

STUDIO ART, BFA: SINGLE DISCIPLINE FOCUS

Overview

Our Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art program is a pre-professional degree focusing on studio practice and research, preparing you to become successful studio practitioners and professionals in the arts. From the First Year Program coursework through the senior capstone project, you are encouraged to explore a wide variety of studio practice.

During your sophomore year, you'll choose between the two BFA Studio Art degree plans: Single Discipline Focus and Dual Discipline Focus.

The Single Discipline Focus curriculum is for students who wish to develop their studio research in one studio discipline. Single Discipline students can choose from the following studio media for their focus: Jewelry & Metalsmithing, Painting & Drawing, Photography & Imaging, Printmaking & Book Arts, or Sculpture.

Request Info (<https://uwm.edu/arts/request-information/>) | Visit (<https://uwm.edu/arts/visit/>) | Apply (<https://uwm.edu/arts/apply/>)

Faculty and Staff

Our inspirational faculty and staff make sure students feel welcome and empowered to think outside the box and explore all possibilities of making art at UWM. Visit the Peck School of the Arts directory (<https://uwm.edu/arts/directory/>) to meet these artists, explore their biographies and engage with recent work.

Scholarships and Aid

Financial constraints shouldn't hinder your artistic dreams. Our comprehensive range of scholarships and aid programs (<https://uwm.edu/arts/students/scholarships-aid/>) is designed to empower and support artists like you.

Study Abroad

We believe that a complete education in the arts should take you beyond the classroom and the local community. By studying abroad, you'll gain more than a change of scenery. You'll embark on a transformative educational experience and bring a global perspective to your field of study. Explore upcoming trips (<https://uwmilwaukee.studioabroad.com/?FuseAction=Programs.AdvancedSearch>) offered in partnership with the Center for International Education.

Requirements

Credit Overview

Code	Title	Credits
	General Education Requirements (p. 1)	30
	Arts Requirements (p. 2)	15
	First Year Program (p. 2)	15
	BFA Introductory Studio Requirements (p. 2)	12
	Major Requirements (p. 2)	42
	Senior Capstone (p. 3)	9
Total Credits		123

Preparatory Coursework

Based on individual placement results, some students may be required to complete preparatory coursework before enrolling in the courses listed here. This may include English language or composition preparation, developmental math, introductory chemistry, and/or student support courses for students participating in the First Year Bridge program.

General Education Requirements (GER)

UW-Milwaukee has General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext>) that must be met in order to earn a bachelor's or associate degree. They include at minimum 30 credits (10 courses) in six categories that are designed to assure basic student competencies and provide a broad body of knowledge as a context for specialization.

Some degree requirements may fulfill GERs. Please review the requirements and consult with your academic advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Categories and Credits		
	Civics and Perspectives (CP)	6
	Communication and Literacy (CL)	6
	Humanities and Arts (HA)	6
	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (MQR)	3
	Natural Science and Wellness (NSW/NSWL)	6
	Social and Behavioral Science (SBS)	3
Total Credits		30

Admission Requirements

Undergraduate applicants must meet general University admission requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/admission-costs/undergraduate-admission/>) in addition to specific Peck School of the Arts requirements (<https://uwm.edu/arts/apply/>).

Advance to Major and Retention

Students accepted into the Art & Design program receive priority registration over non-art majors. To advance to the major students must complete the following requirements within the first 45 credits:

1. Complete First Year Program courses.
2. Complete general degree requirements.
3. Maintain a 2.5+ cumulative GPA.
4. Students pursuing a BFA in Design & Visual Communication (DVC) have additional requirements: complete ART 124 (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=ART%20124>) with a grade of C or better, and ART 221 (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=ART%20221>) and ART 223 (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/search/?P=ART%20223>) with a grade of B- or better, and pass the DVC portfolio review.

Enrollment Management

To maintain the highest quality of service to students, Art & Design programs or studios may select their own enrollment management mechanisms. These may include portfolio review, gateway courses, registration prioritizing (ex: majors only), higher GPA for the area of concentration, or others as appropriate. Students who successfully matriculate as BFA degree candidates should familiarize themselves with area requirements and discuss them with area faculty to ensure comprehension.

