

Art Education, B.F.A.

Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Fine Arts

Nature of the Program

This professional-track, BFA program in Art Education allows students to earn teacher certification for PreK-21 while mastering a studio Area of Emphasis within the fine arts curriculum. Degree requirements are designed by the West Virginia Department of Education and WVU. Students need to plan to take a full course load every semester and closely follow the plan of study to complete studio coursework, education requirements, and student teaching hours within four years. Studio and art education courses must be taken sequentially and students are advised to take no more than three studio credits (9 hours) per semester. Art Education majors must maintain a 2.5 GPA, pass the PRAXIS ART CONTENT exam no later than the semester before taking ART 491D for their teaching placement, and assemble a Writing Portfolio to be eligible for graduation.

Admissions for 2026-2027

BFA ENTRANCE PORTFOLIO

Students must meet all WVU Undergraduate Admissions entrance requirements. The School of Art and Design requires a portfolio review for all applicants to the Bachelor of Fine Arts programs including the Art Education major. This evaluation is conducted by the art faculty and is designed to ensure that all students entering the studio program have certain basic competencies and skills. Students are encouraged to apply and complete the portfolio review at the earliest possible date. Applicants should visit the School website: <http://artanddesign.wvu.edu/academics> (<http://artanddesign.wvu.edu/academics/>) or phone the School office at (304) 293-2552 to receive detailed instructions and portfolio review application material. Applicants are to contact the CCA Office of Recruitment at (304) 293-4339 to schedule an audition.

TRANSFER

Transfer applicants in studio art must undergo a portfolio review to gain admittance in the program. Evaluation for advanced standing or transfer credit in studio subjects is not made solely upon the presentation of a transcript but may also depend on the evaluation of a portfolio of artwork. Transfer applicants to the Art Education major must have a GPA of 2.5.

Major Code: 3710

General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef/>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Foundations		
F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Reasoning		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

B.F.A. with Teacher Certification Curriculum

Students wishing certification to teach PreK–adult in West Virginia must complete competency requirements established by the state in addition to School of Art and Design B.F.A. Art Education degree requirements. Admission to the teacher certification program requires a 2.5 GPA overall.

The School of Art and Design values and supports written communication abilities and critical thinking skills developed through iterative writing experiences across the curriculum and within the discipline. To meet this goal students must pass with a B- or better a Writing Portfolio requirement that includes examples of academic, professional, and reflective writing they have produced in their regular courses. Please contact your advisor for more information.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	University Requirements	27
	School of Art and Design Program Requirements	30
	Art Education Major Requirements	73
Total Hours		130

University Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)	
	Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, and 8	25
ART 191	First-Year Seminar	2
Total Hours		27

School of Art and Design Program Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A grade of C- or higher required in all ART and ARHS courses in the program requirements.		
ARHS 120	Survey of Art History 1 (May fulfill GEF 6)	3
ARHS 160	Survey of Art History 2 (May fulfill GEF 8)	3
Studio Foundation Core		
ART 111S	Drawing 1	3
ART 121S	Visual Foundations 1	3
ART 122S	Visual Foundations 2	3
Studio Foundation Exploration		
Select five of the following: *		15
ART 213S	Painting 1	
ART 223S	Introduction to Graphic Design	
ART 226S	Introduction to Sculpture	
ART 230S	Printmaking - Intaglio and Relief	
ART 232S	Photography 1	
ART 235S	Introduction to Silkscreen	
ART 240S	Ceramics	
ART 270S	Introduction to Electronic Media 1	
ART 273S	Beginning 3D Animation	
Writing Portfolio Requirement **		
Total Hours		30

*
For students enrolled in the Area of Emphasis in Graphic Design, three-hours must include ART 232S.

**
Please see your advisor for details on this requirement.

Art Education Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A grade of C- or higher required in all ART and ARHS courses in the major requirements.		
ARHS at the 200/300/400 Level *		3
ART 200 Level (Dependent on Area of Emphasis)		3
Select one of the following:		
ART 214S	Painting 2	
ART 224S	Graphic Design 2	
ART 227S	Sculpture	
ART 231S	Printmaking - Lithography	
ART 234S	Photography 2	
ART 241S	Ceramics	
ART 271S	Introduction to Electronic Media 2	
Art Education		
ART 264	Introduction to Art Education	3
ART 365	Art Education Elementary	3
ART 366	Art Education: Secondary	3
ART 367	Technology Methods in Art Education	3
Education		
EDP 301	Learning in PreK-Adult Educational Settings	3
SPED 404	Special Education in Contemporary Society (GEF 4)	3
SPED 460	Differentiation of Instruction	3
ARHS 389	Contemporary	3
Professional Practice (Student Teaching)		
ART 489	Residency 1	4
ART 491D	Professional Field Experience ***	15
ART Senior Capstone		6
ART 413S	Senior Projects in Painting	
ART 425S	Graphic Design: Senior Project	
ART 426S	Senior Projects in Sculpture	
ART 430S	Senior Projects in Printmaking	
ART 435S	Senior Projects in Photography	
ART 440S	Senior Projects in Ceramics	
ART 470S	Senior Projects in Intermedia	
Studio Area of Emphasis		18
2D Studio Painting, Photography, Print Media		
Graphic Design **		
3D Studio and Public Art		
Digital Art and Animation		
PRAXIS CONTENT - Must be completed before enrolling in ART 491D. ***		
Total Hours		73

* Excludes ARHS 411, ARHS 412 AND ARHS 414. For students enrolled in the Area of Emphasis in Graphic Design, three-hours must include ARHS 406.

