

School of Arts and Sciences

STUDIO ARTS

www.studioarts.pitt.edu

The practice of art is among the oldest and most fundamental forms of human expression. The Department of Studio Arts provides the opportunity for students to explore the visual arts through a program of studio courses designed to develop awareness of the formal and expressive means of creating art, enhance technical skills, expand critical thinking and evaluation capabilities, and probe the significance of making art in today's world.

The course offerings of the department are designed to address four goals: (a) to provide a BA degree program for art majors who desire a liberal education and who may want to prepare for graduate art school or pursue a career in an art-related field; (b) to provide a certified minor in studio arts requiring completion of the four foundation courses and one history of art and architecture course; (c) to provide a related area of study in studio arts for majors in other departments by taking the four foundation courses or by completing 12 credits in a specified studio area; and (d) to facilitate development of art-making skills and concepts through the foundation courses for all undergraduate students, while satisfying the School of Arts and Sciences creative expression requirement.

The Department of Studio Arts is located in the Henry Clay Frick Fine Arts Building, which it shares with the Department of History of Art and Architecture. Situated at the entrance to Schenley Park, the Frick Fine Arts Building houses the department's studio classrooms, several faculty studios, the Frick Fine Arts Library, and the University Art Gallery. Pittsburgh is home to several museums and art centers, including the Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History (which are next door to the Frick Fine Arts Building), the Andy Warhol Museum, the Mattress Factory (the only art center in America dedicated exclusively to installation art), the Frick Art Museum and Historical Center, the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, and the Pittsburgh Filmmakers Media Arts Center. In addition to these institutions, there are many private art and photography galleries in the city.

Requirements for the Studio Arts Major

To satisfy the studio arts major requirements, students must complete a sequence of nine required and three elective studio arts courses for a total of 36 credits. Students who plan to apply to master's programs in the visual arts after graduation are advised to earn more than the 36-credit minimum requirement. In addition to the studio requirements, majors also must complete a 13-credit art history area of related study by completing four courses offered by the Department of History of Art and Architecture. One of the four history of art and architecture (HA&A) courses must be designated as a W (writing) course that carries a one-credit writing recitation with it.

The department strongly recommends that a student take no more than two studio arts courses in one term.

Required Studio Arts Courses:

SA 0110 Foundation Design (3 credits)

Foundation Design is a survey of concepts, methods, and issues of design as a vehicle of visual organization, thought, and expression. The subject is explored through lectures, discussions, critiques, and the process of making images and objects.

SA 0120 Foundation Painting (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to oil painting that emphasizes color mixing, painting techniques, and composition. The purpose of the course is to promote sensitivity to color interaction, advance technical and compositional skills, and provide a basis for creative growth and expression.



SA 0130 Foundation Drawing (3 credits)

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the art of drawing. The course work follows a sequence of studies that introduces basic drawing techniques, media, and composition through observation and analysis of natural and manufactured forms. The course culminates with an introduction to the human figure.

SA 0140 Foundation Sculpture (3 credits)

This broadly based course is an introduction to the expressive potential of modeled and constructed form. A variety of sculpture techniques and materials are used to develop skills and provide a basis for creative development aimed at gaining sensitivity in the composition, observation, and analysis of sculptural form.

SA 1230 Drawing (3 credits)

This course explores in greater depth the drawing techniques, media, and methods of composition that were introduced in SA 0130, with emphasis on the human form.

SA 1240 Sculpture (3 credits)

A continuation of SA 0140, this course examines in greater depth techniques and materials associated with plaster casting and wood construction with an introduction in welded steel. Students will explore concepts and issues relating to the significant developments of modern and contemporary sculpture with opportunities for creative growth and development and will propose and create a self-directed final project.

SA 1250 Painting (3 credits)

This course is a comprehensive exploration of painting techniques and concepts designed to expand awareness of the craft of painting and to expose students to issues relevant to contemporary painting. Students have the option to work with either oil or acrylic paints. The course concludes with the development of a self-directed painting project.

SA 1270 Digital Imaging (3 credits)

This is an introductory course in the use of the computer as an art-making medium. The course introduces students to digital software and techniques, image manipulation, digital design and compositional methods, and the use of digital tools as a vehicle of creative expression.

SA 1260 Print-Etching (3 credits)

Basic relief printmaking techniques are explored through the use of chipboard dry point, linoleum cut, zinc plate line etching, and aquatint. Basic photo etching also is explored. Students are required to execute prints in each technique and to print limited editions of each individual work.

Three courses selected from SA 1330–1900 (these courses are offered periodically):

- SA 1330 Drawing
- SA 1340 Sculpture
- SA 1350 Painting
- SA 1365 Print-Screenprinting
- SA 1370 Preparation and Practice in Visual Arts
- SA 1420 Color
- SA 1430 Perspective Drawing
- SA 1440 Sculpture Portrait
- SA 1450 Painting-Figure Portrait
- SA 1455 Painting: Landscape
- SA 1530 Directed Study: Drawing
- SA 1540 Directed Study: Sculpture
- SA 1550 Directed Study: Painting
- SA 1560 Directed Study: Printmaking
- SA 1570 Directed Study: Electronic Media
- SA 1900 Internship

Notes:

- SA 1455 Painting Landscape and 1440 Sculpture Portrait are normally offered during the first six-week summer session from early May to mid-June.
- Thirty studio arts credits must be completed before taking a Directed Study course. Enrollment in Directed Study courses is limited by permission only. Students who wish to pursue a Directed Study must submit a proposal to the sponsoring faculty for approval.