Credits and Courses

Arts Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Art and Design History		
ARTHIST 101	Ancient and Medieval Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 102	Renaissance to Modern Art and Architecture	3
ART 209	Issues in Contemporary Art:	3
ART 509	Art & Design Seminar:	3
Choose one of the following:		3
ART 124	Design Survey	
ART 152	Photography Survey	
Any ARTHIST course above 102		
Total Credits		15

First Year Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
2.5 cumulative GPA required:		
ART 101	Drawing I	3
ART 106	Art Survey: Creative Practice, Culture and Context	3
ART 108	2D Studio: Concept, Color and Composition	3
ART 109	3D Studio: Form, Idea and Technique	3
ART 118	Digital Arts: Culture, Theory, Practice	3
Total Credits		15

BFA Introductory Studio Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
200 Level Introductory Studio Electives ¹		
Select 12 credits of the following:		12
ART 201	Drawing II ²	
ART 212	Introduction to Creative Technologies: Computer Games and Interactive Art ^{3,4}	
ART 218	Moving Images and Sound in Art & Design ⁴	
ART 221	Introduction to Design ^{2,4}	
ART 223	Introduction to Typography ^{2,4}	
ART 231	Introduction to Fibers ³	
ART 243	Introduction to Painting ²	
ART 253	Introduction to Photography ^{2,4}	
ART 261	Introduction to Sculpture ³	
ART 271	Introduction to Jewelry and Metalsmithing ³	
ART 277	Introduction to Digital Fabrication ^{2,3,4}	
ART 278	Introduction to Making for Digital Fabrication ^{2,3,4}	
ART 281	Introduction to Ceramics ³	
ART 291	Introduction to Printmaking & Book Arts ^{2,4}	
Total Credits		12

¹ Complete 12 credits total, with 3 credits in a 2D-focused course, 3 credits in a 3D-focused course, and 3 credits in a digitally-focused course.

² Counts as a 2D-focused course.

³ Counts as a 3D-focused course.

⁴ Counts as a digitally-focused course.

Major Requirements

Studio Concentration: Choose Option 1 or Option 2

Option 1: Single Discipline Focus¹

Code	Title	Credits
Primary Focus		18
Minimum of 18 credits taken at the 300+ level in Art and Design from one of the listed disciplines. (See the studio discipline list for Single Discipline media options.) ²		
Art and Design Electives		24
Any course offered in Art and Design at the 200+ level. A minimum of 12 credits must be taken at the 300+ level.		
Total Credits		42

¹ Note: If a listed discipline does not offer enough courses to fulfill the 18 credit hour requirement for a single discipline focus then the student must choose Option 2.

² The following courses may not count towards the student's Primary Focus (18 credits): ART 209, ART 501, ART 509, ART 601, and ART 604. A full list of eligible courses will be available each semester.

Single Discipline Focus Studio Disciplines

- Jewelry/Metalsmithing
- Painting/Drawing
- Photography/Imaging
- Printmaking/Book Arts
- Sculpture

Option 2: Dual-Discipline Focus

Code	Title	Credits
Primary Focus		12
Minimum of 12 credits taken at the 300+ level in Art and Design from one of the listed disciplines. (See the studio discipline list for Dual-Discipline primary focus media options.) ¹		
Secondary Focus		9
Minimum of 9 credits taken at the 300+ level in Art and Design from one of the listed disciplines. (See the studio discipline list for Dual-Discipline secondary focus media options.) ¹		
Art and Design Electives		21
Any course offered in Art and Design at the 200+ level. A minimum of 12 credits must be taken at the 300+ level.		
Total Credits		42

¹ The following courses may not count towards the student's Primary or Secondary Foci in the Dual Focus option (18 credits): ART 209, ART 501, ART 509, ART 601, and ART 604. A full list of eligible courses will be available each semester.

