



ART

College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

Program Description

The Art Program offers a major in Art culminating in a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Fine Arts. The B.A. offers a generalized study of Art and Art History, while the B.F.A. allows the student to specialize in a discipline. The Art major balances studies in the liberal arts and sciences through study of Studio Art and Art History. The program provides a hands-on competence in a variety of disciplines within Art and a thorough knowledge of the theory, history, and criticism of Art, all taught within the context of global diversity. Focal areas in Studio Art include drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, ceramics, and sculpture. Courses in Art History provide opportunities for critical thinking.

Career Opportunities

There are many career options open to students majoring in Art. Among them are teaching on a primary or secondary school level as well as on a college/ university level. Artists also teach through alternative community arts programs and museum educational programs. They work as conservators to restore vintage work for future generations. Artists work in the non-profit sector as curators and arts administrators. Jobs are available through city art programs, which need coordinators for after-school programs and coordinators and staff members for public art programs. These positions rise to the highest level, with artists working at the National Endowment for the Arts and other foundations. Artists can also work as grants writers for museums and non-profit organizations. Artists serve as staff members for local, state, regional, and national arts funders, including San Antonio's Office of Cultural Affairs, the Texas Commission on the Arts and many others. Visual artists are gallery owners or work for art galleries as directors and preparators; they often become art agents or work as buyers for corporate collections. Artists can work for art magazines as critics/arts writers and editors. An artist who chooses to pursue a full-time studio career can make a livelihood through public art commissions. Majors in Art also work as professional photographers and commercial artists. Several of our graduates have become successful commercial and portrait photographers. In San Antonio, the city's Director of the Department of Creative and Cultural Development, the curator of the UTSA art collection, and several other successful arts professionals are all working/exhibition artists.

Faculty/Staff

James Borders, Assistant Professor of Art (M.F.A., Rochester Institute of Technology and School of American Craft in New York): Design II, Sculpture, and Ceramics); his work is included in numerous collections throughout the U.S., including Louisiana State University of Design in Baton Rouge; City of Rochester, New York; and Bossier City, Louisiana. He has been invited to exhibit his work in both solo and group exhibitions nationally.

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Miguel Cortinas, Associate Professor and Chair (M.F.A., University of Texas at San Antonio): Printmaking, Drawing, Painting, and Senior Capstone; has exhibited his work in Germany, Mexico, and across the U.S.

Kathy Vargas, Associate Professor (M.F.A., University of Texas at San Antonio): Photography, Design I, Documentary Photography, History of Photography, and Museology; has exhibited her work in Latin America, Russia, and across the U.S. She was named Texas State 2-D Artist of the Year in 2005 and has experience in rock and roll photography and arts administration.

Program The Semmes Art Gallery works with professional artists from various parts of the country to bring premier exhibits to our students. Through the Art Program's Museology and Internship courses, Art majors have interned at the San Antonio Museum of Art, Blue Star Art Space, San Antonio's Public Art Program, Centro Cultural Aztlan, the Witte Museum, and Art Pace.

Curriculum The **B.A. in Art** requires 42 hours: Drawing I and II; Design I and II; Art History: Ancient through Medieval; Art History: Renaissance to Modern; Painting I; Junior Studio; Senior Capstone; an additional 3 hours of upper-level Art History; and an additional 12 hours of upper-level Art courses, 6 hours of which may be in Art History.

The **B.F.A. in Art** requires 87 hours: Drawing I and II, Design I and II, Color Theory, Photo I, Ceramics I, Sculpture I, Printmaking I, Painting I, Junior Studio, Senior Capstone, 21 additional hours in a single discipline, 12 additional hours of Art electives, and 18 hours of Art History.

The **minor in Art** requires 18 hours, including Drawing I, Design I or II, and 12 additional hours in either 2-D or 3-D courses.

The **minor in Art History** requires 15 hours: Art History: Ancient through Medieval, Art History: Renaissance to Modern, and 9 additional hours of upper-level Art History.

The **minor in Photography** requires 18 hours: Design I; Photography I; History of Photography; Digital Photography; **either** Photography II: Documentary Photography or Photography II: Directorial Photography; and 3 additional hours of upper-level Photography.

Scholarships Small, partial scholarships are available to Art majors on the basis of a portfolio review each spring. Prospective students should submit a portfolio of 12 pieces of original work for consideration. Please contact the Chair of the Art Program before March 1 for more information.

Contact Miguel Cortinas, Chair
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