Your Department of

visual

ARTS

UNIVERSITY OF THE

PACIFIC
The Department of Visual Arts is committed to excellence in undergraduate education for future graphic designers and studio artists. Our department is integrated within the College of the Pacific’s distinctive liberal arts program, the historical hallmark of our university. Our faculty members inform and inspire; their teaching expertise is enriched by their professional experience as artists and designers.

We help students achieve intellectual and professional skill sets that enhance their ability to understand and contribute to the future through art and design. Our students regularly accept graduate appointments and entry-level positions in their respective fields.

The University of the Pacific is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Additionally, the degree programs of the Department of Visual Arts are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

What differentiates our programs?
- Low student to faculty ratio
- Individual mentoring and oversight of internship programs
- Professionally active artists teaching undergraduate courses
- Numerous on-campus opportunities for internships and student life involvement
- Cross-disciplinary, collaborative, real-life, student-driven projects
- Undergraduate research projects on local and national (NURCC) levels
Degree Programs

The Department of Visual Arts offers these programs of study:

- Bachelor of Fine Arts, Graphic Design
- Bachelor of Fine Arts, Studio Arts
- Bachelor of Arts, Art
- Bachelor of Arts, Self-Designed Program

Admission into the BFA or BA degree programs requires filing a Declaration of Major Form and a consultation with the department chair.

Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree
A professional degree program that offers a balance of theoretical and practical skills complemented by the enriched experience of the liberal arts environment of Pacific. The goal of this degree is to develop skills, concepts, and sensitivities essential to professional Studio Artists and Graphic Designers.

Designed for students who are willing to engage in a rigorous undergraduate program that provides preparation for professional life through internships, graduate studies, or entry-level opportunities in the arts and arts-related fields.

To complete a BFA degree in 4 years a student must complete 17 units each semester to accrue 136 units.

Concentrations in Studio Art
Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Photography and Ceramics/3D.

Bachelor of Arts Degree
A liberal arts degree designed to develop perceptions and art skills that enhance interrelationships between the Studio Arts and other academic disciplines.
To complete a BA degree in 4 years a student should average 15-16 units each semester to accrue 124 units.

“Pacific’s broad-based design curriculum draws heavily on courses in studio art and art history. This background has allowed me to create designs that are not only aesthetically pleasing, but theoretically and conceptually sound — drawing on strong foundational skills and knowledge of historical movements in art, design and theory.”

— Harrison Inefuku
BFA Graphic Design, Art History, 2007
Masters in Archival Studies/Library and Information Studies, University of British Columbia, 2011

Self-Designed Program
Under faculty supervision, students can complete majors that are not currently offered by the university by combining courses from several disciplines. Our students have used this program to complete majors in Visual Studies with emphasis in Art History and Visual Studies with an emphasis in Arts Management.

Minors
The Department of Visual Arts offers minors in Art History, Graphic Design and Studio Art.
Our faculty members have in-depth expertise covering diverse aspects of our discipline. Not only do our faculty excel in their own academic scholarship, but also impart that knowledge to their students.

Trent Burkett, 2000, Professor and Co-Chair; BA, California State University, Sacramento 1993; MA CSU, Sacramento, 1998; MFA University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, MN, 2000. Ceramics and Sculpture. tburkett@pacific.edu

Brett DeBoer, 1999, Associate Professor; BFA, University of Northern Colorado, 1977; MS, Parsons School of Design, 1985; MFA, Rochester Institute of Technology, 1989. Graphic Design. bdeboer@pacific.edu

Daniel Kasser, 1984, Professor, BA, Humboldt State University, 1980; MA, University of New Mexico 1984, MFA, University of New Mexico, 1991. Photography. dkasser@pacific.edu

Lucinda Kasser, 1995, Associate Professor and Co-Chair, BA, Humboldt State University, 1979; MA, California State University, Sacramento, 1989. Painting. lkasser@pacific.edu

Marie A. Lee, 2009, Assistant Professor; BA, Michigan State University, 2000; BFA, Colorado State University, 2002; MFA, Colorado State University, 2005. Graphic Design. mlee2@pacific.edu