Dual Discipline Focus (Primary) Studio Disciplines

- Ceramics
- Creative Technologies

- Digital Fabrication
- Fibers
- Jewelry/Metalsmithing
- Painting/Drawing
- Photography/Imaging
- Printmaking/Book Arts
- Sculpture

Dual Discipline Focus (Secondary) Studio Disciplines

- Ceramics
- Creative Technologies
- Design
- Digital Fabrication
- Fibers
- Jewelry/Metalsmithing
- Painting/Drawing
- Photography/Imaging
- Printmaking/Book Arts
- Sculpture

Senior Capstone

Code	Title	Credits
ART 501	Studio Research, Practice, and Portfolio	3
ART 601	BFA Project and Exhibition	3
ART 604	Professional Practices	3
Total Credits		9

Undergraduate Advising

Academic advising is a collaborative process that empowers students to realize their maximum educational potential. Students are encouraged to visit the Peck School of the Arts Advising & Student Services page (<https://uwm.edu/arts/students/advising/>) to meet with your advisor prior to each semester’s registration period. Advisors provide students with individualized appointments to assist with degree requirements, course selection, campus resources, college success strategies, graduation assessment, academic policies and more.

Sample Plan of Study

Year 1		Credits
Fall		
(Includes Communication & Literacy and Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning GER courses.) Students must be aware of the prerequisites for the 200-level course they wish to take in the second semester of the First Year and enroll in the appropriate First Year Program courses in fall.		
ART 101	Drawing I	3
ART 106	Art Survey: Creative Practice, Culture and Context ¹	3
ART 108 or ART 109	2D Studio: Concept, Color and Composition or 3D Studio: Form, Idea and Technique	3
Communication and Literacy GER		3
GER ²		3
Credits		15
Spring		
ART 109 or ART 108	3D Studio: Form, Idea and Technique or 2D Studio: Concept, Color and Composition	3
ART 118	Digital Arts: Culture, Theory, Practice ¹	3
200-level studio in Art ⁴		3
ARTHIST 101	Ancient and Medieval Art and Architecture ¹	3
Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning GER		3
Credits		15

Year 2		Credits
Fall		
Students are reminded that all First Year Program courses must be completed in the first 45 credits (usually in Fall semester of sophomore year).		
200-level studio in Art ⁴		3
200-level studio in Art ⁴		3
Art & Design Elective		3
ART 209	Issues in Contemporary Art: (Art & Design Lecture Series) ¹	3
Art and Design History Choice ¹		3
ART 124	Design Survey	
ART 152	Photography Survey	
or any Art History course above ARTHIST 102		
Credits		15

Year 3		Credits
Spring		
Sophomore Proficiency Review: All sophomores are required to participate in the Sophomore Proficiency Review after accumulating 30-60 credits. The review is designed to serve as an advisement opportunity to provide students direction as to how they might proceed through the program. Upon completing the review, students will plan their coursework within their chosen studio pathway.		
300-level and above Studio Focus ⁵		3
200-level studio in Art ⁴		3
ARTHIST 102	Renaissance to Modern Art and Architecture ¹	3
Art & Design Elective		3
Communication and Literacy GER		3
Credits		15

Year 3		Credits
Fall		
300-level and above Studio Focus ⁵		3
300-level and above Studio Focus ⁵		3
Art & Design Elective		3
GER ²		3
ART 509	Art & Design Seminar.	3
Credits		15
Spring		
300-level and above Studio Focus ⁵		3
Art & Design Elective		3
Art & Design Elective		3
GER ²		3
GER ²		3
Credits		15

Year 4		Credits
Fall		
Students are encouraged to choose a 300-level and above Studio Focus course for their final semester that will support their Capstone.		
300-level and above Studio Focus ⁵		3
Select one of following based on your degree:		3
Art & Design Elective (Single Focus BFA)		
300-level and above Studio Focus (Dual Focus BFA)		
ART 501	Studio Research, Practice, and Portfolio	3
ART 604	Professional Practices	3
GER ²		3
Any course needed to fulfill requirements for GER or 120 credit BFA minimum ³		3
Credits		18

