

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ART

The Art Department at Valparaiso University stresses the development of visual literacy informed by critical analysis, historical study, and a broad range of studio classes. In support of this principle, it offers concentrations in graphic design, photography, art history, painting, sculpture, and art education, as well as a variety of courses in other media. The faculty also works individually with students pursuing Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science in Fine Arts (BSFA) degrees. Some of our students enroll in art courses strictly for personal enjoyment and have no art-related vocational plans. Others combine the study of art with psychology, public relations, education, business and literature. Those who are interested in a more rigorous art experience will have no trouble finding it here as well, particularly in the areas of art history, graphic design and photography.

Students who wish to major in art may choose one of two degree programs, the BA that requires 30 credit hours (10 art courses) or the BSFA that requires a minimum of 54 credit hours (18 or more art courses) in the art major. The first degree is for students who intend to go into primary or secondary art education, art history, commercial photography or graphic design. The BSFA degree is typically for students who plan to attend graduate school or who want a much larger concentration in an area of their choice. This degree program requires a special portfolio review for admission and culminates in a senior seminar and exhibition.

A minor in art, either in studio art or art history, consists of five courses.

Our faculty teaches courses in graphic design, photography (digital, black/white, color), painting (watercolor, oil), sculpture, ceramics, drawing, printmaking, art education, museum studies, and art history. Honors work is available in the area of art history

We offer some scholarships each year to incoming first-year students. These scholarships are renewable for up to four years as long as the student remains an art major and maintains a cumulative grade point average that does not drop below 2.75. Applicants are reviewed for scholarship awards from September 1 to February 1.

For further information, contact the Department of Art at 219-465-7803 or the Office of Admission at 1-800-348-2611. Direct postal inquiries to: Department of Art, Valparaiso University Center for the Arts, 1709 Chapel Drive, Valparaiso, IN 46383.

Interested in applying?

If so, please go to the Valparaiso University Admission website and request an application or fill it out on the web. If you have questions about the Art Department, please feel free to e-mail Professor Robert Sirko, Department Chair.

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