Art (BA) with an Emphasis in Studio Art

This program is offered by the Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts/Department of Art, Design, and Art History, and is only available at the St. Louis home campus.

Program Description

The BA in art with an emphasis in studio art degree familiarizes students with the rich tradition of the visual arts, provides them with an understanding of the tools and materials available to the artists as a means of personal expression, shows students that there are fundamental concepts which unify all art yet which allow for infinite variation and introduces to them alternative ways of looking, seeing, finding and discovering. Students explore a variety of media, learning the techniques and expressive opportunities unique to each. Primary focus in the program is on students finding their own creative and conceptual voice and discovering ways to visually communicate their thoughts and ideas.

This program is offered through the Department of Art, Design, and Art History in the Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts. Please see the Colleges, Schools, and Departments section of this catalog for further information.

Learning Outcomes

Successful graduates of the art with an emphasis in studio art program will be able to:

- Express an individual, creative voice through an artistic practice that engages with contemporary global art and design discourse.
- Implement the formal vocabularies of art and design as a foundation for artistic dialogue.
- Practice drawing as a means to develop ideas.
- Draw upon the history of art and design as a wellspring for ideas, solutions and meaning within one’s own artistic practice.
- Analyze and discuss art and design through discipline-specific vocabularies and methods.
- Display growth and competence in artistry and technical skills across a variety of artistic media and processes.

Special Requirements

All studio majors must register for ART 2900 DADAH Critique in the first semester after completing 18 studio credits. For traditional Freshmen this will occur in the fall or spring of their sophomore year. For transfer students this will occur in their first semester at Webster, or when they have a combined total of 18 studio credits. The DADAH critique is a review of student progress by DADAH full and part-time faculty held on one day during the fall and spring semesters. Following the review, students will meet with their advisor to discuss faculty concerns and recommendations as written on the evaluation form by the advisor during the review. In some cases a student may be advised to undergo a second review in the following semester. The department notifies students of portfolio review dates.

Degree Requirements

A minimum of 128 credit hours consisting of the following:

- 49 required credit hours
- Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours
- Electives

Required Courses

Core Distribution:

- ART 1010 Creative Strategies (3 hours)

Other Program Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 15 credit hours of coursework selected from at least five of the following studio areas: ceramics, electronic and time-based art, graphic design, painting, papermaking, printmaking, photography or sculpture. At least one course must be at the 3000-level or above. If ART 2315 or ART 2530 completes the three-dimensional requirement above, the same course cannot also be used to complete the studio course distribution requirement.

Senior Overview

In order to graduate with a BA in art with an emphasis in studio art, students must successfully complete a senior overview and participate in the senior show held at the end of the spring semester in the Cecille R. Hunt Gallery. The senior overview usually consists of work done during the final semester of the senior year in one of the indicated studio areas. The work to be shown can be either a part of a regular studio course or a studio-related independent study. Students are sent Senior Overview forms immediately prior to the beginning of the last semester of their senior year. Students designate on their form the studio course in which they intend to do their senior overview. The instructor for that course becomes the student’s senior overview advisor. Work submitted is subject to approval by the senior overview advisor and the director for the senior show. Students graduating at the completion of a summer are expected to exhibit in the show prior to completion of coursework.