

PAINTING AND PRINTMAKING, BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (B.F.A.)

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arts.vcu.edu/papr (<https://arts.vcu.edu/academics/departments/painting-printmaking/>)

Faculty and students in the Department of Painting and Printmaking work together in a professional and creative learning environment. The undergraduate curriculum enables students to adopt a specialized focus within the discipline and use elective options to pursue other areas of interest in the School of the Arts, the university and the community. It also permits students to tailor a course of study suited to their professional and personal ambitions. The undergraduate program provides students with opportunities for concentrated experiences in both practice and theory as a foundation for independent exploration and artistic development. Classroom discussions invite students to examine a range of contemporary critical issues, which enable them to understand their own studio work in relation to historical continuum. As students develop their skills in critical analysis they are challenged to articulate and justify their ideas both visually and verbally.

The size and diversity of the faculty guarantee exposure to a plurality of ideas and stylistic approaches. In addition, the department's visiting artist program brings to campus leading figures in the world of contemporary art for discussions of their work, critiques of student work and workshops.

Learning outcomes

Upon completing this program:

- Students are expected to achieve technical proficiency in painting and printmaking, and possess the skill to translate their creative ideas through studio practice.
- Students are expected to develop personal voices as artists based on an awareness of social, historical and critical issues.
- Students have the ability to think critically and to articulate their ideas via conversation, public speaking and writing.
- Students comprehend the potential impact of contemporary art on culture.

Special requirements

Successful completion of ARTF 131, ARTF 132, ARTF 133 and ARTF 134 are required for current art foundation students to major in painting and printmaking.

- Open electives: The 12 credits required in this area may be either academic (lecture) or studio, but nine additional studio credits must be taken outside of the Department of Painting and Printmaking.
- Studio courses are designed to be taken in the following sequence: 200 level (basic), 300 level (intermediate) and 400 level (advanced). Instructors may ask you to withdraw from a course if you lack the appropriate background of knowledge and experience.

Degree requirements for Painting and Printmaking, 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		
PAPR 201	Painting From Observation	4
PAPR 211	Print Media I	4
PAPR 290	Concepts and Issues	3
PAPR 292	Concepts and Issues II	3
PAPR 390	Junior Seminar	3
PAPR 402	Senior Degree Project	4
PAPR 490	Senior Seminar	3
• Additional major requirements		
PAPR 304 or PAPR 314	Paint Practice and Theory Print Practice and Theory	4
• Major electives		
PAPR 300- to 400-level courses in painting, printmaking or drawing		12
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		9
Studio electives (outside PAPR) ¹		9
Open electives		
Select any course.		12
Total Hours		120

¹

Select from COAR, CRAF, DANC, FASH, GDES, IDES, KINE, APPM/MHIS, PHTO, SCPT or THEA.

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

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.

Recommended course sequence/plan of study

Freshman year

Fall semester	Hours
ARTF 131 Drawing Studio	3
ARTF 132 Surface Research	3

ARTF 139	Project Studio	1
or	or Project Seminar	
ARTF 138		
ARTH 103	Survey of Art I	3
UNIV 111	Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Play course Investigation and Communication	3
	video for Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Investigation and Communication	
	General education course	3
Term Hours:		16
Spring semester		
ARTF 133	Space Research	3
ARTF 134	Time Studio	3
ARTF 139	Project Studio	1
or	or Project Seminar	
ARTF 138		
ARTH 104	Survey of Art II	3
UNIV 112	Focused Inquiry II (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
	Play course video for Focused Inquiry II	
	General education course	3
Term Hours:		16
Sophomore year		
Fall semester		
PAPR 201	Painting From Observation	4
PAPR 211	Print Media I	4
PAPR 290	Concepts and Issues	3
UNIV 200	Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
Term Hours:		14
Spring semester		
PAPR 292	Concepts and Issues II	3
	300/400 level PAPR studio elective	4
	Studio elective (outside of PAPR)	3
	General education course	3
Term Hours:		13
Junior year		
Fall semester		
PAPR304 or PAPR314 or PAPR 300/400-level PAPR studio elective		4
ARTH elective		3
Studio elective (outside of PAPR)		3
General education course		3
Open electives		3
Term Hours:		16
Spring semester		
PAPR 390	Junior Seminar	3

General education course	3	
ARTH elective	3	
Open Elective	3	
300/400 level PAPR studio elective	4	
Term Hours:		16
Senior year		
Fall semester		
PAPR 490	Senior Seminar	3
PAPR 300- or 400-level electives		4
ARTH elective		3
Open electives		3
General education course		3
Term Hours:		16
Spring semester		
PAPR 402	Senior Degree Project	4
Studio elective (outside of PAPR)		3
Open elective		3
General education course		3
Term Hours:		13
Total Hours:		120

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