

Practice of Art

College of Letters and Science (<http://ls.berkeley.edu>)

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Department Website: Art Practice (<http://art.berkeley.edu>)

Overview

Four goals underlie the teaching in the Department of Art:

1. To advance the body of knowledge of human experience through aesthetic investigation.
2. To help students learn to think visually.
3. To help students understand the strategies that artists have devised to deal with aesthetic problems in both traditional and nontraditional methods of artmaking.
4. To help students develop a creative intelligence through practicing a visual arts discipline.

While the undergraduate major is made up largely of studio courses, it also requires two courses in art history and one course in contemporary global art. An art student should be familiar with ways in which visual ideas have been manifested and developed in the past and how specific notions have affected the perception that human beings from diverse cultures have of themselves and their circumstances.

Work by students is featured in the exhibitions of the Worth Ryder Art Gallery, an adjunct educational facility that is open to the public.

Major Program

To declare the Art Practice major, students must have completed:

- Reading and Composition requirements
- A successful portfolio review
- Two required lower division studio courses (Art 8 and 12) and one lower division Art History course with an overall minimum GPA of 3.3

To complete the major, students must have completed 13 courses (five lower division and eight upper division).

Lower Division

Five courses:

- Art 8 and 12 (required)
- Two lower division elective studio courses selected from the following: Art 13, 14, 16, 21, 23AC, and 26
- One Art History course

Upper Division

Eight courses:

- Art 117 or 118 (required)
- Art 119 and 185 (required)
- Four upper division elective courses in Practice of Art
- One Art History course.

With the consent of the major adviser, a student may be given credit toward the major for up to two art-related courses taken outside the department, e.g., Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies; College of Environmental Design; Film & Media; Center for New Media; etc.

Transfer Students

Prospective art majors should contact the Department of Art Practice regarding their application to the major.

Honors Program

Students with an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher who are in their senior year may, with the permission of a regular faculty member, enroll in the honors program. This is an independent study course, taken for a minimum of one semester and a maximum of two semesters and comprising a minimum of four units and a maximum of eight units. A final grade is given at the completion of the program. Honors courses count toward the art major as they are taken for a letter grade.

Graduate Program

The Department of Art offers a two-year program of study leading to the Master of Fine Art (MFA) degree in the practice of art.

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in studio art or its equivalent is prerequisite to the MFA degree.

For the MFA, students must complete a total of 64 units that include six graduate seminars, one 20th century art history course, one upper division course and four studio and independent study courses. Students must also produce a comprehensive body of creative work to be exhibited in the final M.F.A. exhibition.

Further information about this program may be obtained from the Practice of Art office, 345 Kroeber Hall.

ART 8 Introduction to Visual Thinking 4 Units

Department: Practice of Art

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 1 hour of Lecture and 6 hours of Studio per week for 15 weeks. 2.5 hours of Lecture and 15 hours of Studio per week for 6 weeks.

A first course in the language, processes, and media of visual art. Course work will be organized around weekly lectures and studio problems that will introduce students to the nature of art making and visual thinking. Formerly known as 8A-8B.

ART 12 The Language of Drawing 4 Units

Department: Practice of Art

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 3 hours of Lecture and 6 hours of Studio per week for 15 weeks. 7.5 hours of Lecture and 15 hours of Studio per week for 6 weeks.

Prerequisites: 8.

A study of drawing as a tool for articulating what the eyes, hand, and mind discover and investigate when coordinated. Some sessions will be devoted to drawing the human figure. Lectures and demonstrations introduce students to techniques and varied applications.

ART N12 The Language of Drawing 3 Units

Department: Practice of Art

Course level: Undergraduate

Term course may be offered: Summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 6 hours of instructional studio and 3 hours of open studio per week.

Prerequisites: 8A or 8B.

A study of drawing as a tool for articulating what the eyes, hand, and mind discover and investigate when coordinated. Some sessions will be devoted to drawing the human figure.

ART 13 Language of Painting 4 Units

Department: Practice of Art

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 3 hours of Lecture and 6 hours of Studio per week for 15 weeks. 8 hours of Lecture and 15 hours of Studio per week for 6 weeks.

Prerequisites: 8.

A concentrated investigation of what painting on a two-dimensional surface can elicit from what is both observed and felt. Illustrated talks will help familiarize you with issues that have concerned painters in the 20th century. Lectures and demonstrations introduce students to techniques and varied applications.

ART N13 Language of Painting 3 Units

Department: Practice of Art

Course level: Undergraduate

Term course may be offered: Summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 6 hours of instructional studio and 3 hours of open studio per week.

Prerequisites: 8A or 8B.

A concentrated investigation of what painting on a two-dimensional surface can elicit from what is both observed and felt. Illustrated talks will help familiarize you with issues that have concerned painters in the 20th century.