

# Studio Art (BA) Catalog, 2025-26

## MAJORS/MINORS

The studio art major provides students a foundation from which they can build careers as practicing artists or enter art-related fields. The major provides a curriculum that emphasizes the mastery of basic skills in a variety of media as well as conceptual development critical to continued maturation. The studio art major follows a sequence that begins with introductory courses and culminates in the completion of a year-long senior project, pieces of which are shown in the senior exhibition each spring. Studio courses are complemented by the study of art history and a strong co-curricular program that includes an active exhibition season and internship opportunities.

Exhibiting artists are frequently brought to campus to discuss their work, conduct workshops, and visit classes. In addition, the Frances Niederer Artist-in-Residence endowment brings to campus each year a nationally recognized artist who produces work while in residence and teaches a special term-long seminar.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN STUDIO ART:

13 courses (50 credits)

- Art 100: Drawing I (4)
- Any seven studio art courses at the 200 level or higher, a minimum of two of which must come from one of the following media areas: Drawing, Printmaking, Ceramics, Sculpture, Painting, or Photography; and three of which must come from different media areas
- ART 351: Artist-in-Residence Seminar (2)
- Two courses in art history: one must be primarily about modern or contemporary art and can be chosen from the non-exclusive list below:
  - ARTH 250: Race, Space and the Carceral State (4)
  - ARTH 250: History of the Art Market (4)
  - ARTH 250: Modern Architecture (4)
  - ARTH 255: The Black Diaspora in 20th Century Art (4)
  - ARTH 264: Modern Art (4)
  - ARTH 266: History of Photography (4)
  - ARTH 269: Sustainable Architecture (4)
  - ARTH 324: Feminism and Contemporary Art (4)
  - ARTH 328: Paris in the Nineteenth Century: Studios and Styles (4)

- ARTH 350: African and Europe: Modern Art and the Built Environment (4)
- ARTH 371: Behind the Scenes at the Museum (4)
- ARTH 420: Critical Methods of Art History (4)
- Students are encouraged to enroll in as many art history courses as scheduling allows. For studio art majors with an identified interest in a specific medium as listed below, the following is suggested:
  - Drawing/Painting – ARTH 263: Renaissance and Baroque Art (4) or upper-level modern
  - Printmaking – ARTH 263: Renaissance and Baroque Art (4)
  - Ceramics – ARTH 261: Ancient Art (4)
  - Sculpture – ARTH 261: Ancient Art (4)
  - Photography – ARTH 266: History of Photography (4)
- ART 470: Independent Senior Research (4)
- ART 480: Senior Project (4)
- All 200-level and above studio courses may be repeated for credit, with the exception of any 200-level photography courses

It is strongly recommended that students take a studio art course each semester and have completed one art history course by the end of their second year of study. Students studying abroad in their sophomore or junior year should be aware of the lack of studio courses offered and plan accordingly

Note: a minimum of 24 studio art credits must be earned while attending Hollins

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN STUDIO ART:**

24 credits, at least 20 of which must be completed on campus

- ART 100: Drawing I (4)
- ARTH 264: Modern Art (4) or ARTH 266: History of Photography (4)
- Any four additional studio art courses from a minimum of two media areas

Note: No independent studies. All off campus courses, including Hollins Abroad courses, must be approved by the department

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN STUDIO ART WITH A MINOR IN ART HISTORY:**

16 courses (62 credits)

- Complete major requirements for Studio Art (50 credits)
- One additional art history course at the 200 level (4 credits)
- Two art history courses at the 300 level (8 credits)

## **COURSES IN STUDIO ART:**

NOTE: Some courses in studio art have laboratory fees in addition to costs per term for personal art supplies

### **ART 100: DRAWING I (4)**

Drawing informs all the visual disciplines. This class focuses on drawing as an end of its own and as a way of planning for any creative endeavor. Students will complete studio exercises in varied representational modes and media and so will learn how drawing is about seeing, feeling, and thinking through mark making. Illustrated lectures. Evaluation by portfolio. No prerequisite. Offered both terms. (CRE) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 200: FIGURE DRAWING/DRAWING II (4)**