Jennifer Little, 2005, Associate Professor; BFA, Washington University, 2001; MFA, University of Texas, Austin, 2005. Photography. jlittle@pacific.edu

Monika Meler, 2010, Assistant Professor; BFA, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, 2003; MA, Purdue University, 2005; MFA, Temple University Rome, 2007. Printmaking. mmeler@pacific.edu

Merrill Schleier, 1982, Professor, BA, The City College of New York, 1973; MA, University of California, Berkeley, 1976; PhD, 1983. Member, Phi Beta Kappa. Art History. mschleie@pacific.edu

“Whether your interests lie in photography, graphic design, fine arts or art history, you will not find better instructors than the art department professors at Pacific. They are passionate about their areas of expertise and they let you know that your education is a priority.”

— Kirsten Halterman
BFA Graphic Design, Art History Minor, 2006
MFA Parsons School of Design, 2010
Reynolds Gallery

Located in the Jeannette Powell Art Center, the Reynolds Gallery is a premier space dedicated to the exhibition of art. The Reynolds Gallery encourages the exchange of artistic and cultural ideas, provides a connection between the classroom and professional artists and encourages Pacific students and the larger region to explore traditional and contemporary art and design. Its program supplies a practical means for students to develop perceptual skills and a visual arts language, knowledge of diverse media, and an understanding of the historical and cultural context of the visual arts.

The Reynolds Gallery acts as a crossroads for Pacific students and the region, making connections between artists and audience, and the visual arts and other disciplines. It also serves to promote the application of visual literacy, professional development, and personal growth.

Blitz Shows
Student-organized Blitz exhibits allow students to showcase their work in the Reynolds Gallery for short periods of time between the standard exhibitions.

Student-Curated Exhibitions
With the help of faculty and her family, senior Marie-Clare Treseder curated an exhibition of her great grandfather William S. Rice, a noted regional printmaker and painter.
Selected Student Activities

3D Studio Club
Studio 1091, Pacific’s 3D media art club, revolves around the idea of making art first. The club is also involved in attending and/or hosting lectures, workshops, and sales. We hope to create an atmosphere of creativity and enthusiasm for the arts. The club is not exclusive to art majors. It is a way for those pursuing a career other than art to have a place to be creative.

Graphic Design AIGA Club
The Visual Arts Department hosts Pacific’s student chapter of AIGA, American Institute of Graphic Arts. AIGA is a national nonprofit educational organization, which supports the interests of professionals, educators and students who are engaged in the process of designing. Pacific’s student group is a part of the San Francisco Chapter. Students attend professional events such as lectures, shows and competitions.

Calliope Literary and Arts Magazine
Calliope is the Literary and Arts magazine produced through the collaborative efforts of students from the English and Visual Arts Departments under the mentorship of Professors Courtney Lehmann (English) and Brett DeBoer (Visual Arts). Visual and literary artworks produced by students are juried for inclusion in the publication by a student editorial staff. A student design staff then visually organizes this content into a coherent magazine and takes it to press.

Visiting Artist Workshops
Every semester, we strive to bring a visiting artist or scholar to work with our students on broadening their skills and perspectives.

Community and Research
Our students take part in a variety of activities on campus, within the community, regionally and internationally.

DeltaFusion project used visual and performing arts to highlight Stockton as one of the most culturally diverse areas in the country. Visual arts students, members of Pacific and the community created larger-than-life puppets and masks for the pageant.

PURCC, Pacific Undergraduate Research and Creativity Conference, and NCUR, National Conference on Undergraduate Research prepares students for graduate school or professional life. Visual Studies, Graphic Design and Art students present their research yearly.

Christine Strain, BFA Studio Art, was selected as a finalist in the National Strathmore Artist Papers “How Do You See Green” Illustration Competition.

Ivan Rocha, Lauren Friedrich and David Mayman, BFA Graphic Design majors, recently won awards in Flux Design, a national design competition sponsored by the American Institute for Graphic Artists. The competition included over 500 entries from universities and art schools across the country.

