

# ART

(413) 662-5255

[www.mcla.edu/art/](http://www.mcla.edu/art/) (<http://www.mcla.edu/art/>)

Chairperson: Jeremy Winchester, M.F.A.

Email: [Jeremy.Winchester@mcla.edu](mailto:Jeremy.Winchester@mcla.edu) ([jeremy.winchester@mcla.edu](mailto:jeremy.winchester@mcla.edu))

## Art Major

The Department of Fine and Performing Arts offers a four-year program leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art. The art major features hands-on courses in the creation and techniques of art, as well as courses in visual culture and media. Courses start with a foundations approach centered on drawing, painting, design, sculpture and art history. Building on these skills and concepts, students can choose electives in figure drawing, book arts, illustration, and many other art methods. Students will also develop their own artworks and a depth of knowledge about the history of art, according to their career goals and interests. Opportunities may include internships with area arts organizations such as the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA), the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, and MCLA's Gallery 51.

Students graduating with a major in Art will be able to:

- Create original high-quality artworks;
- Understand all levels of art-making and visual creativity;
- Relate, analyze, and utilize the history of art and visual culture;
- Build public art presentations and market their own and others' art.

## Department Policy Regarding Double Majors/Concentrations/Minor Programs

Due to redundancies in program requirements, the Department of Fine & Performing Arts prohibits combination of the following programs:

- Art major & or design minor or art minor

## Programs

- Art - Design Concentration, B.A. (<https://catalog.mcla.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs-study/art/art-design-concentration-ba/>)
- Art - Studio Art Concentration, B.A. (<https://catalog.mcla.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs-study/art/art-studio-art-concentration-ba/>)
- Art History Minor (<https://catalog.mcla.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs-study/art/art-history-minor/>)
- Art Minor (<https://catalog.mcla.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs-study/art/art-minor/>)
- Design Minor (<https://catalog.mcla.edu/undergraduate/academic-programs-study/art/design-minor/>)

## Foundation Courses

Code	Title	Hours
ART 116	Introduction to Drawing	3
ART 118	Introduction to Design	3
ART 125	Introduction to Sculpture	3
ART 204	Digital Media	3
ART 212	Introduction to Painting	3

ART 216	Intermediate Drawing	3
ART 315	Intermediate Art Lab	3
ART 412	Advanced Art Lab	3
ART 480	Senior Art Project	3
AMGT 130	Introduction to Arts Management	3
ARTH 117	Introduction to Art History	3
ARTH 217	Contemporary Art	3
Select two of the following Cultural Context courses:		6
AMGT 335	Museum Studies	
AMGT 345	Community Arts and Education	
AMGT 355	Artist Entrepreneurship	
AMGT 435	Advanced Museum Studies	
ARTH 311	Topics in Art History	
ARTH 413	Seminar in Art History	
ARTH 500	Independent Study in Art History	

**Total Hours** **42**

Students must choose from one of the two following concentrations: Design or Studio Art.

## Art Courses

### ART 116 Introduction to Drawing **3 cr**

Introduces art practices through the study and creation of drawings. Drawing is fundamental to the visual arts. Working from observation, a mix of methods of line, value, and form build skills of tone, visual proportion, scale, sketching, composition, concept and artistic meanings.

### ART 118 Introduction to Design **3 cr**

Introduces design through individual and collaborative design projects. Uses a variety of materials and processes, explores the elements and principles of design, project development, presentation skills and the role of the craft.

### ART 125 Introduction to Sculpture **3 cr**

Introduces a variety of sculptured methods including manipulation, addition and subtraction as well as principles of three-dimensional design.

### ART 201 Studio: Art & Society **3 cr**

Focuses on potential impacts of visual arts in both societal and personalized contexts through the introduction and understanding of basic drawing techniques, first-hand art experiences, research and writing. Students will be required to explore image-making, as well as writing, to express original ideas and to enhance critical thought, observation, and analysis of existing artwork, explaining and discussing the contexts in which an artwork was made and is viewed. Intended for non-art majors.

**Attributes:** Core Creative Arts (CCA)

### ART 204 Digital Media **3 cr**

Introduces students to digital media and techniques with a particular emphasis on contemporary practical applications.

### ART 212 Introduction to Painting **3 cr**

This in-depth studio art laboratory uses painting from observation to investigate and refine the use of color. Projects and readings include painting media and their use, classic and contemporary palette organization, color mixing and color theory.

