staff, resources, and many opportunities you can access within Art and the broader university. All first-year students take the seminar together, allowing you to build a strong community that will help you develop as an artist during your time at CMU and beyond.

II. Intermediate Studios

Students take a minimum of six Intermediate Studio courses of their choosing in preparation for Advanced Studios in their junior and senior years. Intermediate studios will build on foundational knowledge and allow students to direct their studies to those mediums and topics most strongly of interest.

III. Advanced Studios

Students take a minimum of six Advanced Studio elective courses in their junior and senior years. These courses address specialized studio work in one of the four artistic concentration areas in the school, which are:
- Drawing, Painting, Print Media, and Photography (DPP)
- Sculpture, Installation, and Site Work (SIS)
- Electronic and Time-Based Work (ETB)
- Contextual Practice (CP)

In addition, students complete another six studio courses, which can be either Intermediate or Advanced Studios. This allows for significant exploration and integration across mediums within the program.

A minimum of four courses must be taken in one of these concentration areas. One of the intermediate or advanced courses can be a studio-based course within the College of Fine Arts, IDeATe, or additional programs.

IV. Critical Studies Courses

Students are introduced to critical studies in the spring of their first year, taking Foundations: Critical Studies. After the first year, students take four elective critical studies courses to broaden their knowledge and inform their studio practice. Critical Studies courses are discussion-based seminars examining theoretical texts in relation to periods of artistic practice.

Readings will introduce students to the historical and critical background of the themes discussed in class and familiarize them with the varied methodologies and argumentative styles proper to art criticism, critical theory and philosophy.

V. University Academic Courses

Ten academic courses outside of Art and Computing @ Carnegie Mellon are required.

First Year

In the first year of study the student is expected to complete the following three requirements:
- Computing @ Carnegie Mellon (99-101)
- One First-Year Writing option
- One Global/Cultural Studies elective

For First-Year Writing, the student selects one of the two full-semester courses, (Interpretation and Argument (76-101) or Advanced First Year Writing: Special Topics (76-102)), or two of the three half-semester writing courses (Writing about Literature, Art and Culture (76-106), Writing about Data (76-107), or Writing about Public Problems (76-108)).

The Global/Cultural Studies electives include but are not limited to the following courses:
- 57-173 Survey of Western Music History
- 57-306 World Music
- 57-480 History of Black American Music
- 76-333 Race and Controversy in the Arts
- 76-337 Intersectional Feminism
- 76-342 Managing Across Cultures
- 76-221 Books You Should Have Read By Now
- 76-232 Introduction to Black Literature
- 76-239 Introduction to Film Studies
- 76-241 Introduction to Gender Studies
- 76-386 Language & Culture
- 79-145 Genocide and Weapons of Mass Destruction
- 79-201 Introduction to Anthropology
- 79-202 Flesh and Spirit: Early Modern Europe, 1400-1750
- 79-205 20th Century Europe
- 79-208 Witchcraft and Witch-Hunting
- 79-211 Modern Southeast Asia: Colonialism, Capitalism, and Cultural Exchange
- 79-223 Mexico: From the Aztec Empire to the Drug War
- 79-234 Technology and Society
The student must take one course in each of the following academic areas or "options":

- Humanities and Languages or "Culture Option"
- Math, Science, Computer Science and Engineering or "Technical Option"
- History, Psychology, Economics or "Social Science Option"

The student must then take at least three additional courses from one of the academic areas/options listed above.

Finally, the student must take two additional, but unspecified, academic electives.

In selecting courses for the university academic component of the curriculum, students are encouraged to complete a cluster of courses that appeals to and develops their interests as emerging artists. In the process of taking their university electives, students can often simultaneously earn a minor.

**Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) Curriculum**

**Minimum units required for B.F.A. in Art**: 384

Below is the recommended distribution of courses in the four-year B.F.A. curriculum. After the freshman year, students may begin to choose university electives. After the first semester of the sophomore year, students have more options regarding the sequencing and selection of their coursework.