Drawing focused on the human figure, emphasizing observation, proportion, and an intuitive approach to human anatomy. Students will work directly from the skeleton and models to analyze the figure. Various media will be explored along with pictorial problem solving. Evaluation by portfolio with regular outside of class assignments. Prerequisite: ART 100 or permission. (CRE) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 218: BEAUTIFUL SHAPES, DRAWING CONCEPTS (4)**

This studio course builds a foundational understanding of shape, design and color. From there, students will branch out into drawing beginning and advanced linear perspective, the golden ratio and logarithmic spirals, nonrepresentational drawing traditions, making paper kinetic sculpture and painting geometric abstractions in water based media. We'll ask ourselves how we define beautiful form, search for beauty in new places, and work to create beautiful things in the studio. Open to first years. Prerequisites: Art 100, q. (Q)

### **ART 203: INTRODUCTION TO FILM PHOTOGRAPHY (4)**

Explore the fundamentals of black and white film photography and learn how to “draw with light!” This hands-on course will include an overview of manual camera controls, film processing techniques, and printing in a traditional darkroom. Composition and creative expression will be discussed in supportive critique sessions, and students will study contemporary artists working with film methods. Students are encouraged to bring their own 35MM film camera, as there are a limited number of cameras available for check-out. No prerequisite. Open to first-year students. (CRE, C&I) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 213: SCULPTURE (4)**

This class introduces students to a range of sculptural forms, materials, concepts, and techniques (modeling, carving, and assembling) in the context of traditional and contemporary practice. Open to first-year students. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 216: BEGINNING WHEEL-THROWN CERAMICS (4)**

This beginning level ceramics class explores the techniques of making pots on the wheel. Students learn the sequences necessary to raise a simple lump of clay into a pot and begin to understand the processes of glazing and firing those pots. We discuss aesthetic, historical, and technical issues relating to wheel-thrown pottery and master the vocabulary of pottery terms and concepts. Students need to allow significant work time outside of class. No prerequisite and may be repeated for credit. Open to first-year students. Offered both terms. (CRE) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 217: HAND BUILDING IN CERAMICS (4)**

This course explores various methods of hand building with clay. We use modeling, coil building, slab building, and plaster mold making to create pottery and sculptural objects with attention to the essentials of form and design. We learn various firing and glazing techniques and study pottery's important role as one of the earliest and most enduring art forms. Students need to allow work time outside of class. No prerequisite and may be repeated for credit. Open to first-year students. Offered both terms. (CRE) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 224: MONOTYPE (4)**

Monotype is a printmaking process in which ink is applied to a plate and then printed to paper. This course explores the many possibilities available, including multicolor printing. Experimentation and working in series with a common theme will be encouraged. Evaluation by portfolio. Prerequisite: ART 100 or permission. (CRE) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 227: INTAGLIO PRINTMAKING (4)**

Intaglio printmaking has inspired art since the 15th century and continues to be an exciting medium for visual expression. Through lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on applications, you will learn the history, techniques, and materials of traditional processes such as etching and dry point, as well as progressive techniques. Course projects encourage creative inquisitiveness, experimentation, and discovery. Prerequisite: ART 100. (CRE) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 228: RELIEF PRINTMAKING (4)**

Relief printmaking is a centuries old process used by artists today for its bold and graphic quality. In this class we will begin with simple and direct processes and then develop our skills into more complex and larger scale approaches. We will carve wood, linoleum, and MDF, and will also look at examples of relief prints throughout history. Open to first years. Prerequisite: ART 100. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 230: PAINTING (4)**

Methods, materials, techniques of pictorial organization, from observation, using oil paint. Emphasis is on construction of form by color. Class sessions are directed, and weekly outside paintings are required. Evaluation by portfolio. No prerequisite. Open to first-year students. Offered Term 1. (CRE, C&I) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 236: THEORIES OF COLOR (4)**