** Students enrolled in the Area of Emphasis in Graphic Design must complete ART 234S.

*** PRAXIS Content - Must be successfully completed before enrolling in ART 491D.

Suggested Plan of Study

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)		3 GEF 2	4
ART 111S		3 ART 2XX Studio Studio Emphasis AOE	3
ART 121S		3 Foundations Exploration	3
ART 122S		3 Foundations Exploration	3
ARHS 120 (GEF 6)		3 ARHS 160 (GEF 8)	3
ART 191		2	
		17	16

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ART 2nd Studio Emphasis		3 ART 264	3
Foundations Exploration		3 ARHS 389	3
Foundations Exploration		3 Area of Emphasis Course	6
ARHS 200+		3 EDP 301	3
GEF 3		3 GEF 8	3
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)		3	
		18	18

Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ART 365		3 ART 366	3
SPED 404 (GEF 4)		3 GEF 5	3
Area of Emphasis Course		6 Area of Emphasis Course	6
GEF 8		3 GEF 7	3
		15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ART 489		4 ART 491D	15
SPED 460		3	
Senior Project		6	
ART 367		3	
		16	15

Total credit hours: 130

Areas of Emphasis

- 2D Studio Painting, Photography, Print Media (p. 4)
- 3D Studio and Public Art (p. 5)
- Digital Art and Animation (p. 5)
- Graphic Design (p. 5)

2D Studio Painting, Photography, Print Media Area of Emphasis Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Art 300-level Studio Emphasis Area		18
ART 313S	Painting 3	
or ART 330S	Printmaking	
or ART 331	GPS-Jackson Hole Photography Workshop	
or ART 332S	Intermediate Photography	
or ART 333S	Alternative Photography	

or ART 335S	Advanced Photography	
Total Hours		18

3D Studio and Public Art Area of Emphasis Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Art 300-level Studio Emphasis Area		18
ART 326S	Sculpture	
or ART 340S	Ceramics	
or ART 341S	Ceramic Production Methods	
Total Hours		18

Digital Art and Animation

Code	Title	Hours
Minimum grade of C- or higher for all ART and ARHS courses required.		
Art 300-level Studio Emphasis Area		18
ART 370S	Intermediate Electronic Media	
or ART 371S	Interactive Art	
or ART 372S	Interactive Design	
Total Hours		18

Graphic Design Area of Emphasis Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ART 323S	Graphic Design 3	6
ART 324S	Graphic Design 4	6
or ART 425S	Graphic Design: Senior Project	
ART 328S	Advanced Typography	3
ART 337S	Design for Web and Screen	3
Total Hours		18

Major Learning Outcomes

ART EDUCATION

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) is a professional degree with an intensive focus on an area of the Arts supported by a program in general studies. The intent of the B.F.A. is to prepare for professional practice in the area of the degree.

- The ability to think, speak, and write clearly and effectively, and to communicate with precision, cogency and rhetorical force.
- An informed acquaintance with the mathematical and experimental methods of the physical and biological sciences, and with the main forms of analysis of the historical and quantitative techniques needed for investigating the workings and developments of modern society.
- An ability to address culture and history from a variety of perspectives.
- Understanding of, and experience in thinking about, moral and ethical problems.
- The ability to respect, understand and evaluate work in a variety of disciplines.
- The capacity to explain and defend views effectively and rationally.

Additional specific goals related to the art education major:

- Studio Art-The prospective art teacher must be familiar with the basic expressive, technical, procedural and organizational skills, and conceptual insights which can be developed through studio art and design experiences.
- Art History and Analysis-The prospective art teacher must have an understanding of: (1) The major styles and periods of art history, analytical methods, and theories of criticism. (2) The development of past and contemporary art forms. (3) Contending philosophies of art. (4) The fundamental and integral relationships of all these to the making of art.
- Teaching Competencies-The artist-teacher must be able to connect an understanding of educational processes and structures with an understanding of relationships among the arts, sciences, and humanities, in order to apply art competencies in teaching situations and to integrate art/design instruction into the total process of education. Specific competencies include:

- a. An understanding of child development and the identification and understanding of psychological principles of learning as they relate to art education.
- b. An understanding of the philosophical and social foundation underlying art in education and the ability to express a rationale for personal attitudes and beliefs.
- c. Ability to assess aptitudes, experiential backgrounds, and interests of individuals and groups of students, and to devise learning experiences to meet assessed needs.
- d. Knowledge of current methods and materials available in all fields and levels of art education.
- e. Basic understanding of the principles and methods of developing curricula and the short- and long-term instructional units that comprise them.
- f. The ability to accept, amend, or reject methods and materials based on personal assessment of specific teaching situations.
- g. An understanding of evaluative techniques and the ability to apply them in assessing both the progress of students and the objectives and procedures of the curriculum.
- h. Ability to organize continuing study and to incorporate knowledge gained into self-evaluation and professional growth.

Policies

Art Education majors must:

- maintain a 2.5 or higher GPA,
- earn a C- or higher in all ART and ARHS courses,
- complete 125 clinical observation hours prior to their fourth year of enrollment to obtain a student teaching permit, as mandated by the State of WV Department of Education; students can discuss details regarding steps to attain these observation hours with the coordinator of the Art Education program,
- pass the PRAXIS ART CONTENT exam no later than the semester before taking ART 491D for their teaching placement, and
- assemble a Writing Portfolio to be eligible for graduation.