### First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60-104 Foundations: Art First-Year Seminar</td>
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<td>60-110 Foundations: Time-Based Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-131 Foundations: Sculpture</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-150 Foundations: Drawing</td>
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<td>76-10X First-Year Writing</td>
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<td>99-101 Computing @ Carnegie Mellon</td>
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### Second Year

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<td>60-3xx Critical Studies Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>xx-xxx Academic Elective</td>
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<td>60-200 Sophomore Review</td>
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<td>60-2xx Intermediate Studio Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-2xx Intermediate Studio Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-3xx Critical Studies Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>xx-xxx Academic Elective</td>
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### Third Year

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<tr>
<td>60-xxx Intermediate or Advanced Studio Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-xxx Academic Art Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>xx-xxx Academic Elective</td>
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<th>Spring</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>60-xxx Intermediate or Advanced Studio Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>xx-xxx Academic Elective</td>
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Focus. A description of these three programs, and a list of requirements in the School of Art advises BXA majors in selecting courses in the Art
Computer Science, the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Focus (12 courses) with a focus in the College of Engineering, the School of
Carnegie Mellon University offers a degree program that combines an Art
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE AND ARTS (BSA)
BACHELOR OF HUMANITIES AND ARTS (BHA)
BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING STUDIES AND ARTS (BESA)
BACHELOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ARTS (BCSA)
opportunities at no additional expense to the student.
Programs with other Pittsburgh Institutions
exchange programs in which a student's financial aid package remains in
international programs. These programs include university sponsored and
Art students are encouraged to spend either a semester of their junior year,
Sophomore and Senior Year Reviews
Students give an overview of their work twice in their four-year course of
study. At the end of the sophomore year, students undergo a faculty review
of their work to date in the program. A successful review is required for
advancement to the junior year.
The senior review affords students at the midpoint of their final year the
opportunity to review, analyze and summarize their work and to engage a
faculty committee in discussion about issues that face someone preparing
to enter a career in art.
Art Majors Minoring or Double Majoring in Another Department
About a third of current B.F.A. Art students pursue a minor or a second
major. If students are contemplating this option, they must discuss their
plans with academic advisors from the minor or second major department
as well as with the School of Art academic advisor.
Study Abroad
Art students are encouraged to spend either a semester of their junior year,
or a summer before or after their junior year, in one of many available
international programs. These programs include university sponsored and
exchange programs in which a student's financial aid package remains in
effect, and programs sponsored by other institutions.
Programs with other Pittsburgh Institutions
Art students are eligible to take courses at the nearby University of
Pittsburgh's History of Art and Architecture Department, and at the
Pittsburgh Glass Center. Established agreements with these institutions and
other Pittsburgh colleges, universities or centers offer cross-registration
opportunities at no additional expense to the student.
BXA Intercollege Degree Programs
Q BACHELOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ARTS (BCSA)
Q BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING STUDIES AND ARTS (BESA)
Q BACHELOR OF HUMANITIES AND ARTS (BHA)
Q BACHELOR OF SCIENCE AND ARTS (BSA)
Carnegie Mellon University offers a degree program that combines an Art
Focus (12 courses) with a focus in the College of Engineering, the School of
Computer Science, the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences,
or the Mellon College of Science. The Assistant Head of Academic Affairs
in the School of Art advises BXA majors in selecting courses in the Art
Focus. A description of these three programs, and a list of requirements
and electives, can be found in the in the BXA intercollege Degrees
Program section (http://coursecatalog.web.cmu.edu/intercollegeprograms/
#bxaintercollegedegreeprogramstextcontainer) of this catalog.

Fourth Year

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<td>60-402 Senior Studio</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>48</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Art Minors
Students from other colleges and departments are eligible to pursue a minor
in art. A minor requires six courses in the School of Art, selected from a list
of requirements and electives as described in the Minors Offered by the
College of Fine Arts section (http://coursecatalog.web.cmu.edu/schools-
colleges/collegeoffinearts/collegeoffineartsminors/) of this catalog.

Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) Degree
The School of Art offers a three-year program leading to a Master of Fine
Arts in Art. This is a unique program designed to connect art-making to
the university at large, and to Pittsburgh communities and organizations. Information about this program is available at the School of Art website
(http://www.art.cmu.edu/mfa/overview/).

