Department of Art

Accreditation

• Azusa Pacific University is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) (https://www.wscuc.org).
• The Department of Art programs are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) (https://nasad.arts-accredit.org).

Learn more (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/artdesign) about the Department of Art.

Admission

University graduate admission and program acceptance requirements must be met before an application is complete (see Admission to the University (http://catalog.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/admission-policies/graduate-admission-university)).

Program-specific application requirements are available on the APU website (http://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessionalcenter/admissions/requirements/program).

International students have a separate application procedure. Contact the International Center at +1-626-812-3055 or visit the center’s website (http://www.apu.edu/international).

Mission

The mission of the Azusa Pacific University Department of Art is to prepare art students for a lifetime of artistic expression and to cultivate individual creativity through the study of history, technique, presentation, and social engagement, as a reflector of the creative and transformative nature of God.

Faculty believe that art is a socially responsible calling that challenges students to act as transformers in the world. In human history, artists have been the vehicles for spiritual, social, political, and psychological definition and change. Therefore, art is presented as a professional occupation and an essential part of a liberal arts education. APU students train to continue in that artistic tradition.

Degrees in:

• Master of Fine Arts in Visual Art (http://catalog.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/music-arts/visual-performing-arts/art-design/fine-arts-visual-art-ma)
• Master of Arts in Modern Art History, Theory, and Criticism (Online) (http://catalog.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/music-arts/visual-performing-arts/art-design/modern-art-history-theory-criticism-online-ma)
• Master of Arts in Art Education (http://catalog.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/music-arts/visual-performing-arts/art-design/art-education-ma)

ART 501, Integration: Theory and Practice I, 2 Units
This seminar course stimulates students’ thinking regarding the relationship between the life of art making and the personal development of faith issues.

ART 502, Integration: Theory and Practice II, 2 Units
In this second-semester course, students write a comprehensive artist’s statement reflecting both artistic issues and faith concerns. It forms the basis for future renditions, wall statements, and concept statements for proposed projects.

ART 503, Foundations of Art Education, 3 Units
This course explores the historical and philosophical foundations of art education. Students also examine concepts regarding how artistic learning occurs in children in K-12 settings, including special populations, and investigate how these concepts shape current art education practice related to the movement from STEM to STEAM.

ART 510, Introduction to Graduate Studies/Critical Issues in Art I, 2 Units
This in-depth seminar course examines contemporary issues in the visual arts, their relation to the Christian faith, and how they ultimately relate to the student's own work. Topics vary according to the faculty.

ART 513, Studio Art Exploration and Application I, 3 Units
This is the first course in Art Exploration and Application. This course provides studio residency experiences that will enable students to expand their drawing and two-dimensional design skills and advance their visual communication skills by exploring a variety of design processes and techniques, as well as compositional and aesthetic concepts.

ART 520, Critical Issues in Art II, 2 Units
This in-depth seminar course examines contemporary issues in the visual arts, their relation to the Christian faith, and how they ultimately relate to the student's own work. Topics vary according to the faculty.

ART 525, Professional Practice, 3 Units
This seminar course discusses the intricacies and responsibilities of the professional artist as students prepare their portfolios.
ART 530, Graduate Studio: Special Topics I, 2 Units
This course centers on art concerns and critiques stemming from each student's work. Focus varies based on the professor's specialties.

ART 540, Graduate Studio: Special Topics II, 2 Units
This course centers on art concerns and critiques stemming from each student's work. Focus varies based on the professor's specialties.

ART 545, Directed Experience, 3 Units
This course requires one semester of field experience, either as a teaching assistant for a member of the studio faculty or as an intern in an arts-related organization. Discussion addresses the growing number of roles in which artists often participate in addition to or in conjunction with art making. The class includes meetings in a seminar format.

ART 550, History of 19th-Century Art, Criticism, and Theory, 3 Units
This course aims to provide an in-depth study of the art of 19th-century Europe and America, and an introduction to a variety of methods by which art is customarily understood.