Anastasya Uskov, pictured below, accompanied Professor Lee to Kam minority village in China where she worked on preserving its unique unwritten cultural heritage. Here a matriarch teaches her to make paper.
Scholarships and Grants
We offer numerous merit and need based scholarships to help pay for the tuition. Students can also co-write grants with faculty to fund research projects.

Student Achievements

Faculty/Student Duo Publishes Book
Amanda Zimmerman, Studio Senior, collaborated with Professor Daniel Kasser on a photographic book on Stockton’s history, published by Arcadia Publishing and available in major bookstores.

Calliope Wins APEX Award Third Year in a Row
Calliope, Pacific’s literary and arts magazine, is designed, illustrated and written by students. It was the only winning entry from a university and the only student-led publication to win in this category.

Graphic Design Student Wins “Bling our Truck” Contest
Sophomore Graphic Design student, Aaron Davis won a competition for the mobile café from Bon Appetite. The new “café” is a truck which brings snacks and other refreshments to south campus.

Student-Developed Wayfinding System proposed for Pacific Campus
With guidance from Professor Brett DeBoer, Ivan Rocha, David Mayman, Glynnis Koike and Lauren Friedrich worked together to create the wayfinding system for the Pacific campus, which covers everything from signage and campus maps to iPhone applications and website information. Plans for implementation are underway.

Graphic Design Student Wins Wine Label Competition Award
Glynnis Koike had her label design for Cor Sanare win a bronze medal at the San Francisco International Wine Competition in June of 2011. Glynnis’ exceptional design was selected among 1290 wineries submitting wines and their labels from 27 countries and 28 states for this prestigious honor.

Graphic Design Student a Finalist in Poster Competition
Mark Radanovich, Graphic Design Junior, was one of seven finalists in the international movie poster competition sponsored by Talenthouse for the upcoming film “Animal Charm.”
“After graduating from Pacific I have had the fortune of working for clients such as Apple, Google, HP, Cisco, GE, Chevron, Adobe, and others. I treasure my way of thinking, my designs and the spark of creativity that started my career as a designer.”

— Anish Bhasin
BFA Graphic Design, 2005
Self-employed Graphic Designer

What to Do with an Art Degree?

A growing public acknowledgment of the value of the arts in commerce and society have profoundly transformed the entrepreneurial and employment opportunities for studio artists and graphic designers.

The faculty encourages students to plan their career and to make participation in undergraduate research and internship programs part of their academic learning. Many of our students also complete graduate studies before entering the field.

Here are just a few examples of what our students have done with an art degree:

2010 David Mayman (BFA Graphic Design)
Upon graduation David joined Gensler and Associates where a new position was created for him in the company’s San Francisco office.

2010 Brooke Cashion (BFA Art) Brooke is a Ceramics Lab Instructional Assistant at Cabrillo College. She supervises all the technical aspects of a ceramics facility, budgets, and working with students.

2010 Robin Lee (BA Visual Studies and Film Studies) Robin works for an online journal called Paris Cherie which is devoted to the women of China who admire Parisian fashion.

2009 Eliana Cetto (BFA Studio Art/Photography, BA Visual Studies) Eliana is completing a Masters of Fine Arts in photography at San Jose State University and holds a teaching assistantship there.

2007 Harrison Inefuku (BFA Graphic Design/ BA Visual Culture) In 2011, Harrison received MA in Archival Studies and MA in Library and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia. He attended a dialogue forum hosted by the Nelson Mandela Foundation, dealing with silences, secrets and taboos. He has presented papers at professional conferences in Chicago, Honolulu, New Orleans, Toronto and Vancouver.
Are you looking for a college where you can pursue a liberal arts education while studying Studio Art or Graphic Design?

Do internships interest you or perhaps preparing for graduate studies?

Does a more personal college atmosphere and the opportunity to work closely with faculty and students appeal to you?

If the answer to these questions is yes, Pacific is an ideal place for you.

Contact Us
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