DEPARTMENT OF PAINTING AND PRINTMAKING

arts.vcu.edu/paintingprintmaking (http://arts.vcu.edu/paintingprintmaking/)

The Department of Painting and Printmaking offers an undergraduate program that earns a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and Printmaking, as well as a graduate program of study that leads to the Master of Fine Arts in Fine Arts. Students admitted to the programs are expected to have a high level of competence in either painting or printmaking. The graduate program is designed to encourage the development of professional attitudes and skills, with an emphasis on individual investigation.

The department is housed in the Fine Arts Building with 12 individual graduate studios plus a large graduate printmaking area in addition to four state-of-the-art printmaking studios: etching, lithography, screen printing and digital print media. These facilities provide an excellent physical environment for the programs with easy access to the other fine art areas of sculpture and crafts. Established in 1928, the Department of Painting and Printmaking was the first department in what has become the School of the Arts. For nearly 70 years, the department has made significant contributions to the development of the School of the Arts' reputation as one of the premier art schools in the country.

The department supports an active and ambitious program of visiting artists and lecturers. Leading figures in the world of contemporary art visit to discuss their work, visit studios, conduct workshops, engage in critique and meet with students throughout the year.

The Master of Fine Arts degree is the terminal degree in the studio areas of fine arts and is a requirement for most college and university teaching positions. Many graduate students have gained teaching experience in the department as part of their assistantship responsibilities, teaching classes in painting, drawing and printmaking. The department assists graduate students financially through a variety of teaching assistantships, graduate assistantships and scholarships.

- Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) with a concentration in painting and printmaking (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-arts/painting-printmaking/fine-arts-mfa-concentration-painting/)

PAPR 525. Issues in Contemporary Visual Arts. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Prerequisite: Painting and printmaking majors only. The investigation of content and meaning of major directions in contemporary art as they relate to the studio. Students will relate their own work to major movements in contemporary visual art.

PAPR 527. Art and Critical Theory. 3 Hours.
Semester courses; 3 lecture hours. 3, 3 credits. Prerequisite: General art history or equivalent. Major themes in art criticism and theory from 1940 to the present. This course provides an introduction to the literature of art criticism as well as artists' writings in relation to studio production.

PAPR 605. Graduate Studio. 6 Hours.
Semester course; 9 studio hours. 6 credits. May be repeated for a maximum total of 24 credits. Enrollment is restricted to graduate students in the M.F.A. in Fine Arts painting and printmaking concentration. Primary emphasis is placed on individual creative projects and on discussion of individual creative projects with regular exposure to the critical attention of other graduate students in the department, under the direction of the teaching faculty. Special emphasis is given to the development of personal expression through individual research and criticism.

PAPR 650. Candidacy Research. 1,3 Hour.
Semester course; 1.5 or 4.5 studio hours. 1 or 3 credits. Must be repeated for a total of six credits. Enrollment is restricted to graduate students in the M.F.A. in Fine Arts painting and printmaking concentration. This course comprises the process of producing work to achieve candidacy, a crucial qualifying step in which student's academic achievements are reviewed, and the student's readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program is determined.

PAPR 660. Professional Practices. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Seminar for the purpose of examining the range of professional practices in the field of contemporary art. Students will learn skills that apply to various parts of the field. The course will also address major debates within the field.

PAPR 670. Thesis. 1,3 Hour.
Semester course; 1.5 or 4.5 studio hours. 1 or 3 credits. Must be repeated for a total of six credits. Enrollment is restricted to graduate students in the M.F.A. in Fine Arts painting and printmaking concentration. This course comprises the process of producing work for and exhibiting it in the thesis exhibition; a written thesis; and an oral presentation by second-year M.F.A. students, a crucial qualifying step for students to complete the program. Graded as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.

PAPR 680. Graduate Group Critique. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 4.5 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a total of 12 credits. Enrollment is restricted to students in the painting and printmaking concentration of the M.F.A. in Fine Arts; those in other M.F.A. concentrations may enroll with permission of the instructor. A seminar class in which primary emphasis is placed on the discussion of individual creative projects with regular exposure to the critical attention of the other graduate students in the department, under the direction of the teaching faculty. Special emphasis is given to the development of personal expression through individual research and criticism.

PAPR 683. Independent Studio. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 4.5 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of nine credits. Enrollment is restricted to graduate students in the M.F.A. in Fine Arts concentrations. An independent studio course that allows students to develop specific skills or explore techniques. Approval of supervising faculty member and department chair necessary prior to registration.

PAPR 690. Graduate Seminar. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 seminar hours. 3 credits. Must be repeated for a total of 12 credits. Enrollment is restricted to graduate students in the M.F.A. in Fine Arts painting and printmaking concentration. Weekly seminar for the purpose of examining contemporary issues within the field of fine art, broadening critical discourse and considering artists' work within the context of a creative practice.
PAPR 691. Special Topics Studio. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 4.5 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of nine credits. Enrollment is restricted to graduate students in the M.F.A. in Fine Arts concentrations. A studio course that focuses on specific issues, theories or historical events in relationship to students’ research and studio practice.

PAPR 692. Directed Research. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course; 1-3 research hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of nine credits. Enrollment is restricted to graduate students in the M.F.A. in Fine Arts concentrations. Approval of supervising faculty member and department chair necessary prior to registration. Learning experiences will be designed with the supervising faculty member in the form of a contract between student and instructor.