**Prerequisite:** ART 116

- ART 216 Intermediate Drawing** 3 cr  
Develops intermediate drawing projects by working from observation and imagination. Techniques focus on line, modeling and form using intensive sketching processes.  
**Prerequisite:** ART 116
- ART 218 Intermediate Design** 3 cr  
Students integrate and extend processes and media that were introduced in the first semester, with a focus on how compositional development, conceptual and material process and independent inquiry form the foundation of the design process.  
**Prerequisite:** ART 118
- ART 232 Intermediate Painting** 3 cr  
Continues the exploration of our visual world, with increased attention to painting materials, color and palette, composition and metaphor in painting.  
**Prerequisite:** ART 116, ART 212
- ART 235 Introductory Studio (Technique)** 3 cr  
Study and practice important facets of studio art techniques and creative methods in a creative arts laboratory environment. The course includes exercises and art projects to prepare students as they begin to develop a professional portfolio of original artworks. Course topics vary by semester and may include: sculpture, mixed media, collage, assemblage, cartooning, landscape painting and other topics. Repeatable if different topic.  
**Prerequisite:** ART 116  
**Repeatable:** Unlimited Credits
- ART 305 The Human Figure** 3 cr  
Draw and/or paint based on direct observation of the nude model. The human figure is a central force of symbolism in European and American fine art. As such students will interact with artistic anatomy traditions and innovations.  
**Prerequisite:** ART 116
- ART 315 Intermediate Art Lab** 1-6 cr  
Intermediate, experimental studio art laboratory. Course work includes analysis and creation of individualized art projects designed by the student with frequent feedback from the instructor, peer groups, critiques, and/or guest artists. This course may be repeated.  
**Prerequisite:** Junior status, Art Major or Minor  
**Repeatable:** Unlimited Credits
- ART 335 Intermediate Studio (Technique)** 3 cr  
Employs mid-level studio art techniques to create original artworks. Method and technique vary by semester and may include art forms such as cast painting, block printing, digital photography, book arts, sculpture or other specialty topics. Course may be repeated.  
**Prerequisite:** Any 100 or 200 level ART course  
**Repeatable:** Unlimited Credits
- ART 412 Advanced Art Lab** 1-6 cr  
Advanced, experimental studio art laboratory. Course work includes analysis and creation of individualized art projects designed by the student with frequent feedback from the instructor, peer groups, critiques, and/or guest artists. This course may be repeated.  
**Prerequisite:** Minimum 3 credits of ART 315 or senior status  
**Repeatable:** Unlimited Credits
- ART 435 Advanced Studio (Technique)** 3 cr  
Employs advanced studio art techniques to create original artworks. Method and technique vary by semester and may include art forms such as portraiture, engraving, manipulated photography, book arts, sculpture, or other advanced specialty topics. Course may be repeated.  
**Prerequisite:** Any 200 or 300 level ART course  
**Repeatable:** Unlimited Credits
- ART 480 Senior Art Project** 3 cr  
Develop a public exhibition of art created in the art studios. Under the supervision of FPA faculty, students will select work from their art portfolios, organize and present a professional display in an art gallery or other appropriate community venue.  
**Prerequisite:** Senior Art Major  
**Repeatable:** Unlimited Credits
- ART 499 Teaching Assistantship** 1-3 cr  
Study art teaching methods, deliver academic class presentations, assist with study sessions and tutorials, attend all classes, final paper and other duties negotiated with course instructor. Must have completed a minimum of four (4) courses in the major, have a 3.0 overall GPA or better, and a B+ or better in the course. This course can be taken for either Pass/Fail or traditional letter grading.  
**Prerequisite:** Department approval  
**Repeatable:** Maximum of 6 credits
- ART 500 Independent Study** 1-3 cr  
Open to juniors and seniors who wish to read in a specific area or pursue a project or topic in depth under the direction of a faculty member. Frequent conferences with the advisor are required.  
**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status  
**Repeatable:** Maximum of 12 credits
- ART 540 Internship** 1-15 cr  
Offers eligible students the opportunity for enhanced educational opportunities by providing actual field experience in public or private organizations that relate to their academic and professional interests. Enrollment requires individual application with faculty sponsorship and departmental approval.  
**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status and department approval  
**Repeatable:** Maximum of 15 credits

## Art History

- ARTH 117 Introduction to Art History** 3 cr  
Introduces art, architecture, and sculpture from prehistory to the present. Focuses on the art of the West with additional discussion of non-Western cultures. Examines major works and artists within their historical, social, and political contexts while tracing principle art movements. Also explores materials and techniques of art making. Course may include field trips to local museums.  
**Attributes:** Core Creative Arts (CCA)
- ARTH 217 Contemporary Art** 3 cr  
Introduces contemporary art. Presents major artists in cultural, historical, and political contexts. Topics may include the changing nature of the avant-garde, the roles of the critic and the economic market, new forms of art making, and the expanding conceptions of creative self-expression, particularly with regards to gender identity and race. Course may include field trips to MASS MoCA and other local sites of contemporary art.  
**Attributes:** Core Creative Arts (CCA)

**ARTH 311 Topics in Art History** 3 cr

Provides a focused investigation of a particular art historical period(s) or theme(s). Introduces art historical research and bibliography. Topics vary by section. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

**Prerequisite:** ARTH 117 or ARTH 217

**Repeatable:** Unlimited Credits

**ARTH 413 Seminar in Art History** 3 cr

Provides a critical and sustained investigation of a particular topic. Topics vary by section and rotate among art historical fields. Students in this advanced seminar read and discuss relevant texts and are exposed to varying art historical viewpoints and theories. Students conduct independent research, make oral presentations, and write research papers. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

**Prerequisite:** ARTH 311

**Repeatable:** Unlimited Credits

**ARTH 500 Independent Study in Art History** 1-3 cr

Develop an art historical research topic to study critically and in depth in conjunction with the faculty advisor.

**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval

**Repeatable:** Maximum of 12 credits