- Thirty studio arts credits must be completed before taking SA 1900 Internship. A maximum of three studio arts internship credits may be applied toward the 36-credit studio arts major. Students are permitted to take additional studio arts internship credits beyond the three-credit maximum after completing their 36-credit major.
- Graduating seniors are required to exhibit their work in the SA annual student exhibition in the University Art Gallery.

The 13-Credit Art History Requirement for the Major

This four-course requirement must include HA&A 0010 Introduction to Art and HA&A 0030 Introduction to Modern Art. One of the four HA&A courses must be accompanied by a one-credit writing recitation. The studio arts department recommends that one of the two HA&A elective courses be a non-western HA&A course.

Requirements for the Studio Arts Minor

The studio arts minor requires completion of the four foundation courses and any three-credit history of art and architecture course for a total of 15 credits.

Required Studio Arts Foundation Courses for the Minor:

- SA 0110 Foundation Design
- SA 0120 Foundation Painting
- SA 0130 Foundation Drawing
- SA 0140 Foundation Sculpture

Courses for Non-Majors

Studio arts foundation courses carry no prerequisites and are open to nonart majors. Non-majors may take advanced courses when offered, but only if they have fulfilled the prerequisites, or by departmental permission.

Departmental Honors

Students who earn a 3.50 quality point average (QPA) in the major and an overall 3.25 QPA will receive departmental honors.

Advanced Standing Credits

As stated in the *Undergraduate Bulletin*, each school determines whether and under what circumstances the advanced standing credits will be awarded toward a University of Pittsburgh degree or certificate offered by the school.

Transfer Credit

Credit may be earned at other accredited institutions and accepted for transfer to the University of Pittsburgh, subject to a school's requirements. No more than 18 studio transfer credits will be applied toward the 36-credit studio arts major.

Advanced Placement

Students who score a 4 or 5 on Advanced Placement tests AZAP Studio Art (2D) or ADAP Studio Art (Drawing) may receive credit toward the major in SA 0110 Foundation Design or SA 0130 Foundation Drawing. Students who score a 4 or 5 on both exams may receive credit for only one course in the Studio Arts Department while the other course can count towards their overall 120 credits.

For more information, contact:

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 School of Arts and Sciences
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Special Programs and Opportunities

PITT ARTS

Pittsburgh is a city that enjoys a rich cultural diversity; however, to most people this aspect of the city is hidden, and the University of Pittsburgh wants to make sure all undergraduates can take advantage of the cultural activities of Pittsburgh. The PITT ARTS program provides ready access to Pittsburgh's many cultural institutions. PITT ARTS arranges free admission, and often transportation, to attend ballets, plays, and operas downtown; to visit area art galleries and museums; and to enjoy a wide variety of cultural programming on campus. Examples of PITT ARTS activities include art fairs, independent film screenings at the Harris Theater, Residence Hall Cinema, and free admission to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Since Oakland will

most likely be the center of your city experience, the University of Pittsburgh has made special arrangements for you to enjoy the amenities this community offers, such as the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, and Carnegie Museums. All students can visit free of charge as often as they wish, simply by showing their ID cards.

Internships

Having an internship can be one of the most enlightening and productive aspects of an undergraduate education. It not only gives you a closer look at working in a particular field but also can help you gain a competitive edge, make contacts in the marketplace, and earn credits towards a degree. Pittsburgh is an exciting place for internship opportunities, as it is internationally known as a renowned center for health care and groundbreaking medical research; home to many corporate headquarters; and a city with a wealth of cultural and entertainment activities, including the Carnegie system of museums. Internships are not limited to Pittsburgh, however. Every year, students complete internships in cities such as Philadelphia, Pa; Washington, D.C.; New York, N.Y.; and their own hometowns. Studio arts majors may take internships through the studio arts department for credit toward their major (30 studio arts credits must be completed to qualify). For art majors who have not met the department's internship 30-credit requirement, internships may be taken for non-studio arts credit through the Arts and Sciences Office of Experiential Learning (credits earned from these internships are applied to the 120-credit degree total).

Study Abroad

Studying abroad is an exciting way to add an international perspective to your undergraduate education and strengthen your credentials as a graduate. The University of Pittsburgh encourages you to take advantage of this opportunity (almost 5 percent of Pitt students study abroad compared with 1.3 percent, nationally). Study abroad will not only distinguish you when you enter the job market or pursue graduate study, but also help broaden your experience of the world beyond your own country's borders, giving you an appreciation of other cultures and peoples while allowing you to earn credits toward your degree. Scholarships are available, and financial aid is applicable.

The SACI Art School of Florence, Italy, has been of particular interest to many studio arts majors:

SACI was founded in 1975 to create a complete program in Florence for students seeking excellence in studio arts and liberal arts instruction at the United States university level. In 1999, after 24 years of activity and growth, SACI had the extraordinary good fortune to acquire as its permanent home the Palazzo dei Cartelloni, a Renaissance building right in the center of Florence. This advantageous location provides highly dynamic surroundings for art education. SACI provides a stimulating educational experience that draws upon the rich cultural resources of both past and present Italy. The inspiring and well-equipped facilities of the palazzo and separate Graduate Center are located a few steps from Michelangelo's Medici Chapel, the Laurentian Library, the Duomo, the church of Santa Maria Novella, and the bustling activity of Florence's central market.