

Art Overview

Art courses are designed to provide the highest quality coursework for students majoring in art as well as students who are interested in exploring their creative expression through the creation of artwork in a studio class or the study of art in a historical context. Our art coursework provides students with a richer understanding of the world and themselves. The instructors are committed to excellence in teaching and scholarship. The fine arts department offers a large variety of studio and art history coursework that transfers towards a major in art or art history at a four-year institution. Students who plan on majoring in art at a four-year institution should include art history, studio art and humanities coursework in order to be prepared for upper division work in whatever area of art they may choose to pursue. Art and art history classes fulfill requirements for the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, as well as graduation requirements.

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ARTS 1713 Photography 1

This is a course devoted to introducing photography as a medium of creative expression and visual communication. Students are introduced to 35mm film cameras and the techniques used in the darkroom to create black and white photographs. Initial assignments address technical proficiency and then the emphasis transitions towards creative exploration, aesthetics, and meaning. Classroom discussion will also establish a fundamental relationship between digital and film photography. A \$200 camera deposit will be collected from students who borrow a film SLR camera. The deposit will be refunded at the end of the semester provided the camera is returned undamaged and in suitable working condition. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0722 with a grade of “C” or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1714 Photography 2

This is a course devoted to fostering the skills and proficiency established in Photography 1 and allows students to experience a more meaningful amount of time to produce a body of creative work concentrating on one topic or thematic element. The intention of this course is for each student to produce a unique, high-quality, photographic portfolio that showcases technical and conceptual understanding of the photographic medium with the artwork produced. The accompanying lab section will dictate whether the student continues working in a darkroom or transitions into the digital photography lab. A \$200 camera deposit will be collected from students who borrow a camera. The deposit will be refunded at the end of the semester provided the camera is returned undamaged and in suitable working condition. (Prerequisite(s): ARTS 1713 Photography 1 with a grade of “C” or better) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1717 Photography 3

Photography 3 will build on the foundational skills of photography as an art form learned in the first two semesters of Photography coursework. We will continue to emphasize composition, exposure, camera work and advanced printing techniques to further enhance the capability of personal expression available in the medium. The class will explore professional practices in photography, complete a collaborative assignment, explore advanced printing techniques and opportunities, and develop skills to produce a portfolio of high quality black and white or color photographs. (Prerequisite: ARTS 1714) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1720 Art Appreciation

This is an introductory “learning to look” course with the objective of developing students’ ability to see, understand and enjoy the visual arts. Examples of painting, sculpture and architecture from around the world will be viewed, discussed and analyzed in class. Students will also learn about the materials and processes of art making. Course includes visits to local art museum(s). (Prerequisite(s): READ 0721 with a grade of “C” or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goal 6 & 8) 3C/3/0/0

ARTS 1722 American Animation

This course looks at animation as an art form and cultural product. We will consider animation within the contexts of American popular culture, media history and socio-political history. We will explore technical and aesthetic advancements from the early animation devices of the nineteenth century to the current and emerging digital technologies of today. Our studies will take us through the classic cartoons of Winsor McCay, Max Fleischer, The Walt Disney Company and Warner Bros. to the latest creations of Pixar and South Park Studios. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0722 with a grade of “C” or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goals 6 & 7) 3C/3/0/0

Information is subject to change.
This course information is not a contract.