Master of Arts Management (M.A.M.) Degree
The College of Fine Arts and the Heinz College School of Public Policy and
Management co-sponsor a Master of Arts Management degree. Students
admitted to the M.A.M. degree program in their junior year may complete
both a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and a Master of Arts Management
degree in five years. Students interested in this graduate degree should
consult with advisors early in their undergraduate program.

Pre-College Program
The School of Art offers a Summer Pre-College Program, with both three-
and six-week options. This program is designed to prepare the college-bound
high school student for college level work in art. Information is available at
the Summer Pre-College site (https://www.cmu.edu/pre-college/).

Full-Time Tenure Track Faculty
LYNDON BARROIS JR., Assistant Professor of Art – M.F.A., Washington University in St. Louis; Carnegie Mellon, 2020–
KIM BECK, Associate Professor of Art – M.F.A., Rhode Island School of Design; Carnegie Mellon, 2004–
BOB BINGHAM, Professor of Art – M.F.A., University of California, Davis; Carnegie Mellon, 1993–
ELIZABETH CHODOS, Assistant Professor of Curatorial Practice, Director of Miller Institute of Contemporary Art – M.A., School of the Art Institute of Chicago; Carnegie Mellon, 2017–
JAMES DUESING, Professor of Art – M.F.A., University of Cincinnati; Carnegie Mellon, 1997–
ISLA HANSEN, Assistant Professor of Art – M.F.A., Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 2019–
KATHERINE HUBBARD, Assistant Professor of Art – M.F.A., Bard College; Carnegie Mellon, 2019–
ANDREW JOHNSON, Associate Professor of Art – M.F.A., Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 2004–
JONGWOO JEREMY KIM, Associate Professor of Art History and Theory – Ph.D., Institute of Fine Arts at New York University; Carnegie Mellon, 2018–
LING-LIN KU, Assistant Professor of Art – M.F.A., University of Texas at Austin; Carnegie Mellon, 2022–
GOLAN LEVIN, Professor of Art – M.S., Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Carnegie Mellon, 2004–
CLAYTON MERRELL, Dorothy L. Stubnitz Professor of Art – M.F.A., Yale University; Carnegie Mellon, 1996–
PAOLO PEDERCINI, Associate Professor of Art – M.F.A., Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Carnegie Mellon, 2009–
RICHARD PELL, Associate Professor of Art – M.F.A., Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Carnegie Mellon, 2008–
MELISSA RAGONA, Associate Professor of Visual Culture and Critical Theory – Ph.D., State University of New York at Buffalo; Carnegie Mellon, 2003–
BRITT RANSOM, Associate Professor of Art – M.F.A., University of Illinois at Chicago; Carnegie Mellon, 2022–
JON RUBIN, Professor of Art – M.F.A., California College of Arts and Crafts; Carnegie Mellon, 2006–
DEVAN SHIMOYAMA, Cooper-Siegel Assistant Professor of Art – M.F.A., Yale University; Carnegie Mellon, 2014–
SUZIE SILVER, Professor of Art – M.F.A., The School of the Art Institute of Chicago; Carnegie Mellon, 1999–
ANGELA WASHKO, Associate Professor of Art – M.F.A., University of California, San Diego; Carnegie Mellon, 2015–
CHARLIE WHITE, Regina & Marlin Miller Head, Professor of Art – M.F.A., Art Center College of Design; Carnegie Mellon, 2016–
IMIN YEH, Assistant Professor of Art, Director of Foundational Studies – M.F.A., California College of the Arts; Carnegie Mellon, 2016–

Full-time Joint Appointments
CHARLEE BRODSKY, Associate Professor of Art and Photography – M.F.A., Yale University; Carnegie Mellon, 1978–
ROGER DANNENBERG, Senior Research Computer Scientist and Artist – Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 1982–
JAMIE GRUZSKA, Special Faculty and CFA Photography Administrator – M.F.A., University of Buffalo;
DYLAN VITONE, Associate Professor, School of Design – M.F.A., Massachusetts College of Art; Carnegie Mellon, 2006–

Visiting Faculty
MARIA ELENA VERSARI, Visiting Professor of Art History and Theory – Ph.D., Scuola Normale Superiore;
ALISHA WORMLEY, Visiting Core Faculty, MFA – M.F.A., Bard College;
Carnegie Mellon, 2018–