In this studio course, students will investigate multiple theories of color and place them in historical context, explore the history and social significance of specific pigments, and paint expressive and analytical color experiments. Students will encounter color as a physical effect of light on our retinas and a socially constructed system composed of our biases and our ideals. Open to first-year students. (INQ) . See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: SERIGRAPHY (4)**

From Warhol and Basquiat, to Fairey and Holzer, screen printing is a popular and direct method of printmaking. This course will introduce students to the medium of fine art screen printing. We will investigate screen printing techniques, skills, materials, and processes. Both hands-on and photomechanical methods for creating imagery will be covered as time permits, as well as consideration of form and content. Students will work on visual problems in the classroom, learning creativity and consistency through experimentation and print editions. Projects will be assigned and interspersed with classroom demonstration, discussion, screen printing history, and group critiques. This class is open to any student interested in silkscreen printmaking; no prior printmaking experience necessary! Prerequisite: Art 100/Drawing I or permission. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE (4)**

In this course, we'll be looking at and creating assemblage sculptures. We'll be assembling and connecting found objects into 3D sculptural forms to express and investigate artistic intentions and meaning. We'll be investigating a wide range of materials and connection

techniques. Open to First Years. Prerequisite: ART 213 or instructor permission. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: MINDFUL MAKING (4)**

Within this course students will investigate techniques, skills, materials, and processes that give homage to the handmade, to its contemplative nature, and to the unique individuality therein. Students will experience projects ranging from printmaking to bookmaking, and a combination for a final project. Projects will be assigned and interspersed with classroom demonstration, discussion, and critique. If you are interested in attentive yet restorative focus, as well as the analog process of creating, this course is for you! We will possibly take 1-2 all-day field trips to Floyd County, so transportation is helpful, although not required. Prerequisites: a willingness to unplug and create! See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: THE POLITICAL PRINT (4)**

How does art act as an agent of change? How did social change occur before Facebook, Twitter, and Memes, and how does it ignite today? This course will examine the intersection of art and activism within printmaking, which has a unique history of involvement in ideas and work for social and political change. We will investigate printmaking's role within various historical movements, including the Works Progress Administration (WPA), German Expressionism, and Social Realism. The course will include research component(s) into these movements and individual artists, as well as studio-based projects in printmaking. There is a course fee for studio supplies. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 275: DRAWING WITH LIGHT: EXPERIMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY (4)**

Drawing inspiration from the meaning of the word "photography"—drawing with light—we will create unique, camera-less prints using only light, chemicals, objects, weather, and time. Darkroom processes such as photograms and chemigrams will be explored, alongside outdoor processes such as lumen printing and cyanotype. This experiential course emphasizes experimentation, risk-taking, and creative problem solving, and students will be encouraged to develop their own unique photographic processes and vision. Open to first-year students. (CRE, C&I) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 290: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 OR 4)**

Independent portfolio projects in various media below the advanced level. Application with faculty member required for registration. Prerequisite: prior course experience in media required or permission. Offered any term. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 318: CERAMICS CONCEPTS AND PRACTICE (4)**

This course builds and expands upon prior experience within the ceramic studio through advanced clay, glaze, and kiln study. We will utilize the fundamental aspects of forming clay with the aim of purposefully merging glaze to form via fire. This course will cover glaze, kiln firing theory, and practice along with an overview of historical and contemporary trends within the field. Prerequisites: ART 216 or 217. Open to first-year students. Offered both terms. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 326: FIGURE PAINTING (4)**

Figure painting from life, in oil paint. Through painting nude and clothed models, we will learn color theory, human anatomy, historical oil paint glazing techniques and contemporary applications. This class will explore the discipline

of observational painting in concert with challenging ideas of representations of the body. Prerequisites: ART 100 or ART 230 or instructor permission. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 330: ADVANCED PAINTING (4)**

This course will focus on developing a personal language of form in the terms of painting. The focus will be on work in oil paint, on a large scale, with appropriate studies and related works in other media. Students will work on increasing their effectiveness at translating observations into expressive forms. Evaluation is by portfolio. Lab fee required.

