FINE ARTS

Program Director, Yvonne K. Widenor, MA

The Fine Arts Department provides opportunities for students to obtain a sound knowledge of the visual and performing arts. The department’s offerings include minors in music, art history, and studio art. These programs enable students to receive training for professional careers in the areas of music performance, a variety of positions in cultural institutions, and artistic practices. The program’s central objective is to encourage students to explore the arts for their own personal development.

Many Fine Arts students are involved in one of the three dynamic student ensembles, Chamber Orchestra, Chorale, and Jazz Ensemble. They perform in on and off-campus venues as they continue their creative practices as musicians. These ensembles provide a vital connection to the arts community in western New York.

Our students also have opportunities to complete internships in area cultural spaces. In the past, students have completed internships at the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, the Darwin D. Martin House Complex, the Western New York Book Arts Center, among many others.

Additional activities geared towards the interests of Fine Arts Students include guest speakers, Makerspace activities, Art in the Afternoon documentary series, and events supported by ArtsCanisius and the Borders and Migration Initiative.

Majors

- Creative and Performing Arts Interdisciplinary Studies (http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/fine-arts/interdisciplinary-creative-performing-arts/)

Minors

- Art History Minor (http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/fine-arts/art-history/)
- Music Minor (http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/fine-arts/music/)
- Studio Art Minor (http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/fine-arts/studio-art-minor/)

Courses

Fine Arts - Creative and Performing Arts (ARTS)

Course Descriptions (Per Subject)

ARTS 202 Social Media and the Arts

Students develop skills necessary to visual and performing artists and arts administrators in promoting their work or that of their cultural institution. The course teaches students how to reach and communicate with their target audiences effectively. Topics covered include website strategies, blogging, social media site management, mobile tactics, and others.

Prerequisite: None. Corequisite: None.

Offered: occasionally.

ARTS 301 Arts Administration

The course is a comprehensive discussion of artist management and arts administration, promotion, marketing, contract law and negotiation, media and public relations as well as agent and manager responsibilities in the recording industry.

Prerequisite: None. Corequisite: None.

Offered: occasionally.

ARTS 302 Not-for-Profit Arts Organizations

The course is an overview of arts management, administration, promotion, and legal issues as they apply to not-for-profit arts organizations. Topics covered include basic finance for not-for-profit organizations, logistics of day-to-day operations, writing grant proposals, strategies for driving revenue, and others.

Prerequisite: None. Corequisite: None.

Offered: occasionally.

ARTS 401 Fine Arts Project

Students will be guided through a fine arts project that will demonstrate advanced accomplishment related to their concentration in the Creative and Performing Arts Interdisciplinary Studies degree. Projects could be an extended paper, a musical performance, an audio technology project, a gallery show, or any other appropriate medium. Students will be mentored by appropriate faculty and will provide regular reports and demonstrations of progress throughout the semester.

Corequisite: None.

Offered: occasionally.

Fine Arts - Art History (FAH)

FAH 101 Cave Paintings, the Colosseum & Cathedrals

Introduction to visual and cultural analysis of major works of art from prehistory through the Middle Ages. Covers prehistoric through Gothic art.

Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness

Offered: fall, spring, & summer.

FAH 102 Altarpieces, Academies & the Avant-Garde

Introduction to visual and cultural analysis of major works of Western art from the Renaissance through the contemporary moment.

Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness

Offered: fall, spring, & summer.

FAH 103 Survey of Pre-Columbian and Native American Art

The artistic achievements of native peoples from the Americas. Toltec, Maya, and Aztec civilizations of Central America, and culture groups from the Woodlands, Plains, Southwest, and Northwest in North America prior to and after contact with Europe.

Fulfills College Core: Diversity, Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)

Offered: fall.

FAH 109 History of Architecture

Visual and cultural analysis of major monuments of global architecture from antiquity to the present.

Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)

Offered: fall.

FAH 110 History of Photography

Introduction to artistic and technical origins and subsequent developments of photographic processes from their invention in 1839 to global contemporary practices.

Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)

Offered: fall.
FAH 159 Gender, Identity, and Art 3 Credits
Gender, Identity, and Art encourages critical conversations across gender, race, sexuality, and class and the articulation of the intersectional nexuses among these issues in art, preparing students to navigate the contemporary social and cultural landscape with a greater awareness. These ideas and their visualization in art throughout history will be analyzed as they relate to the formulation of featured artists’ identities as well as how their art addresses an increasingly diverse and inclusive audience in the contemporary era. This course will feature a visit to the exhibition "We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women, 1965–85," on view at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery from February 17 to May 27, 2018, and will tie in with special programs at the museum associated with the exhibition.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: fall.

FAH 210 Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art 3 Credits
Introduction to visual and cultural analysis and interpretation of the painting, sculpture, and architecture of ancient Egypt and the ancient Near East.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness, Oral Communication
Offered: spring.

FAH 213 Greek and Roman Art 3 Credits
Visual and cultural analysis of the painting, sculpture, and architecture of Greece and Rome.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: spring.

FAH 224 Medieval Art 3 Credits
Visual analysis, cultural analysis, and interpretation of major works of art and architecture from Early Christian, Byzantine, Islamic, Carolingian, Ottonian, Romanesque, and Gothic periods.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: fall or spring.

FAH 245 Renaissance Art 3 Credits
Visual, cultural, and iconographic analysis of painting, sculpture, architecture, and art theory in Europe from the fourteenth through the sixteenth centuries.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: fall.

FAH 248 Baroque Art 3 Credits
Visual, cultural and iconographic analysis of painting, sculpture and architecture during the 17th and 18th centuries in France, Italy, England, Spain and the Netherlands.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: spring.

FAH 265 Contemporary Art 3 Credits
Visual and cultural analysis of major works from the United States and Western Europe from 1945 to the present.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: spring.

FAH 267 Frank Lloyd Wright 3 Credits
An introduction to the influential and iconic work of American architect Frank Lloyd Wright. This course presents his major works and considers American and Modern architecture as a whole. A visit to the Darwin D. Martin House Complex is a vital component to this course.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)

FAH 271 Art in Buffalo 3 Credits
Examination of the artistic and historical resources in the Greater Buffalo region, including prominent examples of architecture, museum collections, and artists in Western New York. Course is taught completely online.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: summer.

FAH 272 Animals in Art 3 Credits
Thematic analysis of the use of animal imagery and animals in art.
Fulfills College Core: Advanced Writing-Intensive, Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: spring of odd-numbered years.

FAH 273 Field Excursion: Connections between Museum and Zoo Exhibitry Practices 1 Credit
Spring Break trip to Explore the portrayal of animals in museums and zoos. Students will compare and contrast the exhibitry practices in multiple museums and zoos in Amsterdam. Students will complete readings and final project while in the field. Additional fee required and varies with location (generally about $3000), which covers all travel costs. Please contact the course instructor for current fees. The course is open to students in any major. ABEC students should note that while this course will count towards the zoo biology minor, it will not count towards the ABEC major.
Offered: occasionally.

FAH 460 Museum Internship 3 Credits
Research, curatorial, and administrative internship at selected Buffalo area art galleries.
Prerequisite: junior or senior standing. Restriction: art history majors and minors (or by permission of internship director).
Offered: fall, spring, & summer.

FAH 481 The Art of the Selfie 3 Credits
An overview of the artistic expressions of portraiture limited to those identified as self-portraits. Beginning with the earliest known self-portraits onward, we will discuss the roles ascribed to self-portraits by artists, their patrons, and the 21st century connoisseur.
Fulfills College Core: Core Capstone

FAH 483 The World of Color 3 Credits
Throughout history, color has represented feelings, thoughts, religious symbolism, scientific classifications, self- and societal identification, psychological states, and cultural relations. This class will provide a definition of color, and an understanding of how color is apprehended by the eye and organized by the brain. It will provide a survey of the uses of color through history and discuss the dual nature of progress in art and progress in color. We will analyze art in the forms of painting, sculpture, photography, filmmaking, and contemporary multi-media creations.
Prerequisite: none. Corequisite: none.
Fulfills College Core: Core Capstone
Offered: every spring.

