

ART, BA: STUDIO ARTS

The Bachelor of Arts degree offers students a studio art experience to complement a broad exposure to the humanities, fine arts, social sciences, and natural sciences. Bachelor of Arts (Art) students have two course tracks to choose from: Studio Arts and Community Arts.

Students in the Studio Arts track augment their studio research with 9 credits of Academic Focus coursework in a single academic discipline as well as 21 credits of Directed Electives which can be taken as studio or academic courses. In their final two semesters, Studio Arts BA students develop and execute a self-directed BA Project which is the culmination of their studio and academic research.

The courses required and recommended for this track are listed on the "Requirements" tab. The "Plan of Study" tab suggests course sequencing across all four years so students can meet the degree requirements.

Requirements

Laptop Requirement

Preparing for a future defined by digital technology is an important step in developing artists. Our digitally integrated curriculum helps you achieve a professional level with leading art-related software and practices.

Laptop ownership is strongly recommended for *all* undergraduates. However, it's required for the programs below. For more information please visit the Peck School of the Arts admission page (<https://uwm.edu/arts/apply/>).

- Art & Design (BA and BFA Programs)
- Dance (BA and BFA Programs)
- Film, Video, Animation & New Genres (BA and BFA Programs)
- Music (Composition & Technology Program)
- Theatre (BFA Production and BA Theatre Education Programs)

Credit Overview

Code	Title	Credits
	University Core (p. 1)	45
	First Year Program (p. 1)	15
	BA Degree Requirements (p. 1)	9
	Major Requirements (p. 1)	51
	Total Credits	120

University Core

The minimum number of credits required to complete the Bachelor of Arts is 120; the minimum number of credits required to complete the Bachelor of Fine Arts is 123. Students who need background preparation courses in math, English, and foreign language may need additional credits.

Code	Title	Credits
	General Education Requirements ¹	
	<i>Competencies</i> ¹	
	English Parts A & B ²	
	Math Parts A & B ²	
	Foreign Language ²	
	<i>Distribution Requirements</i> ¹	

ARTHIST 101	Ancient and Medieval Art and Architecture (counts as Humanities GER)	3
ARTHIST 102	Renaissance to Modern Art and Architecture (counts as Humanities GER)	3
	Social Science	6
	Natural Science (1 course with lab)	6
	Cultural Diversity ²	
	Electives	
	General Electives outside PSOA	9
	<i>Art & Design History</i>	
ART 509	Art & Design Seminar.	3
	Select one of the following:	3
ART 124	Design Survey	
ART 152	Photography Survey	
	Advanced Art History Course ³	
	Select 3 areas in PSOA outside Art & Design ⁴	9
	<i>Art in PSOA</i>	
ART 309	Issues in Contemporary Art:	3
	Total Credits	45

¹ Learn more about the General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext>).

² Credit may be utilized in required curriculum areas.

³ Any Art History course above ARTHIST 102

⁴ In 3 different Art areas: Dance, Film, Music, Theatre

First Year Program

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

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
	BA Capstone	
ART 501	Studio Research, Practice, and Portfolio	3
ART 505	BA Project	3
ART 604	Professional Practices	3
	Total Credits	9

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
	Introductory Studios	
	Select 9 credits of the following:	9

ART 201	Drawing II
ART 212	Creative Technologies
ART 218	Moving Images and Sound in Art & Design
ART 221	Introduction to Design
ART 223	Introduction to Typography
ART 231	Introduction to Fibers
ART 243	Introduction to Painting
ART 253	Introduction to Photography
ART 261	Introduction to Sculpture
ART 271	Introduction to Jewelry and Metalsmithing
ART 277	Design for Digital Fabrication
ART 278	Introduction to Industrial Craft
ART 281	Introduction to Ceramics
ART 291	Introduction to Print and Narrative Forms

Studio Focus

Select 12 credits from ART 300+ approved studio courses chosen in consultation with advisor ¹ 12

Academic Focus

Select 9 credits within same department outside of Art & Design ² 9

Directed Electives

Select 21 credits from Peck School of the Arts or the University ³ 21

Total Credits 51

¹ Students with an interest in a specific studio discipline are encouraged to discuss curricular pathways with their academic advisor.

² Students must choose three academic courses (9 credits) within the same department outside of Art & Design to serve as their academic focus. This academic focus is intended to help inform their BA Project research. BA students are encouraged to consider completing a relevant Minor or Certificate program using Academic Focus and Directed Elective credits.

³ Choose courses from Peck School of the Arts or the University. At least 12 credits must be at the 200 level or above. BA students are encouraged to consider completing a relevant Minor or Certificate program using Academic Focus and Directed Elective credits.

Sophomore Proficiency Review (between 30-60 earned credits)

All sophomores are required to participate in the Sophomore Scholarship Competition. 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 studio pathway.