Prerequisite: ART 230.

### **ART 347: MIXED MEDIA DRAWING (4)**

Students will work with a combination of “non-traditional” drawing media and surfaces, including image transfers, paper cutting, stenciling, collage, and sewing. Emphasis will be placed on the exploration of both conceptual and technical issues in contemporary two-dimensional art. Prerequisite: ART 100. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY (4)**

Explore color photography from a contemporary art perspective, utilizing both color film and digital capture methods. Students will be provided with a digital SLR camera, a film SLR camera, and various plastic film cameras for more experimental work. Importing and organizing digital image files, film scanning techniques, and editing in Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom will be covered, with an emphasis on learning photographic adjustments such as exposure, contrast, and color balance to create high-quality image files for printing. We will also research both historic and contemporary photographic artists, and

student work will be discussed in supportive critique sessions. Prerequisite: ART 203. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: MEDIATED IMAGES: DIGITAL TECHNIQUES IN PRINTMAKING (4)**

In this course, students will reflect on the role and effects of print and internet culture on identity and artistic process through discussion, lectures, and projects in handmade, photomechanical, and digital printmaking techniques. Traditional techniques in relief, intaglio, and silkscreen will be used in tandem with digital image-making tools (Photoshop, Illustrator) including Zine making, inkjet printing, and laser cutting. Projects will explore ways to manipulate images through overprinting, image layering, and multi-block printing. A passion for making images, process-heavy techniques, and experimentation is essential in this class. Prerequisites: Printmaking course and/or ART 275, 350. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: SCULPTURE; MODELING, MOLD MAKING AND CASTING (4)**

This hands-on studio course emphasizes the manipulation of malleable materials, both traditional and experimental. We'll be modeling sculptural thematic forms, and individual and collaborative projects will be informed by student research on contemporary artists, experimentation and problem solving. We'll sculpt, mold and cast using flexible and rigid materials including traditional media like plasticine, plaster and silicone, and experimental materials like chocolate and mycelium. Open to First Years. Prerequisite: ART 213 or instructor permission. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 351: ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE (2)**

A two-credit course taught by the Frances Niederer Artist-in-Residence each year. Lectures and/or studio work. Prerequisite: one studio art course or art history course or permission of department. Offered Term 2. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 375: ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY (4)**

In this experiential photography course, expand your knowledge of making photographs in the darkroom and digital lab while developing your personal creative vision through projects tailored to your interests. Advanced darkroom skills, along with color film techniques, film scanning, digital editing and archival printing will be covered. Work will be discussed in supportive critique sessions, and we will study a variety of exciting photographic artists. Prerequisite: ART 203. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 376: PAPER, PRINT, BOOK (4)**

Paper and books, which we often take for granted, have a rich history and wealth of creative potential for artists today. In this class, we will have the hands-on experience of making paper and learning how to bind books, while also exploring the role of both in other cultures and in the artist's hands. We will look at rare books in the library and talk about how format transforms and creates meaning. This is a class for folks not afraid of rulers, sewing needles, and getting your feet wet! Prerequisite: ART 100. (CRE)

### **ART 390: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 OR 4)**

Advanced independent portfolio projects in various media with departmental faculty. Lab fee required. Prerequisite: prior course experience in media required or permission. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Offered any term. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 399: INTERNSHIP (4)**

Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. May be proposed in any term.

### **ART 470: INDEPENDENT SENIOR RESEARCH (4)**

Students work independently in their studio, but in close consort with faculty, to develop a personal body of work. Art must be presented during regular monthly critiques with all Studio Art faculty. The course culminates in a written Senior Project Proposal. Preparatory course for senior project; required of seniors. Offered Term 1. See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.

### **ART 480: SENIOR PROJECT (4)**

Each senior will develop a coherent body of 2D or 3D work and will exhibit a selection of this work according to museum standards for her senior thesis in May. Professional practice and career development will be covered in lectures and readings. Evaluation by portfolio and exhibit. Prerequisite: ART 470. Offered Term 2. (ELR) See Tuition and Fees table for course fee.