ART 555, History of 20th-Century Art, Criticism, and Theory, 3 Units
This course aims to provide an in-depth study of the art of 20th-century Europe, America, and beyond.

ART 560, Reading and Translating French, 3 Units
This optional elective course develops proficiency in reading French at an intermediate level, reviewing basic grammar concepts and stylistic elements.

ART 565, Methodologies of Art History, 3 Units
This course provides an advanced examination of art history in the form of a survey of methods used by practitioners since the 16th century.

ART 570, Theories and Practices of Abstraction, 3 Units
This course provides an in-depth study of abstract painting and sculpture of Europe and America from the 1880s to roughly 1970. It explores the relationship between the academy and the deconstruction of the figure.

ART 575, Writing Art Criticism, 3 Units
This course addresses a range of strategies for interpreting and building experiences and meanings that address both the individual and shared experience of makers and viewers of visual art.

ART 576, The Modern Object, 3 Units
This course addresses the origins and development of sculpture in the Modern era. An advanced exploration includes the methods and historical relevance of sculpture in relation to modernity.

ART 577, Visual Culture, 3 Units
This course asks how all of our visual languages from high art to popular culture should be organized and addressed as art historians.

ART 580, Critique, 1 Unit
This critique course is to be taken the first term in residence and consists of in-depth processing of the artist's work. Both student and faculty evaluation are the primary content of the class.

ART 581, Critique, 1 Unit
This second critique course consists of in-depth processing of the artist's work created up to this point in the program. Both student and faculty evaluation are the primary content of the class.
Prerequisite: ART 580 and ART 590

ART 582, Critique, 1 Unit
This third critique course consists of in-depth processing of the artist's work created up to this point in the program. Both student and faculty evaluation are the primary content of the class.
Prerequisite: ART 581 and ART 591

ART 583, Critique, 1 Unit
This fourth critique course consists of in-depth processing of the artist's work created up to this point in the program. Both student and faculty evaluation are the primary content of the class.
Prerequisite: ART 582 and ART 592

ART 584, Critique, 1 Unit
This fifth critique course consists of in-depth processing of the artist's work created up to this point in the program. Both student and faculty evaluation are the primary content of the class.
Prerequisite: ART 583 and ART 593
ART 585, Critique, 1 Unit
This sixth critique course consists of in-depth processing of the artist's work created up to this point in the program. Both student and faculty evaluation are the primary content of the class.
Prerequisite: ART 584 and ART 594

ART 590, Independent Studio, 5 Units
This independent studio course is required following the first term in residence. A faculty mentor is selected to supervise the development of student's work.
Prerequisite: ART 580

ART 591, Independent Studio, 4 Units
This is the second required independent studio course. A faculty mentor is selected each semester to supervise the development of student's work.
Prerequisite: ART 581 and ART 590

ART 592, Independent Studio, 5 Units
This is the third required independent studio course. A faculty mentor is selected each semester to supervise the development of student's work.
Prerequisite: ART 582 and ART 591

ART 593, Independent Studio, 4 Units
This is the fourth independent studio course. A faculty mentor is selected each semester to supervise the development of the student's work.
Prerequisite: ART 583 and ART 592

ART 594, Independent Studio, 5 Units
This is the fifth independent studio course. A faculty mentor is selected each semester to supervise the development of the student's work.
Prerequisite: ART 584 and ART 593

ART 595, Independent Studio, 4 Units
This is the final required independent studio course. A faculty mentor is selected each semester to supervise the development of the student's work.
Prerequisite: ART 585 and ART 594

ART 600, Regional Modernism, 3 Units
This course offers regional perspectives on how people think about the Modern Era. Perspectives change according to expertise and locations available to study. This course may be offered as an on-site, short-term class in cities around the U.S.

ART 601, Integration: Theory and Practice III, 2 Units
This thesis course encourages and trains students to write about art and faith through the development of critical writing skills essential to drafting successful grant applications, and foundational to the larger literary demands of an artist's career.

