CRAFT AND MATERIAL STUDIES, BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (B.F.A.)

The Department of Craft and Material Studies offers a professionally oriented program that leads to a Bachelor of Fine Arts with focus areas in ceramics, fiberwork/fabric design, glassworking, metalsmithing/jewelry or woodworking/furniture design. Within these areas of specialization, courses are designed to assist students in developing concepts, personal direction, and the necessary skills and technical competencies to enable them to pursue a professional career or graduate study. In addition to the areas of study, students have the opportunity for a diverse education in the liberal arts and humanities. Students are encouraged to select courses in other schools in the university that will add to their general knowledge. A student may elect a minor area of study in any department or program offering a minor. The minor can be used to fulfill career objectives or to investigate a discipline of secondary interest.

Career opportunities for craft majors include setting up an independent studio or gallery, restoration or repair work, teaching or participating in the Artist-in-Residence programs in the public schools, and consulting and designing for industry.

Learning outcomes

Upon completing this program, students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of craft and its potential impact on art and culture
2. Translate their creative ideas and develop a personal voice through their studio practice
3. Demonstrate competency in the use of new and traditional craft techniques and media
4. Utilize professional practices in the field of craft and art

Special requirements

Successful completion of ARTF 131, ARTF 132, ARTF 133, ARTF 134 is required for current art foundation students to major in craft/material studies. To enroll in an advanced-level craft and material studies course, students must have earned a minimum grade of C in all course prerequisites.

Degree requirements for Craft and Material Studies, Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.)

Course	Title	Hours
General education (https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-study/general-education-curriculum/)		
Select 30 credits of general education courses in consultation with an adviser.		30
Major requirements		
• Major core requirements		
CRAF 282	Sophomore Seminar	3
CRAF 382	Junior Seminar	3
CRAF 480	Senior Studio/Critique Course	4
CRAF 482	Senior Seminar	3
• Major electives		
Basic craft (select from the list below)		12
Advanced craft (select from the list below)		24
Ancillary requirements		
Art Foundation Program		
ARTF 131	Drawing Studio: ____	3
ARTF 132	Surface Research: ____	3
ARTF 133	Space Research: ____	3
ARTF 134	Time Studio: ____	3
ARTF 139 or ARTF 138	Project Studio Project Seminar	2
ARTH 103 & ARTH 104	Survey of Art I and Survey of Art II	6
Additional requirements		
ARTH electives (200-400 level)		9
Studio electives (must be taken outside of the Department of Craft and Material Studies) [1]		4
Open electives		
Select any courses.		8
Total Hours		**120**

[1] Studio courses outside of the Department of Craft and Material Studies include CINE, COAR, GDES, IDES, KINE, PAPR, PHTO and SCPT.

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

Electives

Course	Title	Hours
Basic craft		
CRAF 211	Beginning Jewelry	4
CRAF 221	Woodworking Techniques	4
CRAF 240	Introduction to Ceramics	4
CRAF 250	Introduction to Glass Fabrication	4
CRAF 260	Introduction to Textiles	4
Advanced craft		
CRAF 301	Advanced Metal Fabrication: Forming	4
CRAF 302	Advanced Metal Fabrication: Mechanisms	4
CRAF 303	Advanced Metal Fabrication: Surface Techniques	4
CRAF 304	Advanced Metal Fabrication: Casting and Stone Setting	4
CRAF 320	Furniture Design	4
CRAF 321	Advanced Woodworking and Furniture Design	4
CRAF 322	Advanced Woodworking and Furniture Design	4
CRAF 341	Advanced Ceramics: ____	4
CRAF 342	Advanced Handbuilding: ____	4
CRAF 344	Ceramics: Mold-Making	4
CRAF 346	Tableware	4
CRAF 351	Intermediate Glass Fabrication/Hot	4
CRAF 352	Intermediate Glass Fabrication/Kiln Forming	4

CRAF 354	Intermediate Glass Fabrication	4
CRAF 361	Intermediate Textiles: Tapestry/ Weaving	4
CRAF 362	Intermediate Textiles: Pattern Weaving	4
CRAF 363	Fabric Design I	4
CRAF 364	Fabric Design II	4
CRAF 391	Topics in Craft/Material Studies	1-4
CRAF 447	Ceramic Technology: Claybodies and Glaze Formulation	4
CRAF 491	Topics in Craft/Material Studies	1-4
CRAF 492	Independent Study	1-3
CRAF 493	Internship	1-6

What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser before beginning course work toward a degree.

Course sequence/plan of study

Freshman year

Fall semester		**Hours**
ARTF 131	Drawing Studio: ____	3
ARTF 132	Surface Research: ____	3
ARTF 139 or ARTF 138	Project Studio or Project Seminar	1
ARTH 103	Survey of Art I	3
UNIV 111 Play course video for Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Investigation and Communication	Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Investigation and Communication (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
General education course		3
	Term Hours:	**16**
Spring semester		
ARTF 133	Space Research: ____	3
ARTF 134	Time Studio: ____	3
ARTF 139 or ARTF 138	Project Studio or Project Seminar	1
ARTH 104	Survey of Art II	3
UNIV 200	Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
General education course		3
	Term Hours:	**16**

Sophomore year

Fall semester		
CRAF 282	Sophomore Seminar	3
Basic craft		8
General education courses		6
	Term Hours:	**17**
Spring semester		
ARTH elective (200-400 level)		3
Basic craft		4
General education course		3
Studio elective		4
	Term Hours:	**14**

Junior year

Fall semester		
CRAF 382	Junior Seminar	3
Advanced craft		8
General education course		3
	Term Hours:	**14**
Spring semester		
Advanced craft		8
ARTH elective (200-400 level)		3
General education course		3
	Term Hours:	**14**

Senior year

Fall semester		
CRAF 482	Senior Seminar (capstone)	3
Advanced craft		4
ARTH elective (200-400 level)		3
General education course		3
Open electives		4
	Term Hours:	**17**
Spring semester		
CRAF 480	Senior Studio/Critique Course	4
Advanced craft		4
Open electives		4
	Term Hours:	**12**
	Total Hours:	**120**

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.