



DEPARTMENT OF ART

Creative Education, Creative Careers



ABOUT US The Department of Art is a vibrant, diverse community where creativity is our passion. Whether you are interested in being a professional artist, designer, educator, or historian, you will learn the skills you need to pursue a career that feeds your curiosity. Classes in our department focus on innovation and experimentation in both traditional and new media with faculty focused on student success.



STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES Engage, exhibit, and work at the Center for Visual Art, our off-campus gallery that exhibits international and nationally-recognized artists as well as our own students and faculty. You can intern at a variety of local museums, galleries, and design firms. Join a club like the Dirtburners or the Art Guild, or go on a study abroad trip organized by our faculty in places like Barcelona or Berlin.



WHAT MAKES US SPECIAL Our faculty are deeply embedded in the Denver creative scene and bring real-world knowledge to their classrooms. They often connect students with opportunities in the community and bring guest artists and designers to campus. Art History faculty bring history to life by bringing objects from the materials collection to class and working with students in collections such as the Denver Museum of Nature and Science or taking them on field trips to the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Museo de las Americas, and the Denver Art Museum.



MAJOR/MINOR We offer a B.A. or a B.F.A. in Art, a B.F.A. in Communication Design, a B.F.A. in Art Education, or a B.A. in Art History, Theory, and Criticism. You can also do a minor in Studio Art, Art History, Theory, and Criticism, or Digital Media.

STUDENT QUOTE

"MSU Denver strives to make its education relevant, and the Art Department realizes that vision and produces artists who can step from their academic practice right into a professional one."

—Heather Doyle-Maier



CONTACT US

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ART EDUCATION | Bachelor of Fine Arts

Experiential Major Map



COLLEGE OF LETTERS,
ARTS AND SCIENCES

	First Year	Middle Years	Last Year
Cultivate Learning & Academic Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take your Foundations classes in ART/ARTH Meet with your Faculty advisor to discuss your academic and career goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply to the B.F.A. in Art Education degree by submitting a portfolio Apply to the School of Education and take your EDS courses Start taking your Art Education courses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about different school districts Take ART 4701 Senior Experience: Exhibition and Thesis and install your exhibition at the Center for Visual Art
Engage Globally and Locally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Join a student organization Go to an exhibition at the Center for Visual Art Research study abroad opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend a Portfolio Review workshop Attend a Visiting Artist, Scholar, and Designer event Attend K-12 School District Art Shows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend a Colorado Art Educator Association conference Submit your artwork to a juried exhibition Participate in a Study Abroad opportunity
Prepare for Postgraduation Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go to local galleries and exhibition openings and talk to artists Start posting your artwork on social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply to work at the Center for Visual Art in their Education program Observe mentor teachers in K-12 art classrooms Visit art centers and out reach art programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take Praxis exam Talk to your faculty advisor about job recommendations Student Teach in an art classroom with a mentor teacher

Career Information

What skills do employers want?

- Effectively articulate thoughts and ideas
- Engage with people from diverse backgrounds
- Work as a collaborative team member, create solutions, reflect and evaluate outcomes

This major gives me the skills to:

- Turn a passion into a career
- Participate in civic life
- Educate and inspire others

What careers can I pursue?

- Elementary Art Teacher
- Middle School Art Teaching
- High School Art Teacher
- Museum Educator
- Arts Program Director
- Curriculum Designer

Academic Success Checklist

- Discover library resources
- Book an appointment with your academic advisor
- Visit the writing and tutoring center
- Complete FASFA and academic scholarship applications

In 2022-23, Art Education majors had a 100% job placement rate among those that applied for teaching positions.

Career Development Checklist

- Update your resume early & often
- Drop into the C2 Hub's Career Lab
- Secure an internship or career aligned part time job to develop essential skills for graduation