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ARTS 1724 The Design of Everyday Life

Design is a powerful cultural force that surrounds us wherever we go. This course provides students with the basic historical and analytical tools to understand the impact of design on our day-to-day lives, objects, communication materials and environments. Lessons will cover the main movements, trends and issues in design, from the end of the nineteenth century through today. Visual examples will range from furniture to advertisements, industrial design to digital media. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0722 with a grade of “C” or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goals 6 & 7) 3C/3/0/0

ARTS 1726 Art in the Cities

This course takes an experiential approach to learning about the visual arts. Through visits to museums, galleries, studios and historic sites, students will become familiar with some of the cultural resources available in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. We will study art representing various media, artistic philosophies, historical contexts and the multiculturalism of the Twin Cities. Weekly readings, papers and a final project emphasize the development of critical thinking, visual analysis, and writing skills. Students will be responsible for their own transportation. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0722 with a grade of “C” or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goals 6 & 7) 3C/3/0/0

ARTS 1730 Drawing 1

This course will focus on techniques and strategies for improving observational drawing abilities. Through hands-on drawing exercises, students will learn to depict the world around them and the human form with greater accuracy. (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1731 Drawing 2

This course continues the development of skills and techniques learned in Drawing 1. This course emphasizes observing relationships, line and value to enhance experimental and personal expression; introduces techniques for drawing in color, incorporates figure drawing, and includes the study of influential artists throughout the history of art, concentrating on contemporary means of expression. Students design art projects and complete a portfolio. (Prerequisite(s): ARTS 1730 Drawing 1 with a grade of “C” or better) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1732 Two-Dimensional Design

This course is a foundational study of the principles of two-dimensional design for an understanding of its nature and expressive possibilities, with the opportunity to develop a creative approach in working with its elements. This course will study basic approaches to understanding Notan, the elements of design and the principles of design through personal investigation. (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/2/1/0

ARTS 1733 Three-Dimensional Design

This course is a foundation level study of the principles and elements of three-dimensional design. Students will use a variety of media and art techniques to explore three-dimensional design, form, line, plane, volume, mass, space, texture, light, and time. Projects emphasize a working creative method for problem solving in three-dimensions as well as a general knowledge of historical and contemporary design issues. (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/2/1/0

ARTS 1740 Introduction to Painting

This course will introduce students to the materials and techniques of oil painting. Assignments will be geared towards improving one’s ability to paint from direct observation, depicting the natural world and the human form with greater accuracy, and integrating “color theory” into oil paintings. (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1742 Intermediate Painting

This course will incorporate and further develop skills and techniques learned in Introduction to Painting, but will be more independent in nature. Each student will write a proposal for a cohesive body of work to be completed over the course of the semester, and will work towards developing a personal “style” of painting. Through a series of in-class group critiques, students will learn to analyze and critique works of art. (Prerequisite(s): ARTS 1740 Introduction to Painting with a grade of “C” or better) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1744 Introduction to Watercolor Painting

This course will introduce students to the practice of watercolor painting. Students will become familiar with the materials and terminology of the medium. They will learn to synthesize a variety of painting techniques into watercolor paintings of varying genres and styles. Students will develop an understanding of color theory, as it applies to watercolor painting, and will come to understand historical and contemporary issues pertaining to the medium. (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1750 Introduction to Ceramics

This hands-on studio arts course will introduce students to the fundamentals of Ceramic Art. The primary emphasis will be the creation of functional ceramic pottery. Students will learn to make hand-built pottery and learn to “throw” pots on the pottery wheel. In addition to this, students will learn about trimming, glazing, kiln firing, and a variety of decorative techniques. (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1752 Intermediate Ceramics

This hands-on studio arts course will continue to introduce students to the fundamentals of Ceramic Art. The course will also introduce contemporary practices in ceramic arts and investigate sculptural aspects of the medium. Half of the semester will include advanced wheel techniques and a continued concentration on throwing functional pots. In addition to this, students will continue learning about trimming, glazing, kiln firing, and become more proficient in decorative techniques. (Prerequisite(s): ARTS 1750 Introduction to Ceramics with a grade of “C” or better) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1756 Metal Arts

This course is an introduction to aesthetics, tools, and techniques of creating 3-d works of art through Tungsten Inert Gas (TIG) welding and other assembly techniques. This course covers: safety concerns while working in a metal shop, TIG weld welding, the correct use of filler rod, preparing, cutting, bending, finishing, and the significant properties of different metals. We will explore the creative uses of welding to convey meaning, composition, space, implied motion, creativity, metaphor, personal exploration, the organic elements of nature and the hard edges of human made objects while building a community of respectful artists. (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1757 Metal Art 2

