Visual Arts

The School of Humanities

Chair
Karin Broker

Professors
Karin Broker
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Associate Professors
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Degrees Offered: B.A., B.F.A.

Department of Visual Arts majors are students who declare a major in the studio arts (drawing, digital video and film production, painting, photography, printmaking, or sculpture). Each student will discuss with the faculty advisor the selection of courses and any other matters of concern in the student’s academic life, such as study and travel abroad, scholarships and internships, career goals or options, etc.

Degree Requirements for B.A. in Visual Arts

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 20–23).

Single Major Track in Visual Arts (12 courses required)

• ARTS 225 Drawing I
• ARTS 205 Photography I or ARTS 311 Intaglio I or ARTS 327 Documentary Production
• ARTS 301 Painting I or ARTS 325 Life Drawing or ARTS 337 Color Drawing or ARTS 425 Advanced Drawing
• ARTS 365 Sculpture I
• 6 ARTS electives
• 2 courses in art history-open selections qualified by course prerequisites and consultation with the studio art faculty adviser

Double Major Track in Visual Arts (10 courses required)

• ARTS 225 Drawing I
• ARTS 205 Photography I or ARTS 311 Intaglio I or ARTS 327 Documentary Production
• ARTS 301 Painting I or ARTS 325 Life Drawing or ARTS 337 Color Drawing or ARTS 425 Advanced Drawing
• 5 ARTS electives
• 2 courses in art history-open selections qualified by course prerequisites and consultation with the studio art faculty adviser
Degree Requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.)

Students with a B.A. degree in art from Rice or an equivalent degree from another university may apply for admission to the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) program, which consists of a fifth year of intensive study in the creative arts. Students with a B.A. in a major other than art may, in exceptional cases, be admitted. Interested students should complete a special degree application in the Admissions Office and submit a portfolio of artwork for review by department faculty. Students will not be admitted into the program until after the portfolio review process. Information about application forms, deadlines, and admission standards is available from the Admissions Office.

For the B.F.A. degree, students must complete 30 semester hours in approved courses, or the equivalent in approved major electives at the 300 level or above. In addition to the usual departmental upper-level courses, special 500-level courses are offered for B.F.A. candidates only.

Transfer Credit

No more than 2 courses may be transferred out of 10 for a single visual arts major, or 8 for the double major. The two transfer credit courses must be studio practice courses required for all majors. Advanced placement credit may not be used by art majors to fulfill department requirements. The 2 required art history classes may be transfer credits.

Exhibitions and Arts Programs at Rice

The Department of Visual Arts mounts several art and photography exhibitions each year and sponsors Rice Cinema, a public alternative film program. Feature films include classic and contemporary titles, independent and experimental films, documentaries, international, foreign, and alternative cinema programs. Rice Cinema, which is intimately connected with the curriculum both in film and media studies and in film and photography production, hosts frequent guest lecturers, panel discussions, and media events.

Exhibitions and related activities organized by Rice University Art Gallery (Kimberly Davenport, director) enrich the teaching program of the Department of Visual Arts as well as the larger university and Houston community.

See ARTS and HART in the Courses of Instruction section.