

# A R T

## PREPARATION FOR THE MAJOR

### High School Preparation

Recommended as part of or in addition to UC's "a-g" admission requirements:

Available courses in art such as:

Digital Media,  
Drawing,  
Painting,  
Sculpture/new genres,  
Ceramics,  
Photography,  
Video.

### Transfer Preparation

To make normal progress in the major, complete the following courses prior to transfer:

Introduction to Contemporary  
Practice I: Image Studies 7B,  
Introduction to Contemporary  
Practice II: Spatial Studies 7C,  
Lower-Division Drawing.

Three beginning art studio courses selected from:

Digital Media,  
Painting,  
Sculpture,  
Ceramics,  
Photography,  
Printmaking.

Please see the UCSB *General Catalog* ([www.catalog.ucsb.edu](http://www.catalog.ucsb.edu)) or your school counselor for more information on course preparation. California community college students should see [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org).

UCSB's Department of Art offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the visual arts and its related fields of research, including theory and media studies. Students are exposed to a broad range of aesthetic viewpoints through the department's interdisciplinary curriculum, which is founded in theoretical and conceptual practices, and an extensive range of faculty research.

Through a comprehensive foundations program, students are first introduced to the diversified and hybridized practices of contemporary art, including study in history, theory and process. At the upper division level, students are given the opportunity to focus and individualize their aesthetic practice while still maintaining an open attitude towards art and its ever-evolving contextual relationship with contemporary culture.

Students are encouraged to pursue interdisciplinary course opportunities campus-wide in other departments such as Film Studies, History of Art and Architecture, and Media Arts and Technology.

## The Major

UCSB's Department of Art offers the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in art, emphasizing the interdisciplinary nature of contemporary art practice. Art majors are first introduced to contemporary thinking and practice through core survey and studio courses. Upon completion of this fundamental series, students are encouraged to enhance their research through exploration of a range of studio and special topic courses. (See current faculty research areas at [www.arts.ucsb.edu](http://www.arts.ucsb.edu), and undergraduate course listings in the UCSB General Catalog, [www.catalog.ucsb.edu](http://www.catalog.ucsb.edu)).

The department encourages conceptual problem-solving skills as well as the practical and experimental exploration of the creative process. In so doing, the program fosters independence and innovation on the part of each student in the development of alternative projects and venues for the production and presentation of visual works. In the course of their undergraduate studies, students are expected to generate a significant body of work and should learn to document their process effectively, utilizing current methods of both analog and digital representation. Students are also required to develop their written and verbal skills in tandem with their visual practice to ensure their successful integration into the professional environment.

Students pursuing graduate study should have an undergraduate degree with some emphasis in visual studies. However, a significant criterion for eligibility is based on portfolio review of creative activity, which may include a wide range of study such as theory/criticism, film studies, performance, design, architecture and media studies. Graduate students are given the opportunity to cultivate their teaching experience at the college level through the department's Teaching Assistantship award program, which will prepare them for appropriate teaching careers in college art programs.

## Special Programs and Resources

The department maintains specialized studio facilities and equipment for experimentation in a range of media including 2D, 3D and 4D (time-based) research. Studio facilities include a woodshop, metalworks foundry, ceramic kilns as well as print, papermaking and chemical-based photography labs for specialized technical research.

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The department also maintains a comprehensive wing for digital media studies to include a range of research in photography, digital video, and web interface design, with specialization in 3D virtual environments. The department's affiliation with the Media Arts and Technology Program (MAT) expands the department's digital media studies to include cross-campus interdisciplinary programming between the humanities, engineering and computer sciences.

Department resources also include the department-sponsored Gallery 1434, a student-run exhibition space featuring weekly shows and public openings from undergraduate and graduate students. Students of outstanding merit are eligible for the department's highly competitive Honors Program. A select number of upper-division students receive individual studio space and a specialized course of study, which includes a critique seminar and opportunity for exhibition in our on-campus gallery space.

In conjunction with the College of Creative Studies (CCS), the Department of Art sponsors the weekly Visual Arts Symposium, which brings prominent artists to campus for public lectures and in-studio visitations with graduate students. The affiliation with CCS also involves Art Department faculty and students in special topics and interdisciplinary coursework each year.

Two additional on-campus exhibition venues, the College of Creative Studies Gallery and the University Art Museum (UAM) offer exposure to a range of exhibition programming, both regional and international in scope. The UAM presents major traveling exhibitions and houses a permanent collection for research and presentations. Each spring, the museum becomes a professional venue for the annual undergraduate exhibition, showcasing faculty-selected work by outstanding undergraduate students.

The UCSB Arts Library houses one of the premiere collections of exhibition catalogues, a catalogue exchange program with other institutional collections throughout the country, as well as a sizeable collection of books and periodicals in historical and contemporary art. Also relevant to student research is the on-campus Architectural Drawing Collection, which houses one of the most comprehensive collections in the country of original drawings by architects.

At UCSB, students are able to study art in a stimulating and open environment that extends from the department to the campus to the broader community of Santa Barbara. Through the department's internship program, students are encouraged to broaden their education through involvement with local arts organizations, including such nationally recognized exhibition venues as The Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF) and The Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Both offer a broad range of visual arts programs, bringing significant artists and artistic research to Santa Barbara.

Separately, UCSB's Arts and Lectures program brings outstanding, internationally recognized artists and performers to campus through its lecture presentations, poetry readings, performances and film screenings.

## **Careers in Art**

UCSB's Art major is excellent preparation for graduate study or a career as a professional artist. Distinguished alumni have started digital design companies, garnered major gallery representation and international solo exhibitions, directed award-winning commercials and music videos, and gone on to teach at the college and university levels. Students interested in teaching art at the university level should plan to complete the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree. Students interested in teaching at the community college level also should pursue graduate work, at least through the master's degree. Teaching at the high school (secondary) level requires the California Single Subject Teaching Credential. Students considering this option should discuss their plans with the credential advisor in UCSB's Graduate School of Education and with the Art Studio department's undergraduate advisor early in their academic careers.

For more information about UCSB's Art Studio major, please call or write to:

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