

# Bachelor of Arts in Art - BA Bachelor of Fine Arts - BFA

## School of Arts and Sciences



Offering two separate degrees in studio art, the BA and BFA, Ursuline College is able to satisfy the needs of the liberal arts studio major and the professional artist within a variety of concentrations: ceramics, drawing, metals, painting, and printmaking. In addition, specialized BA and BFA degree programs in Visual Communication Design prepare students for careers in computer-based design, while majors in art history explore visual art from the world over.

At Ursuline the study of art is grounded in personal values and the firm belief that artists have an obligation to use their voice to serve those who are marginalized and voiceless. Our department emphasizes art in service of social justice. At Ursuline, you'll put your visual voice to work supporting your values and vision – in your own artistic practice, in the rich liberal arts core curriculum, in upper-level coursework on art and advocacy, and when participating in service work and student organizations.

### Liberal Arts Core

Artists are intellectuals as well as skilled craftspeople. That is why a sound general education is a must for an artist to be successful, and this is precisely what the Ursuline Studies Program provides for our students. 49 credits of the total 128 credits of an Ursuline Baccalaureate degree come from the Ursuline Studies Program.

### Studio Foundation Studies

Studio Foundation Studies comprise a core of courses that offer the language, skills and critique that is common to all fields of the visual arts. At Ursuline, these elements are taught within the first levels of ceramics, drawing, metals, painting, printmaking and visual communication design. BFA students and BA Studio Art Majors take each foundation course for 4 credits. Art History and BA VCD majors take the 3 credit option.

#### Required Coursework

#### Studio Foundation Courses

AR 106 Design Foundations I	3/4
AR 206 Design Foundations II	3/4
AR 107 Drawing I	3/4
AR 108 Painting I	3/4
AR 114 Intro to Visual Communication Design	3/4
AR 115 Intro to Ceramics	3/4
AR 200 Metalcraft	3/4
AR 203 Intro to Printmaking	3/4

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TOTAL CREDITS 24/32

### Portfolio Review

With the completion of Studio Foundation Studies, majors in the studio arts and Visual Communication Design present a portfolio of their best work in order for the department to assess whether they are ready to declare candidacy in the BA or BFA degree.

### The BFA in Studio Art

The BFA in Studio Art offers six professional concentrations: Ceramics, Drawing, Metals, Painting, Printmaking and Visual Communication Design. All of the BFA studio concentrations focus intensively in studio work, rely on the skilled use of technology, and provide exposure to current artistic practices through contact with visiting artists, gallery visits, and the exploration of local art collections. The fourth year focuses on senior studio, professional practices and the role of advocacy in the arts to achieve social justice. Senior year culminates with a formal exhibition in the Florence O'Donnell Wasmer Gallery.

#### Required Coursework

Studio Foundation Studies	32
Art History	15
Studio Concentration	16
Studio Elective	4
AR 360 Professional Practice	4
AR 460 Art and Advocacy	3
AR 475 Studio Internship	1-3
AR 441, 442 Senior Studio	8

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TOTAL CREDITS 83/85

## The BA Studio Art Major

Requires 52 credit hours. Students complete Studio Foundation Studies, a concentration in one studio medium, three art history courses, a studio elective, professional practices and senior course exploring art and advocacy.

### Studio Arts Major

Studio Foundation Studies	52
Studio Art Elective	32
Art History	4
AR 360 Professional Practice	9
AR 460 Art and Advocacy	4
	3

## The BA Visual Communication Design Major

Requires 39 credit hours including select Studio Foundation Studies, at least one internship, skills-based courses focused on specific graphic design programs and equipment, and the preparation of a professional portfolio.

### Visual Communication Design Major

Studio Foundation Studies (AR 106, 107, 108, 114)	39
Visual Communication Design courses (at the 200-400 level)	12
AR 112 Digital Photography	15
PR 222 Introduction to Advertising	3
AR 475 Academic Internship	3
AR 474 Senior Project Portfolio	3

## The Art History Major

Requires 48 credit hours. Students complete 9 credits of Studio Foundation Studies, gain research proficiency in a foreign language, and take general survey and upper-level art history courses. After two preparatory courses during the junior year, Art History majors write a senior thesis. Art History majors flourish in a liberal arts college because the student is able to gain a broad base in history, religion and philosophy.

### Art History

Studio Foundation Studies (AR 106, 107, 108)	48
Foreign Language	9
7 Art History Courses (at least 6 credits at the 400 level)	6
AR 351 Reading Seminar	21
AR 362 Approaches to Art History	2
AR 490 Senior Thesis in Art History	3
Electives (from History, Philosophy, Religious Studies or Historic Preservation)	1
	6

## Internships and Work Experience

One internship experience is designed as a course in the Visual Communication Design major. Studio Art and Art History majors may also earn elective credits in their majors with internships. Our student interns install galleries, design web pages, teach others, assist in the preparation of ads and the presentation of slides.

## Minors in the Arts

### Studio Arts Minor

100-level Studio Foundation Studies (5)	24/31
300 or 400-level Studio Art Electives (2)	15/20
Art History	6/8
	3

### Visual Communication Design Minor

Studio Foundation Studies (AR 106, 114)	18
AR 210 Visual Communication Design I	6
AR 211 Visual Communication Design II	3
AR 300 Visual Communication Design III	3
AR 400 Advanced Visual Communication Design	3

### Art History Minor

5 Art History Courses (3 credits at the 400 level and 3 credits of non-western art)	18/19
Studio Arts Foundation Course or an additional Art History Course	15
	3/4

## Career Opportunities

Artists create new images and ideas by connecting with the world around them. Most of what we see or do employs the efforts of an artist. Not just paintings but teapots, airplanes, advertisements, camping equipment, laser light shows, product packaging, movie sets, animation, furniture, city parks, and even the car you drive were all designed or implemented by someone who had formal training in the visual arts. Artists can support themselves by teaching, through a career in industry, as well as by fashioning "objects of art."

The BFA in Studio Art is intended for those who wish to pursue a professional career in the arts. Most BFA graduates continue to graduate school for a Masters of Fine Arts before embarking on a career as a studio artist, teacher, or designer. The BA Studio Art major offers adequate preparation to begin a career as an artist or enter a graduate program in art education.

The BA in Visual Communication Design graduate can begin working in the field immediately or continue with graduate education. Recent graduates have gotten positions at employers such as printing companies, marketing firms, and local businesses.

The BA Art History major will have the knowledge and research skills needed for graduate study in the history of art, or to assist with museum work or arts administration. Art History is also an excellent foundation for those who desire professional or legal careers.

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