Year 4		Credits
Spring		
Students are encouraged to choose a 300-level and above Studio Focus course for their final semester that will support their Capstone.		
300-level and above Studio Focus ⁵		3
ART 601	BFA Project and Exhibition	3
Art & Design Elective		3
Art & Design Elective		3

Any course needed to fulfill requirements for GER or 120 credit BFA minimum ³	3
Credits	15
Total Credits	123

- ¹ Any of these courses are eligible to count for the two courses in Humanities and Arts category of GERs if those GERs are not already satisfied.
- ² Social and Behavioral Science, Natural Science and Wellness, or Civics and Perspectives.
- ³ Students who use program requirements for the GER courses may take electives to fulfill the 120 credit minimum for a BFA degree, as long as all program requirements are satisfied.
- ⁴ Four 200-level Art Studio Electives are required; one 2D-focused, one 3D-focused, one Digital-focused, and the last from another 2D, 3D, or Digital area.
- ⁵ Students in the Single Focus BFA must choose 18 credits of 300-level Art Studio courses in their focus area. Students in the Dual Focus BFA must choose 12 credits of 300-level Art Studio courses in their Primary Focus area and 9 credits of 300-level Art Studios in their Secondary Focus area.

Studio Art, BFA Learning Outcomes

Students graduating with the BFA in Studio Art from the Art & Design Department will be able to:

- Apply technical expertise and proficiency of craft in handling tools and materials from multiple disciplines, with fluency in at least one medium.
- Produce a focused body of creative works that demonstrate consistency and cohesiveness.
- Communicate concepts and intentions through studio works, and in written and oral forms.
- Synthesize skills specific to the broader context of contemporary art practice through critical and creative thinking and research.
- Analyze historical and contemporary artistic influences through critique and creative practice.
- Employ professional practices in the field with familiarity and confidence.

Policies and Regulations

Academic Regulations

For information on University-wide Academic Action Policy and honors for scholarship, see Academic Policies (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/>).

Auditing Courses

No studio or performance courses may be audited.

Grievance and Appeal Procedures

If you have concerns about a class or a grade, or if you've been dropped from a program and would like to appeal, follow the grievance procedures found under the resources section on the Peck School of the Arts Advising & Student Services page (<https://uwm.edu/arts/students/advising/#FAQs>).

Independent Study

Under special conditions, juniors and seniors are permitted to take courses in independent study. For regulations on independent study, see the departmental advisor.

Program Changes

All program changes must be signed by the instructor and the Peck School of the Arts Office of Student Services. Certain other courses may also require this approval indicated in the semester's *Schedule of Classes*.

Second Bachelor's Degree Candidates

Students with good scholastic records who wish to earn a second bachelor's degree in the Peck School of the Arts must obtain the recommendation of the Peck School of the Arts department in which they wish to major before they can be accepted. Upon acceptance, students must earn in residence a minimum of 30 credits beyond the studies for the first degree and must satisfy all curriculum requirements.

Semester Credit Load

A full-time Peck School of the Arts student is one who takes a minimum of 12 credits per semester. Typically, Peck School of the Arts students are not permitted to carry more than 18 credits per semester. Students who have a 3.0+ cumulative GPA may, with the permission of the Peck School of the Arts Office of Student Services, carry up to 21 credits per semester.

Transfer Students

Transfer students from other universities and colleges or UWM units are accepted by the Peck School of the Arts provided they meet the UWM admissions criteria and have a 2.0+ cumulative GPA.

Honors in the Major

- **Honors in the Major** is granted to students who have earned a GPA of 3.500 or greater in the major and the academic department's recommendation.
- **High Honors in the Major** is granted to students who have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or greater and the academic department's recommendation.
- **Departmental Honors** are granted to students recommended by their academic department for Honors excellence in performance not reflected in the GPA.
- **Dean's Honors** are granted to students with major achievements in one or more of the arts.

College of the Arts and Architecture Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/honors-college/>) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive

all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

Contact

Advising & Student Services
Theatre Building Room 120

uwm.edu/arts/contact/ (<https://uwm.edu/arts/contact/>)