This course builds on the skills and techniques developed in Metal Arts 1. Students will use continue to master their use of tungsten inert gas (TIG) welding as well as be introduced to other assemble techniques. Students will be expected to be role models for good shop safety and etiquette as well as act a mentor for novice artist while continuing to explore their own personal meaning. Students will work as self-directed artist exploring composition, space, implied motion, creativity, metaphor, personal exploration, the organic elements of nature and the hard edges of human made objects. (Prerequisites: ARTS 1756 with a grade of 'C' or better.) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

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ARTS 1760 World Art

What would you see if you suddenly found yourself in China, Nigeria, India or Mexico? How would the world look to you? For many of us, it would probably look very strange. One of the many ways to make our world familiar to us, whether we travel or not, is to try to understand a culture's visual expression in architecture, sculpture, painting and other media. This class will view slides of artwork in a lecture/discussion format. We will then visit the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, twice, where we will be able to immerse ourselves in the cultures studied by examining the original artworks produced by these cultures. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0721 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goals 6 & 8) 3C/3/0/0

ARTS 1770 Art in America

This course is an introduction to art and architecture in North America from the Colonial period to the present. Art in America is united by common historical events and includes Native American culture and influences outside of America. We will explore patterns of cultural interchange with particular emphasis on colonialism, revolution, and the search for national identities. We will also examine the impact of historic and current social movements and politics on art in America. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0722 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/3/0/0

ARTS 1780 Beginning Printmaking

For centuries artists have used printmaking processes to create beautiful images on paper. This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of fine art printmaking. Students will be instructed in the following printmaking areas: monotype, collograph, dry point linocut, and woodcut. In-class projects will focus on hands-on learning and experimentation as students progress toward assembling a fine art print folio of their work. (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0

ARTS 1790 History of Photography

This survey course will focus on the art of still photography from the 19th century to the present. There is an emphasis on the work of artists, their processes, and the accompanying aesthetic movements occurring between the announcement of the Daguerreotype in 1839 and the beginning of the twenty-first century. As witnesses of popular culture, students will examine the interaction of photography with other visual art forms. The photographic print, as a means of artistic expression, will be discussed, including historic, social, and artistic movements. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0722 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/3/0/0

ARTS 1795 Special Topics in Art

This course is designed to present additional or unique material and learning experiences within a specified discipline. The course will be based on student need, flexibility, and may be designed to meet various transfer and pre-major course requirements. Please see a current Course Schedule for complete course details. (MnTC: Goal 6) Variable credits 1-6

ARTS 2710 Advanced Studio Arts

In the Advanced Studio Arts course students will build upon what they learned in Drawing 1, Introduction to Painting, or Fundamentals of Photography courses. The course will be independent in nature with students focused on developing their own personal artistic "style" in either drawing, painting or photography. Students will propose an idea for a body of work and will spend the semester creating a cohesive portfolio of images and writing an artist's statement. The semester will culminate with a public exhibition of student work. (MnTC: Goal 6) Variable credits 3-4

ARTS 2754 Advanced Ceramics

This hands-on studio arts course will build on the proficiency that students have achieved in Introductory and Intermediate Ceramics. The Advanced Ceramics course will require a familiarity with the wheel and hand-building techniques with an emphasis placed on a semester-long ceramics project resulting in a sculptural, conceptual, or functional body of ceramic art work. The course will also expand on contemporary practices in ceramic arts and further investigate sculptural aspects of the medium. Students will become familiar with local ceramics artists and the greater Twin Cities ceramics community. (Prerequisite(s): ARTS 1752 Intermediate Ceramics with a grade of "C" or better) (MnTC: Goal 6) 3C/1/2/0