FAH 499 Independent Study in Art History 3 Credits
Independent studies allow in-depth study of a specific topic and are most often reserved for seniors who cannot otherwise fulfill a graduation requirement. Independent studies require an application and approval by the associate dean.
Prerequisite: permission of the instructor, department chair, & associate dean.
Fine Arts - Music (FAM)

FAM 115 Fundamentals of Music
Basic elements of music, its terms, and its notation including pitch, rhythm, chords, dynamics, tempo, and other aspects. Students will gain familiarity with the piano keyboard.
Prerequisite: none.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: fall, spring & summer.

FAM 119 Masterpieces of Music
A survey of Western art music from medieval Gregorian chant to the present, including the study of musical elements, historical background, musical style, and masterworks of various periods.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: fall & spring.

FAM 122 History of Rock and Roll
A survey of the history of rock and roll and its impact on American and world culture. The musical and cultural roots of rock and roll and the evolution of the style over several decades will be examined.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: Occasionally.

FAM 123 World Musics
Survey course, including folk, traditional, and art music of Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, and North and South America. Classes include listening and videos with the study of instruments, dances, songs, and rhythms of these cultures.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: occasionally.

FAM 124 America’s Music
Music made or continuously used by Americans up to the present: sacred congregational music, vernacular music, African-American music, and cultivated traditions. Historical and sociological development of folk, jazz, and popular music as uniquely American.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts), Global Awareness
Offered: occasionally.

FAM 126 Music Performance
Half-hour private lessons designed for all levels of experience are offered in piano, organ, harp, guitar, voice, strings, woodwinds, brass, strings, percussion, and conducting. For music majors, music minors, education majors with a music concentration, and music scholarship winners (no fee).
Prerequisite: permission of department chair; limited to music majors, music minors, music scholarship students, & music education students with a concentration in music.

FAM 171 Chorale
A mixed-voice singing group that performs repertoire in both the classical and popular styles (Same as FAM 171 except for 0 credit).
Offered: fall & spring.

FAM 181 Chorale
A mixed-voice singing group that performs repertoire in both the classical and popular styles (Same as FAM 171 except for 1 credit).
Offered: fall & spring.

FAM 182 Jazz Ensemble
Jazz ensemble that plays a wide range of music from Count Basie to Maynard Ferguson and everything in between (Same as FAM 172 except for 1 credit).
Offered: fall & spring.

FAM 184 Chamber Orchestra
Chamber orchestra that performs a wide range of orchestral literature from the Baroque period through the 20th century. Concert programs provide students with wide experiences in the orchestral arts (Same as FAM 184 except for 0 credit).
Offered: fall & spring.
FAM 226 Music Performance 2 Credits
Half-hour private lessons designed for all levels of experience are offered in piano, organ, harp, guitar, voice, strings, woodwinds, brass, strings, percussion, and conducting. For music majors, music minors, education majors with a music concentration, and music scholarship winners (no fee).
Prerequisite: Music major, Creative and Performing Arts Interdisciplinary Studies major, music minor, music scholarship holder, Education major with a concentration in music.
Offered: every fall & spring.

FAM 230 Music Theory I 3 Credits
A study of diatonic harmonic progressions typical in the music of the 18th and 19th centuries. The course includes the analysis of melodic, harmonic, rhythmic, and formal aspects of music by composers such as Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert. Lab required.
Prerequisite: FAM 115 or permission of instructor.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: fall.

FAM 240 Music Theory II 3 Credits
A study of four-part composing as developed in Europe, particularly tonal music associated with Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven. Lab required.
Prerequisite: FAM 230 or permission of instructor. Corequisite: .
Offered: spring.

FAM 250 Music for Children 3 Credits
Course provides the backgrounds, models, and skills necessary to create musical experiences for the pre-school and elementary-age child.
Offered: occasionally.

FAM 340L Music Theory IV Lab 1 Credit
Advanced lab instruction in sight-singing and ear-training.
Prerequisite: FAM 330L Corequisite: FAM 340.
Offered: spring.

