

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. Drawing, Painting, Print Media, and Photography
- II. Sculpture, Installation, and Site Work
- III. Electronic and Time-Based Work
- 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 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 (DP3)
- 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:

- Core@CMU (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	9
57-306	World Music	9
57-480	History of Black American Music	6
76-337	Intersectional Feminism	9
70-342	Managing Across Cultures	9
76-221	Books You Should Have Read By Now	9
76-232	Introduction to Black Literature	9
76-239	Introduction to Film Studies	9
76-241	Introduction to Gender Studies	9
76-386	Language & Culture	9
79-145	Genocide and Weapons of Mass Destruction	9
79-201	Introduction to Anthropology	9
79-202	Flesh and Spirit: Early Modern Europe, 1400-1750	9
79-205	20th Century Europe	9
79-208	Witchcraft and Witch-Hunting	9
79-211	Modern Southeast Asia: Colonialism, Capitalism, and Cultural Exchange	9
79-223	Mexico: From the Aztec Empire to the Drug War	9
79-234	Technology and Society	9
79-240	Development of American Culture	9

79-242	African American History: Reconstruction to the Present	9
79-244	Women in American History	9
79-245	Capitalism and Individualism in American Culture	9
79-261	The Last Emperors: Chinese History and Society, 1600-1900	9
79-262	Modern China: From the Birth of Mao ... to Now	9
79-263	Mao and the Chinese Cultural Revolution	9
79-265	Russian History: Game of Thrones	9
79-266	Russian History and Revolutionary Socialism	9
79-267	The Soviet Union in World War II: Military, Political, and Social History	9
79-275	Introduction to Global Studies	9
79-280	Coffee and Capitalism	9
79-283	Hungry World: Food and Famine in Global Perspective	9
79-343	Education, Democracy, and Civil Rights	9
79-345	Roots of Rock & Roll	9
79-350	Early Christianity	9
79-377	Food, Culture, and Power: A History of Eating	9
80-100	Introduction to Philosophy	9
80-250	Ancient Philosophy	9
80-251	Modern Philosophy	9
80-253	Continental Philosophy	9
80-254	Analytic Philosophy	9
80-276	Philosophy of Religion	9
82-xxx	Any Languages, Cultures, and Applied Linguistics course	9

After First Year

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

Fall		Units
60-104	Foundations: Art First-Year Seminar	6
60-110	Foundations: Time-Based Media	10
60-131	Foundations: Sculpture	10
60-150	Foundations: Drawing	10
76-10X	First-Year Writing	9
99-101	Core@CMU	3
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Spring		Units
60-101	Foundations: Risk, Agency, Failure	10
60-107	Foundations: Critical Studies	9

Select two of the three Foundation Media Courses:		20
60-120	Foundations: Digital Media	
60-135	Foundations: Sculpture II	
60-170	Foundations: Paint/Print	
xx-xxx	Cultural/Global Studies elective	9
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Second Year

Fall		Units
60-2xx	Intermediate Studio Elective	10
60-2xx	Intermediate Studio Elective	10
60-2xx	Intermediate Studio Elective	10
60-3xx	Critical Studies Elective	9
xx-xxx	Academic Elective	9
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Spring		Units
60-200	Sophomore Review	0
60-2xx	Intermediate Studio Elective	10
60-2xx	Intermediate Studio Elective	10
60-2xx	Intermediate Studio Elective	10
60-3xx	Critical Studies Elective	9
xx-xxx	Academic Elective	9
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Third Year

Fall		Units
60-xxx	Intermediate or Advanced Studio Elective	10
60-xxx	Intermediate or Advanced Studio Elective	10
60-xxx	Intermediate or Advanced Studio Elective	10
60-3xx	Critical Studies Elective	9
xx-xxx	Academic Elective	9
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Spring		Units
60-xxx	Intermediate or Advanced Studio Elective	10
60-xxx	Intermediate or Advanced Studio Elective	10
60-xxx	Intermediate or Advanced Studio Elective	10
60-3xx	Critical Studies Elective	9
xx-xxx	Academic Elective	9
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Fourth Year

		Units
Fall		
60-401	Senior Studio	10
60-4xx	Advanced Studio Elective	10
60-4xx	Advanced Studio Elective	10
xx-xxx	Academic Elective	9
xx-xxx	Academic Elective	9
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Spring		
60-402	Senior Studio	10
60-4xx	Advanced Studio Elective	10
60-4xx	Advanced Studio Elective	10
xx-xxx	Academic Elective	9
xx-xxx	Academic Elective	9
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Sophomore Reviews

Students give an overview of their work at the midpoint of 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.

Art Majors Minor 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

BACHELOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ARTS (BCSA)

BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING STUDIES AND ARTS (BESA)

BACHELOR OF HUMANITIES AND ARTS (BHA)

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/#bxaintercollegedegreeprogramtextcontainer>) of this catalog.

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 – MFA, 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–

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–

JOHANNES DEYOUNG, Assistant Professor of Art – M.F.A., Cranbrook Academy of Art; Carnegie Mellon, 2018–

ISLA HANSEN, Assistant Professor of Art – M.F.A., Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 2019–

RANEE HENDERSON, Assistant Professor of Art – M.F.A., Bard College; Carnegie Mellon, 2023–

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, 1998–

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–

SHARMISTHA RAY, Assistant Professor of Art – MS/MFA, Pratt Institute; Carnegie Mellon, 2023–

JON RUBIN, Professor of Art – M.F.A., California College of Arts and Crafts; Carnegie Mellon, 2006–

SUZIE SILVER, Professor of Art – M.F.A., The School of the Art Institute of Chicago; Carnegie Mellon, 1999–

CHARLIE WHITE, Regina & Marlin Miller Head, Professor of Art - M.F.A., Art Center College of Design; Carnegie Mellon, 2016-

ALISHA WORMSLEY, Assistant Professor of Art - M.F.A., Bard College; Carnegie Mellon, 2024-

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

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;

Research and Teaching Faculty

YOKO SEKINO-BOVÉ, Assistant Teaching Professor of Art - M.F.A., University of Oklahoma; Carnegie Mellon, 2023-