

ART + DESIGN

The Department of Art + Design, which is housed in the College of Visual and Performing Arts, is committed to preparing students for a career in art, specifically in studio art and graphic + interactive design. Students are provided with a broad exposure to artistic media in foundation-level courses before they undertake more advanced courses in a chosen specialization.

The Department of Art + Design offers a four-year bachelor of fine arts degree in studio art, with professional concentrations in graphic + interactive design, painting/drawing, sculpture/crafts, or general studio, as well as minors in studio art and art history. In addition to its majors and minors, the department serves the University population at large by providing service courses to fulfill general education requirements and elective courses in studio art and art history. In the larger community the department serves as a professional resource for schools, art centers, and museums.

Our faculty are active professionals who practice in their fields while they teach. They are interested in challenging students and expending their energy and efforts well beyond the walls of the state-of-the-art new studios and classrooms. They provide intensive and individualized instruction to prepare the artist/designer for work at the professional level. The fine arts building, E.O. Bull Center for the Arts, provides a setting conducive to creative endeavors. The art galleries present an ever-changing exhibition of work from all areas of the visual arts. The BFA Exhibition is always a highlight of the exhibition season.

Undergraduate Degrees

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art with concentrations in :

Graphic + Interactive Design
Drawing/Painting
Sculpture/Crafts

The B.F.A. program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). The bachelor of fine arts degree is regarded as the initial professional degree in art by the NASAD. Its primary emphasis is on the development of skills, concepts, and sensitivities important to the professional artist.

Minors

Art History
Studio Art

Special Study Opportunities

The Department of Art + Design offers students other learning opportunities that enrich the program outside the classroom. Internships provide practical experience in a field of study. Gallery internships give students the experience of working with professional artists and installing exhibitions in the department galleries. Graphic + interactive design internship students work with professional designers in fields such as print and web design at a design studio, advertising agency or corporate design office. Specialized internships relating to studio art and art history also are offered. In the summer visual arts camp, students experience teaching art to young students. In addition, study abroad courses also are available during winter and summer sessions, providing students with the opportunity to travel and study art in Europe, Asia, and Central/South America.

Typical Courses

2-D and 3-D Design
18th/19th Century Art
Ancient Art
Art history survey courses
Ceramics
Digital Photography
Global Art and Culture
Graphic Design
History of Modern Design
Visual Branding
Interactive Design
Life Drawing
Modern Art Seminar
Non-Western Art
Painting
Printmaking
Renaissance/Baroque Art
Sculpture
Typography
Women Artists

Learn More

UNDERGRADUATE FACT SHEET

Facilities

The Department of Art + Design is located in the E.O. Bull Center for the Arts (renovated in 2011). Our new facilities provide a state-of-the-art setting conducive to creative endeavors. Three digital labs are available for graphic design, interactive web design, and digital photography. Ceramics and sculpture have large studio spaces to give students the room they need to fully explore their artistic talents. The building includes two drawing studios, a painting studio, and separate facilities for printmaking and three-dimensional design. The art history lecture hall has state-of-the-art digital and interactive video technologies. Our two art galleries present a wide range of temporary exhibitions of local, national, and international artists.

Related Student Activities

Throughout their time at West Chester University, our art students are encouraged to explore art on a regional, national, and international level. During the academic year, art majors can participate in fully funded museum trips to see art exhibitions in Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.

Student-run organizations include the following:

American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA), the professional association for design. The WCU student chapter of this national organization arranges activities for its members to stimulate interest and understanding of graphic design by attending lectures and participating in student exhibitions, competitions, and field trips to area design firms.

Art Club. Typical meetings center around activities the students are interested in pursuing over the academic year, upcoming art events in the department and the surrounding community, and information on service opportunities. Guest artists and workshops also are part of the activities.

Print Club. Print Club is open to all art majors who have completed or are currently enrolled in a printmaking course. This department organization serves as an extracurricular arts organization for the sponsorship of student or guest exhibitions, gallery demonstrations, group gallery trips, and visiting artist lectures.

Department of Art + Design Facebook. The WCU Department of Art + Design Facebook Group page (WCU Art + Design

Department) disseminates information on events and activities of interest to art students, alumni, and faculty, such as art exhibit openings, museum trips, scholarships, and guest lectures. The facebook page also provides a digital venue to showcase the artistic work and activities of WCU student artists.

Faculty

The Department of Art + Design embraces a teacher-scholar approach by faculty bringing their scholarship into teaching and their students into scholarship. All faculty are practicing, professional artists and art historians who are actively engaged in creating and exhibiting art and scholarly research within their disciplines. The faculty consists of 13 full-time professors, all of whom have terminal degrees in their field (master of fine arts or Ph.D.'s), and a smaller number of adjunct instructors. A listing of the faculty and their work can be found on the Department of Art + Design website, <http://www.wcupa.edu/cvpa/art/>.

For More Information

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Undergraduate Catalog: http://www.wcupa.edu/_information/official.documents/undergrad.catalog

Information on Admission

Office of Admissions

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