

Fine Arts

The Art and Design program offers courses that provide students with the technical and aesthetic instruction necessary for visual expression of all types. An environment conducive to the student's total involvement as a developing artist is provided with offerings in art history and appreciation, studio work in fine arts and graphic design, and art education. A Fine Arts major prepares students for careers involving the visual arts or further study in graduate or professional schools.

The program maintains studios for sculpture, ceramics, drawing, painting, textiles and printmaking. Photographic darkrooms, and a Macintosh computer lab, with 16 networked machines, support the program. The Janalyn Hanson White Art Gallery schedules professional exhibitions and visiting artists throughout the year.

Transfer students in Fine Arts may be asked to submit a portfolio of work to the chairperson to identify students' best placement in Art and Design classes.

Students in any of the Art and Design majors build the appropriate and necessary skills to: verbally articulate analysis of artworks; think visually and creatively; and present their art and design work in a professional manner.

Career Opportunities

Professional artist; basis for graduate work in visual arts; preparation for work in museums and educational agencies, media, publications and various businesses; government or public agencies requiring people with cultural knowledge. Internships prepare students for employment.

Sophomore/Transfer Student Portfolio Review

By the end of the sophomore year or the end of a transfer student's first year at Mount Mercy, Fine Arts majors are required to have a portfolio review to check progress and be advised on continuing in the Art & Design Program. The portfolio will be the major consideration, but the grade point average in art courses and the grade point average in all courses also will be reviewed. By the end of the sophomore year all Art/Design-related majors should have taken the five basic art curriculum courses: AR 102 Drawing I, AR 103 Design, and at least two other studio or graphic design courses. This will give students an opportunity to assemble a varied portfolio for review.

Admission to the Internship

Internships for Fine Arts majors are not required but if a student is interested in pursuing one, she/he should apply for it in the winter preceding the internship desired. Deadline dates will be posted. Students should meet the requirements for the internship before making application. Application forms are available from the Art and Design faculty, who make the admission to the internship decision. Acceptance into the internship is based on the following:

1. The minimal admission prerequisite requires completion of the foundational Art & Design courses: AR 102 Drawing I, AR 103 Design, AR 141 Painting I, AR 151 Printmaking I and AR 171 Sculpture I with grades of no less than C (2.00) with a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.00.
2. An internship in Fine Arts or Arts Management requires that in addition to the minimal admission prerequisites AR 202 Drawing II, AR 212 Art History I, AR 213 Art History II and one other art history course be completed or taken concurrently with the internship with grades of no less than C (2.00) with a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.00.
3. A brief summary stating why the student wishes to participate in the internship.
4. Possession of personal qualities considered necessary for a successful art professional including personal and professional integrity; a demonstrated ability to organize work and to work under the pressure of deadlines; craftsmanship in producing artwork; creativity; assertiveness; clarity in speaking, writing, and accurate spelling; and a willingness to cooperate with others and to accept the benefit from criticism.
5. Presentation of a professional quality portfolio that includes art work relative to the internship is desired.

Decisions of Art and Design shall be transmitted to the applicants and to other appropriate persons at Mount Mercy promptly and in writing.

Students whose applications are refused may discuss the matter with the Art and Design Program Coordinator. Further recourse may be had by contacting the Chair of the Department of Communication, Literature and the Arts.

Major in Fine Arts

AR 102	Drawing I	3
AR 103	Design	3
AR 141	Painting I	3
AR 151	Printmaking I	3
Select one of the following:		3
AR 109	New Genres	
AR 161	Beginning Ceramics	
AR 181	Fiber Arts	
AR 171	Sculpture I	3
AR 202	Drawing II	3
AR 212	Art History 1	3
AR 213	Art History II	3
AR 216	History Of Non-Western Art	3
or AR 315	Contemporary Art and Theory	
AR 410	Senior Thesis Preparation	1
AR 415	Senior Thesis & Exhibit	3
Select one of the following:		3
AR 106	Photography I (Introduction)	
AR 109	New Genres	
AR 181	Fiber Arts	
AR 295	Survey Of Mexican Culture Today	
AR 109	New Genres ¹	

AR 181	Fiber Arts ¹
Total Hours	37

¹ Cannot count in two categories.

All Art majors should elect AR 101 Introduction To Art for their core curriculum fine arts requirement. Fine Arts students are required to select an area of emphasis in two- or three-dimensional studio art. This is done by electing to take three additional courses in either 2-D or 3-D classes. These should be upper-level courses. For example, a student with a 2-D emphasis might elect to take Printmaking II, Photography II and Independent Study in Drawing. Other recommended courses for Fine Art are BK 208 Principles Of Marketing Principles of Marketing; BK 305 Professional Selling Personal Selling; or additional History and Art History courses for students interested in museum work and graduate school.

Academic Requirements

All Fine Arts majors must earn a grade of C- and above in all required courses for the major, including two- and three-dimensional emphasis areas.