FAM 390 Sounding Society 3 Credits
Explores how music represents, instills, and challenges the values of ethics, justice, diversity, and global awareness in different societies as represented in art music as well as in popular and indigenous music.
Fulfills College Core: Core Capstone
Offered: spring.

FAM 498 Internship 3 Credits
An internship with a business or organization related to the student’s primary interest gives hands-on experience in the field. A variety of settings are possible: music or arts management, recording studio, radio station, and music retail. Internships require an application and approval by the associate dean.
Prerequisite: FAM 360 & FAM 361 or permission of department chair.
Offered: occasionally.

FAM 499 Independent Study in Music 1-3 Credits
Independent studies allow in-depth study of a specific topic and are most often reserved for seniors who cannot otherwise fulfill a graduation requirement. Independent studies require an application and approval by the associate dean.
Prerequisite: permission of the instructor, department chair, & associate dean.
Offered: occasionally.

Fine Arts - Studio Arts (FAS)

FAS 110 Two-Dimensional Design 3 Credits
Investigation of the formal elements and principles of design in two dimensions. Hands-on studio environment with computer-based assignments will involve students in practical and creative solutions to design problems.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: fall, spring & summer.

FAS 120 Drawing I 3 Credits
Investigations of the formal, material, and historical fundamentals of drawing. Exercises with dry and wet media progress through perceptual rendering, collage, narrative, and imaginative drawing.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: fall, spring & summer.

FAS 130 Three-Dimensional Design 3 Credits
Investigation of the formal elements and principles of design in three dimensions and their relationship with the space they occupy. Particular emphasis is placed on material and presentation.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: fall & summer.

FAS 131 Sculpture I 3 Credits
Emphasis on traditional techniques. Assignments cover specific materials (plaster, wood, styrofoam, metal, paper) and particular techniques (armature construction, wood working, riveting, and mold making).
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: occasionally.

FAS 141 Digital Photography 3 Credits
Review basic photo skills as they relate to the operation of digital cameras. Students are introduced to the digital workflow using Photoshop to develop a personal style that is reflected in a printed and digital portfolio. No prior photo experience necessary.
Restriction: must have a D-SLR camera (digital single lens reflex camera).
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: fall, spring & summer; online.

FAS 142 Travel Photography 3 Credits
Learn how to navigate location shoots and capture the spirit of the specific culture in front of you. Find the right location shots, maximize the light situations regardless of climate or time of day and learn proper ethical behavior for photojournalists. Review basic camera operations for both film and digital picture taking. Additional travel fee required, please contact the instructor for more information. Fee covers travel, lodging, and meals.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: every spring.

FAS 150 Color 3 Credits
Combines in-depth color theory with design and composition making learned through traditional studio set-ups and contemporary computer applications.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: occasionally.

FAS 160 Printmaking I 3 Credits
Introduction to the history and processes of basic printmaking, including relief printing, monoprints, pronto plate lithography, “image-on” intaglio, and other photo-sensitive and non-toxic processes.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: occasionally.
FAS 170 Studio Painting I  3 Credits
Investigation of the formal, material, and historical fundamentals of painting. Exercises in watercolor and acrylic paint progress through grisaille, monochromatic, limited palette, and full palette treatments of subject matters.
Fulfills College Core: Field 3 (Literature and the Arts)
Offered: occasionally.

FAS 220 Comics Workshop  3 Credits
This course is intended to give students hands-on experience writing and drawing comics with an emphasis on storytelling techniques unique to the medium. We will explore a wide variety of examples from the comics canon in order to illustrate abstract techniques discussed in Scott McCloud’s Making Comics. Students will be given drawing assignments in order to develop an understanding of the workflow and creative tools needed to make comics as well as the sense of storytelling flow and of symbolic shorthand necessary in order to become an efficient comic artist.
Offered: occasionally.

FAS 241 Intermediate Photography  3 Credits
For students with some experience with photography. Students should have a basic level understanding of camera function and an introductory level functionality in Photoshop.
Offered: occasionally.

FAS 496 Internship  3 Credits
Internships require an application and approval by the chair and the associate dean.
Prerequisite: permission of the chair & associate dean.
Offered: occasionally.