ART 602, Integration: Theory and Practice IV, 3 Units
This culminating seminar course allows students to articulate the philosophical basis for their life's work as artists with a spiritual understanding and how they plan to interact with the contemporary art world.

ART 605, Modernism and the Museum, 3 Units
The birth and growth of the modern museum has emerged as a significant institution for the art historian and artist. This course will consider the objects, buildings, and landscapes and explores how their contexts of display influence our understanding of history, education, and the object.

ART 610, Critical Issues in Art III, 2 Units
This in-depth seminar course examines contemporary issues in the visual arts, their relation to the Christian faith, and how they ultimately relate to the student's own work. Topics vary according to the faculty.

ART 613, Studio Art Exploration and Application II, 3 Units
This is the second course in Art Exploration and Application. This course provides studio residency experiences that will enable students to expand their photography and digital media skills, investigate various forms of expression and techniques that use the principles and elements of design, and develop mastery in concept, composition, and execution of technique.
Prerequisite: ART 513

ART 615, Modernism and Religion, 3 Units
Catholic and Protestant views of art have a long history with the appreciation, facilitation, and creation of art. This course examines the radical and dramatic relationship between religion and modern art from the Industrial Revolution to the mid-20th century.

ART 618, M.A. Thesis I: Research, 3 Units
This class focuses on and refines the preparation of a research proposal and literature review.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of nine required courses and ART 565
ART 620, Critical Issues in Art IV, 3 Units
This in-depth seminar course examines contemporary issues in the visual arts, their relation to the Christian faith, and how they ultimately relate to the student's own work. Topics vary according to the faculty.

ART 625, M.A. Thesis II: Writing, 3 Units
The course includes the final preparation and completion of an individual research project and presentation.
Prerequisite: ART 618

ART 630, Graduate Studio III, 3 Units
This course centers on art concerns and critiques stemming from each student's work. Focus varies based on the professor's specialties.

ART 640, Graduate Studio IV, 3 Units
This course centers on art concerns and critiques stemming from each student's work. Focus varies based on the professor's specialties.

ART 690, Creative Work Project, 2 Units
Students use this course for the creation or completion of the culminating body of art, while engaging in regular critique with their graduate committee.

ART 695, Exhibition Preparation, 3 Units
Under the direction of the graduate art faculty, students plan, publicize, and install their graduate exhibition. The course focuses on exhibition design, execution, and documentation.

Faculty

Dean
Stephen P. Johnson (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/stephenjohnson), DMA

Associate Dean
John E. Simons (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/jesimons), DMA, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, College of the Arts

Department Chair
William Catling (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/bcatling), MFA

Director of M.A. in Modern Art History, Theory, and Criticism
Angela S. George (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/ageorge), Ph.D.

Director of Exhibitions
Stephen Childs (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/schilds), MFA

MFA Coordinator
William Catling (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/bcatling), MFA

Professors
William Catling (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/bcatling), MFA
Kent Anderson Butler (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/krbutler), MFA

Associate Professors
Stephen Childs (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/schilds), MFA
Brent Everett Dickinson (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/bdickinson), MFA
Lyrica Taylor (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/ltaylor), Ph.D.

Assistant Professors
Angela S. George (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/ageorge), Ph.D.
Nery Lemus (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/nlemus), MFA

Lecturers
Yookyoung Choi (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/ychoi), Ph.D.
Amy Fox, MFA

Jeffrey Grubbs (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/jgrubbs), Ph.D.

Nathan Huff, MFA

Elaine McLemore (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/emclemore), Ph.D.

Shelby Moser (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/smoser), Ph.D.

Daniel Siedell, Ph.D.

Jamie Sweetman (http://www.apu.edu/cma/faculty/jsweetman), MFA

Catherine Wagley, MFA

Erin Weaver, M.A.

Elaine Yau (http://www.apu.edu/cma/vpa/faculty/eyau), Ph.D.

Department Representatives
Julia Heins, Administrative Assistant

Tom Weaver, Studio Technical and Safety Manager