Requirements for Majors & Minors

Updated 10/19/2020

Department of Art

These requirements represent the current Art Department policy. Please check the University Bulletin of the year you declared your major to confirm policies that apply to you.

The department offers courses in the history of art, architecture, printmaking, photography, and film from the ancient through modern periods, and the practice of studio art in six areas: drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography, and video art. Opportunities to supplement the regular academic program of the department include study abroad in Wake Forest residential study centers, changing art exhibitions in the gallery of the Scales Fine Arts Center, exhibition of student work in the START gallery, and internships in local museums and arts organizations. The art department requires a minimum GPA of 2.0 in the major for graduation.

The department offers two majors, art history and studio art, each requiring ten courses of three or more semester hours each. Any student interested in majoring or minoring in art should contact the art department. Students may major in one field and minor in the other by successfully completing a minimum of 13 courses in art, of which at least eight courses must be in the major field and at least four courses in the minor field.

Minors. An art history minor requires four courses in art history and one course in studio art. A minor in studio art requires four courses in studio art and one course in art history. Students may double minor in art history and studio art, but must complete all minor requirements of each. All courses in the minor must be three or more semester hours.

Art History

The art history major requires 8 courses in art history and 2 courses in studio art. Or students can elect to complete 8 courses in art history, 1 in studio art, and 1 course that combines both areas (including Art 199, Art 297, Art 298, Art 293). In addition, majors must submit a portfolio of written work. Please see the art history major portfolio requirements detailed on page 2.

A minor in art history requires 4 courses in art history and 1 course in studio art. Minors may choose to follow a 3+1+1 model, with 3 courses in art history, 1 in studio art, and 1 combined course (listed above).

Students contemplating graduate study in art history should use German, French, or Italian to complete their foreign language requirement. Many courses in other departments supplement those offered in the art department and may be taken as electives.
**Studio Art**

The studio art major requires 8 courses in studio art and 2 courses in art history. Majors may elect to follow the 8+1+1 model for the major, with 8 courses in studio art, 1 in art history, and 1 course that combines both areas (including Art 199, Art 297, Art 298, Art 293). Studio courses at the 200 level may be repeated once. Studio art majors who are serious about pursuing a career in art are encouraged to take as many art courses as possible in consultation with their advisor. In addition, majors must submit a portfolio of visual work. Please see the studio art major portfolio requirements detailed on page 2.

Students interested in Art 291S Individual Study must have taken at least one regular course in studio art in the Art Department. An application must be presented to the studio faculty well before advising and registration, the semester before taking the class.

Faculty members expect students to work an average of 2 hours outside of class for every hour spent in the classroom. A 200 level studio course meets 5 hours per week so plan your application with the understanding that you will work 15 hours per week for a 4 hour Individual Study. You must produce work of the quality and quantity as you would in a regular 4 hour studio course.

A minor in studio art requires 4 courses in studio art and 1 course in art history. Minors may choose to follow a 3+1+1 model, with 3 courses in studio art, 1 in art history, and 1 combined course (listed above).

**Additional Information for Majors and Minors**

- The department accepts only three courses from a non-Wake Forest program for credit toward the major or minor. Of these three courses, only two may be in the same area of concentration as the major or minor. That is, an art history major or minor may take up to two art history courses and one studio course; a studio major or minor may take up to two studio art courses and one art history course at a non-Wake Forest program. All studio courses taken abroad are assigned ART 210.
- Students enrolled at Wake Forest may not take courses in studio art or art history at other institutions to satisfy divisional requirements.
- No courses in the major or minor may be taken pass/fail, unless only offered on that basis.
- Any 100 level studio art course, or any art history course through 288 meets the Division III requirement.

**Special Opportunities** Opportunities to supplement the regular academic program of the department include study abroad in Wake Forest residential study centers, changing art exhibitions in the gallery of the Scales Fine Arts Center, a visiting artists program, and internships in local museums and arts organizations.

**Practicum** Art 293 Practicum, a pass/fail internship with a museum or arts organization. Additional internships can be taken for experience, but not for credit. Contact the Departmental Internship Coordinator for more information.

**Honors** Qualified students in both the studio and art history areas may ask to participate in the department’s honors program. To be graduated with the designation “Honors in Art,” students must execute a written project or create a body of work; the results of their efforts must be presented and defended before a committee of department faculty. Interested students should consult any member of the department for additional information concerning the requirements for this program.

**Art History Major Writing Portfolio Requirement** As part of the College’s requirement to document learning outcomes, the art history faculty decided to add a writing portfolio requirement to our major graduation requirements beginning in 2013-14. Students declaring an art history major in or after 2013 must submit two papers as described below.

All art history majors must submit a personal portfolio containing two pieces of writing and a one-page reflection: a research paper from a 200 or 300-level course and a writing sample from *Art 394: Issues in Art*.
History that demonstrates their knowledge of the broader discourses of art history. The one-page reflection will address why the student selected these two pieces of writing.*

The documents should be labeled with your last name, the type of paper, and date of submission. For example:
Lastname-research-3-7-2019
Lastname-issues-3-8-2019
Lastname-reflection-3-8-2019

The documents should be sent as attachments to the Visual Resources Center, VRCenter@wfu.edu.

**Studio Art Major Portfolio Requirement**  As part of the College’s requirement to document learning outcomes, the studio faculty is requiring an image portfolio as part of our major graduation requirements beginning in 2013-14.

All studio art majors will need to submit a portfolio containing two to three photographs or URLs of their best artwork created at Wake Forest. The Visual Resources Center will already have photographs of your best work, but you may also submit your own images. Majors must write a one-page critical analysis of these works. The analysis and all images are due by midterm of their senior year.*

Each semester during finals week, there will be two sessions to photograph art work, which will be delivered to the Visual Resources Center. If you choose to photograph your own work please use the naming convention above and email your documents as attachments to the Visual Resources Center, VRCenter@wfu.edu.

*Please speak to your advisor or one of your professors for further details and deadlines.