Plan of Study

Recommended Four-Year Sequence in BA in Studio Arts

Year 1

Fall	Credits	
(Includes OWC-A and QL-A Requirements.) 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	3
ART 108 or ART 109	2D Studio: Concept, Color and Composition or 3D Studio: Form, Idea and Technique	3

University Core ¹	3
University Core ¹	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	3
Directed Elective ²		3
University Core ¹		3
University Core ¹		3
Credits	15	

Year 2**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		3
200-level studio in Art		3
ARTHIST 101	Ancient and Medieval Art and Architecture ³	3
Select one of the following:		3
ART 309	Issues in Contemporary Art: (Art & Design Lecture Series)	
Directed Elective ²		
University Core ¹		3
Credits	15	

Spring

Sophomore Proficiency Review: All sophomores are required to participate in the Sophomore Scholarship Competition. Students will be assigned a minimum of two faculty members to meet with to review their submitted artwork. The review is designed to give students critical feedback over their artwork and to serve as an advisement opportunity to provide students direction as to how they might proceed through the program. Upon completing the review, students may declare their focus.

200-level studio in Art		3
300-level and above Studio Concentration		3
ARTHIST 102	Renaissance to Modern Art and Architecture ³	3
Select one of the following:		3
ART 309	Issues in Contemporary Art: (Art & Design Lecture Series)	
Directed Elective ²		
Academic Focus outside Art & Design ⁴		3
Credits	15	

Year 3**Fall**

300-level and above Studio Concentration		3
Academic Focus outside Art & Design ⁴		3
Directed Elective ²		3
University Core ¹		3
University Core ¹		3
Credits	15	

Spring

ART 509	Art & Design Seminar: (subtitle)	3
Art & Design History choice:		3
ART 124	Design Survey	
ART 152	Photography Survey	
or any Art History course above ARTHIST 102		
Academic Focus outside of Art & Design ⁴		3
Directed Elective ²		3
University Core ¹		3
Credits	15	

Year 4**Fall**

Students will choose a 300-level and above Studio Concentration course in their final year that supports their BA Project.

300-level and above Studio Concentration		3
ART 501	Studio Research, Practice, and Portfolio	3
Choose one of the following:		3

ART 604	Professional Practices	
Directed Elective		
Directed Elective ²		3
University Core ¹		3
Credits		15
Spring		
300-level and above Studio Concentration		
ART 505	BA Project	3
Choose one of the following:		
ART 604	Professional Practices	
Directed Elective ²		
Directed Elective ²		3
University Core ¹		3
Credits		15
Total Credits		120

¹ Consult your academic advisor in the Peck School of the Arts Student Services Office for requirements in the Core Curriculum. PSOA Arts Distribution Requirement is part of the 45-credit Core: 9 credits outside of Art & Design, in 3 of the 4 other departments in PSOA: Dance, Music, Theatre, or Film, Video, Animation, and New Genres.

² The 21 credits Directed Electives can be courses in Art & Design and/or other disciplines to be chosen in conjunction with Art & Design Undergraduate advisor, followed by faculty in the areas of interest; 12 of these credits must be at the 200-level or above.

³ Six credits (ARTHIST 101 and ARTHIST 102) count as Humanities GER.

⁴ Students must choose three academic courses (9 credits) within the same department outside of Art & Design to serve as their academic focus. This academic focus is intended to help inform their BA Project research. BA students are encouraged to consider completing a relevant Minor or Certificate program using Academic Focus and Directed Elective credits.

Art & Design Undergraduate Admission Requirements

To be admitted in good standing, applicants (incoming freshmen and transfer students) must meet general University requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/admission-costs/undergraduate-admission/>). After being admitted to UWM and indicating Art as your chosen major, no further steps are required for acceptance into the Department of Art & Design.

Scholarships

Declared majors in Art & Design should fill out the general scholarship application and department application (if applicable) by logging in to the Panther Scholarship Portal.

In addition, incoming undergraduate students should visit the Peck School of the Arts scholarship page for details on portfolio submissions.

Advancement to Major

Students accepted into the Art & Design program receive priority registration over non-art majors. To advance to the Art & Design major, students must complete the requirements outlined below:

1. Complete First Year Program courses (15 credits; see course list below).
2. Oral and Written Communications Competency Part A (OWC-A).
3. Quantitative Literacy Competency Part A (QL-A).

4. A cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.

5. Students pursuing the Design and Visual Communication BFA have additional requirements: complete ART 124, ART 221, and ART 223 with a B- or better; and pass the Design and Visual Communication Portfolio review.

6. Students should complete the above to advance to major within the first 45 credits.

Code	Title	Credits
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

Appeal Process

An appeal process is established for students who do not meet the department's criteria for classification, GPA, and area of concentration enrollment management requirements. The appeal process will provide an opportunity for individual students to request advancement to the art major or enrollment into courses as exceptions to the department's enrollment policies based on defined, pre-determined conditions. All appeals are to be directed to the Undergraduate Advisor or PSOA advisor, who will forward the appeals to the department chair or appropriate appeals committee. The department chair or appeals committee will consult with the First Year Program Director, area head, faculty, advisors, and student if necessary before making a decision.

Advising

Location: Theatre 120

Hours: M–Th 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. | Fri. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (*closed on university holidays*)

Contact: 414-229-4763 | Contact Form (<https://uwm.edu/arts/contact/>)

Academic advising is an important aspect of long-term academic success. At the Peck School of the Arts, we offer professional advising in the undergraduate disciplines of art, dance, film, music and theatre.

Our advisors provide students with individualized appointments to assist them in areas such as: degree requirements, major options, course selection, campus resources, college success strategies, graduation assessment, academic policies and procedures, and more.

For more information please visit the Peck School of the Arts advising and student services page (<https://uwm.edu/arts/students/advising/>).

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.