



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.

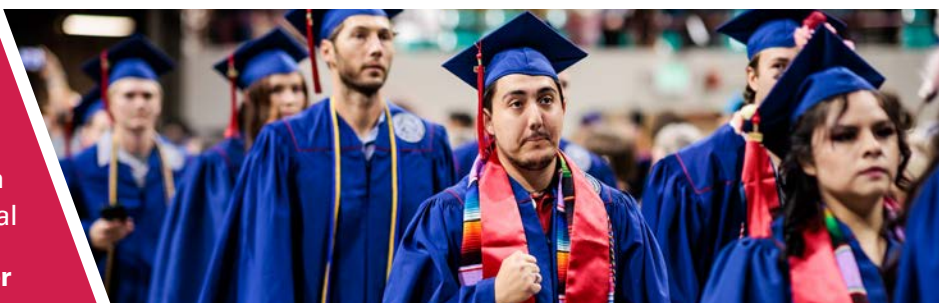


MAJOR/MINOR We offer a B.A. or a B.F.A. in Art, a B.F.A. in Communication Design, a B.F.A. in Art Education, or a B.A. in Art History, Theory, and Criticism. You can also do a minor in Studio Art, Art History, Theory, and Criticism, or Digital Media.

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 HISTORY, THEORY AND CRITICISM

Experiential Major Map



MSU[™] COLLEGE OF LETTERS,
ARTS AND SCIENCES

Bachelor of Arts

	First Year	Middle Years	Last Year
Cultivate Learning & Academic Excellence	- Take your ART/ ARTH Foundations classes - Meet with your Faculty advisor - Create study groups - Visit museums with art history faculty/students	- Take ARTH 2600 Reading and Writing Visual Language - Start your foreign language coursework - Take a variety of upper-division electives	- Take an Art History, Theory, and Criticism seminar - Write your senior thesis - Present at the Senior Thesis Research Symposium
Engage Globally and Locally	- Attend the Annual Art History High Tea - Learn more about the Art History and Art Guild Student Orgs - Attend Visiting Artist, Scholar, and Designer events	- Go on a faculty-led study abroad - Apply for on-campus arts jobs, including the Center for Visual Art - Join the Art Guild and work on MetroNow	- Present at the Annual Art History, Theory, and Criticism Symposium - Attend the Annual Front Range College Art Symposium - Attend a regional or national conference
Prepare for Postgraduation Success	- Learn about professional opportunities (internships, work-study, etc.) - Learn about the Visual Literacy Badge	- Be a Teaching Assistant - Do an Internship at a local art museum or organization - Talk to a faculty advisor if interested in graduate school	- Research graduate programs and application dates - Request references from faculty for jobs or graduate school

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

Employment in Art is projected to grow by 6.3 percent from 2024 to 2026.

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

Career Information

What skills do employers want?

- Excellent writing skills
- Ability to research and break down and simplify complex data
- Ability to explain artworks to a broad and diverse audience, organizational skills, project management

This major gives me the skills to:

- Critically analyze and interpret visual culture
- Understand materials and processes of art
- Explain the relationship between historical events, cultural norms, and art

What careers can I pursue?

- Museum Curator
- Arts Administrator
- Museum educator
- Collection Manager
- Art/Architectural Conservator
- Arts Law and Law Enforcement
- Appraiser
- Art Critic
- Art Archivist

