

Art

Gonzaga's Art curriculum teaches students to discipline, refine, and focus their aesthetic understanding and expression while bringing their creative and intellectual experiences to the learning process. By exploring the possibilities that exist within the applied rules of composition and design, students hone their skills in creative problem-solving and learn effective visual communication of ideas.

DEGREE PROGRAMS

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in Art is a professional degree intended to provide art majors with greater technical expertise and conceptual proficiency in studio art. It gives students a much more competitive edge when entering the job market for positions in design or media production, applying to graduate programs in the visual arts, or pursuing a career as a practicing artist. B.F.A. students graduate with a more polished and extensive portfolio of work and are given the opportunity to showcase their art in a solo or two-person exhibition during their senior year. Gonzaga is one of only two private, liberal arts institutions in the Pacific Northwest to offer a B.F.A. in Art.

The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Art provides students a comprehensive education in the visual arts and art history. It requires fewer credits in art than the B.F.A. and thus allows greater flexibility for students to pursue additional academic interests or a second major in another area of study. Students produce a competent body of work in one or more studio art areas during their studies at Gonzaga, some of which will be selected for display during their senior year in the annual group exhibition for B.A. students in Art.

In addition to the B.F.A. and B.A., the Art Department offers a minor in art, a concentration in Art History for B.A. students in Art, and a minor in Art History for non-Art majors. The minor in Art helps students become proficient in a variety of art forms and studio techniques, effectively use elements of design, and demonstrate a fundamental understanding of art history. The Art History concentration/minor is a natural gateway into the study of different cultures and societies, providing students with an enhanced view into other cultures through the lens of art.

THE PROGRAM

Gonzaga's Art Department allows students to investigate a variety of visual experiences through a study of both the studio arts and art history. In studio art courses students explore the creative processes involved in producing original works of art. These courses include the areas of ceramics, design, photography, creative film making, drawing, painting, and printmaking. They are designed to encourage creativity and innovation and emphasize developing the fundamentals of each artistic medium. Art appreciation and art history courses emphasize the role of the artist in society and help students develop a greater sense of the importance of art's cultural context.







DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Art instruction is offered via study abroad opportunities at the Gonzaga University campus in Florence, Italy, as well as in Monterrey, Mexico. In Florence, students may work in one or more studio areas of drawing, design, sculpture, and painting. Students in Florence also have access to additional classes in art history. Art becomes a living study as students explore the artwork and techniques of the Italian Renaissance. The Universidad de Monterrey (UDEM) in Monterrey, Mexico offers a state-of-the-art facility, incredible faculty and a balance of contemporary art with a rich historical and cultural experience of the area. Gonzaga students may also take art history courses in nearly all of the other study abroad programs available to them.

Creative development and experiences outside the classroom are stressed in the Art Department curriculum. Below is a list of activities and projects that art students have recently completed or participated in:

- Completion of murals for non-profit community organizations
- · Creation of ceramic bowls for the annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser
- Demonstration of various printmaking techniques for the general public at the Spokane Print Fest
- · Development of an art history app focused on women artists and artists of color
- Gonzaga Film Festival
- · Display of their work and/or internships at local art galleries

OUTCOMES

Ultimately, the best assessment of the program is student success beyond Gonzaga. Students have been accepted at major graduate programs throughout the United States. As a result of their education in the Art Department at Gonzaga, a large number of former students work as individual artists, teach at colleges and universities, work in galleries and museums, and work in applied art fields. Please visit gonzaga.edu/art for profiles of Gonzaga alumni.

In the last 15 years, Gonzaga art students have been accepted into the following M.F.A. programs:

- Cranbook Academy of Art
- DePaul University
- Northern Illinois University
- San Francisco Academy of Art
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- University of Arizona
- University of Connecticut
- University of Georgia Atlanta

- University of Iowa
- University of Kansas
- University of Montana
- University of Nebraska Lincoln
- University of Oregon
- University of Wisconsin Madison
- Washington State University



THE PLACE

Gonzaga's Jundt Art Center and Museum is located on the shores of the Spokane River. The heart of the center is a beautiful studio complex for ceramics, design, drawing, painting, and printmaking. A theatrestyle lecture hall provides space for art history, visiting artist lectures, and video/film presentations.

The Jundt Art Museum provides exhibition and storage areas for Gonzaga University's permanent art collection, plus changing exhibits of local, regional, national, and international artwork. Students and faculty regularly take advantage of the many opportunities to study and learn directly from artworks in the Jundt Art Museum.

The Gonzaga University Urban Arts Center (GUUAC) in downtown Spokane provides exhibit space for Gonzaga art students and faculty, local artists, and visiting artists from outside the region. The GUUAC brings the experience of contemporary art directly to the broader Spokane community.



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