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.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

The BFA 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 website (https://www.colorado.edu/artandarthistory/degrees/bfa-degree-information-application). 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.

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).

Recommended Four-Year Plan of Study

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 1500 and ARTH 1600, 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.

Through the required coursework for the major, students will fulfill all 12 credits of the Arts & Humanities area of the Gen Ed Distribution Requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</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 1500 &amp; ARTH 1600</td>
<td>Global Art and Visual Culture and U.S. Art Across Cultures</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two 2000-level studio courses in area of emphasis</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper-division studio courses</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting and drawing majors must take any sequence of courses culminating in ARTS 4002 or ARTS 4202. Ceramics majors must take ARTS 4085 and ARTS 4095.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTS 4117</td>
<td>BFA Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any two 3000- or 4000-level ARTH courses</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper- or lower-division electives in ARTS or ARTH</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
<td>63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students must also complete at least 12 upper-division ARTS/ARTH courses on the Boulder campus after starting the program.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper-division Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year Three**

**Fall Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH Upper-Division course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Ed. Distribution/Diversity course (example: Social Sciences/Global Diversity) - Upper-division</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Student has reached 30 credit hours of ARTS/ARTH courses and may apply for the BFA.

| **Credit Hours**                                                      | **15**  |

**Spring Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH/ARTS Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH/ARTS Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Upper-division Written Communication)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Credit Hours**                                                      | **15**  |

**Year Four**

**Fall Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTS Studio Emphasis (Upper-Division)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH/ARTS Elective - Upper-division</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH/ARTS Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper-division Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Credit Hours**                                                      | **15**  |

**Spring Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTH Upper-Division course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTS 4117 BFA Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH/ARTS Elective - Upper-division</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH/ARTS Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen. Ed. Distribution Course (example: Social Sciences) - Upper-division</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Credit Hours**                                                      | **15**  |

Total Credit Hours 121-123

**Learning Outcomes**

- To allow students the opportunity to study, in depth, contemporary art practice and provide them the opportunity to exhibit BFA work in a curated group exhibition during their final semester.
- To allow students the opportunity to develop a portfolio of work required for application to MFA programs.
- To prepare students for a variety of careers in the arts, including in museums and galleries, community outreach programs, design, artist studio assistantships, and the establishment of their own studio practices.