ART PRACTICES - BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (BFA)

The BFA in art practices is a more in-depth degree intended for motivated students interested in and committed to pursuing a professional career in the arts. Students gain training in studio techniques and post-studio practice, an overview of historical and contemporary artists and movements, and an introduction to criticism. Additionally, students participate in the BFA Seminar, are eligible to enroll in the Visiting Artist Seminar, and present work in the culminating BFA exhibition.

This is a highly selective program. Only art majors may apply to the program with a portfolio and application materials, which are reviewed once in the fall and once in the spring.

For application information, please visit the department’s BFA webpage (http://cuart.colorado.edu/degrees/undergraduate/bfa). For overall degree requirements, students should run a degree audit and consult with their advisor. Students must have completed or be in progress of completing 30 credits in the major to apply for the BFA.

Notes and Suggestions for a Successful Application

We are looking for students who will be able to make excellent work, and work within the schedule required of a BFA student. The student’s track record, therefore, is a very important consideration in our decision to accept them into the BFA program. To be a successful applicant, a student should have:

• an excellent attendance record for their courses,
• all assignments for courses completed on time,
• ambitious projects (does more than what is asked of them for each assignment), and
• clear internal motivation (they shouldn’t rely on external pressure or deadlines to make work in the studio).

In the application, we are looking for:

• a thoughtful artist statement that demonstrates the student has insight into their own work, and addresses the questions the student is asking themself in their studio practice,
• a body of work that goes beyond assignments completed as class work; we should start to see cohesion in the work the student is making,
• a high level of technical proficiency,
• formal decisions in the student’s work that support their ideas, and
• overall, a carefully constructed application, with good images of the student’s work.

Students should feel free to consult with any of the faculty for advice on putting together their BFA application.

Requirements

Required Courses and Credits

Students must complete 63 credits toward the major, of which at least 12 upper-division credits must have been completed at CU Boulder.

Students must present and pass a portfolio review to be eligible for the BFA degree (a minimum of 30 ARTS/ARTH credits are required to be completed or in progress to apply).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTS 1010 &amp; ARTS 1020</td>
<td>Introduction to Studio Art and Introduction to Studio Art 2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 1300 &amp; ARTH 1400</td>
<td>History of World Art 1 and History of World Art 2</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two 2000-level studio courses in area of emphasis</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Any two upper-division art history courses</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper-division studio courses</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>Ceramics majors must take ARTS 4085 and ARTS 4095.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTS 4117</td>
<td>BFA Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>Upper- or lower-division electives in ARTS or ARTH</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
<td>63</td>
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NOTE: Printmaking majors are not required to take ARTS 1003, and may register for ARTS 3403, ARTS 3413 and ARTS 3423 as sophomores.

Students must also complete at least 12 upper-division ARTS/ARTH courses on the Boulder campus after starting the program.

Graduating in Four Years

Consult the Four-Year Guarantee Requirements for information on eligibility. The concept of “adequate progress” as it is used here only refers to maintaining eligibility for the four-year guarantee; it is not a requirement for the major. To maintain adequate progress toward a BFA in studio arts or divisional studio arts, students should meet the following requirements:

• Declare the major by the beginning of the first semester, freshman year.
• By the end of the third semester, complete ARTS 1010 and ARTS 1020, ARTH 1300 and ARTH 1400, two 2000-level courses and one lower-division or upper-division studio or art history course (21 credit hours).
• Apply for the BFA in the fourth or fifth semester, with a minimum of 30 credit hours in the major.
• By the end of the sixth semester, complete up to 48 credit hours in the major.
• A total of 18 credit hours in ARTS/ARTH electives are required. Up to 6 credit hours of electives may be taken outside the department with advisor permission.

Recommended Four-Year Plan of Study

Through the required course work for the major, students will fulfill all 12 credits of the Arts & Humanities area of the Gen Ed Distribution Requirement.
### Year One
#### Fall Semester
- **ARTS 1010**
  - Title: Introduction to Studio Art
  - Credit Hours: 3
- **ARTH 1300**
  - Title: History of World Art 1
  - Credit Hours: 3
- Elective/MAPS: 3
- Credit Hours: 15-17

#### Spring Semester
- **ARTS 1020**
  - Title: Introduction to Studio Art 2
  - Credit Hours: 3
- **ARTH 1400**
  - Title: History of World Art 2
  - Credit Hours: 3
- Elective/MAPS: 3
- Elective/MAPS: 3
- Credit Hours: 15

### Year Two
#### Fall Semester
- ARTS Studio Emphasis, 2000 level course: 3
- Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences with Lab): 4
- Elective: 3
- Elective: 3
- Credit Hours: 16

#### Spring Semester
- ARTS Studio Emphasis, 2000 level course: 3
- ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division): 3
- Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences): 3
- Upper-division Elective: 3
- Elective: 3
- Credit Hours: 15

### Year Three
#### Fall Semester
- ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division): 3
- ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division): 3
- ARTH Upper-Division course: 3
- Gen. Ed. Distribution/Diversity course (example: Social Sciences/Global Diversity) - Upper-division: 3
- Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences): 3
- *Student has reached 30 credit hours of ARTS/ARTH courses and may apply for the BFA.
- Credit Hours: 15

#### Spring Semester
- ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division): 3
- ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division): 3
- ARTH/ARTS Elective: 3
- ARTH/ARTS Elective: 3
- Credit Hours: 15

### Year Four
#### Fall Semester
- ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division): 3
- ARTH/ARTS Elective - Upper-division: 3
- ARTH/ARTS Elective: 3
- Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences) - Upper-division: 3
- Upper-division Elective: 3
- Credit Hours: 15

#### Spring Semester
- ARTH Upper-Division course: 3
- ARTS 4117: 3
- BFA Seminar: 3
- ARTH/ARTS Elective - Upper-division: 3
- ARTH/ARTS Elective: 3
- Gen. Ed. Distribution Course (example: Social Sciences) - Upper-division: 3
- Credit Hours: 15

**Total Credit Hours**: 121-123