



Art and Design

FROM STUDY TO SKILLS

All academic programs offered at the UM help students develop valuable transferable skills. The study of the visual arts encompasses a variety of expressions of human thoughts, interests, attitudes, emotions, and ideas.

Visual artists generally fall into two categories: designers or fine artists. However, UM School of Art and Design makes no such distinction, recognizing that all artists are designers and all designers are artists. The curriculum promotes the development of skills, concepts, and

sensitivities essential to all arts. The successful student will achieve a high level of technical competence, a sensitivity to artistic style, a broad knowledge of the history of art and design, and an insight into its role in society.

Related fields include History of Art, Theatre, Music, Screen Arts and Cultures, Communication Studies, Museum Studies, Architecture, Computer Science, and Industrial Design.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

<p>Artistic and Aesthetic Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeing, drawing, and understanding form Visualizing shapes, relationships and functions Mastering use of color, space, and line Thinking creatively Giving abstract ideas visual form Analyzing dynamic forms Applying theories of composition, framing, and abstraction Understanding current issues in art and design 	<p>Analytical and Communication Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathering, analyzing, and interpreting information Viewing issues from multiple perspectives Weighing options Explaining work Presenting and displaying work Preparing a portfolio Creating instructions Communicating visually Utilizing digital media Marketing work 	<p>Technical Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding qualities and limitations of each medium Understanding industrial technology Attaining a high level of craftsmanship Working in a variety of media Drawing /photographing work Making models Monitoring quality 	<p>Organizational / Interpersonal Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solving problems Collaborating with others Networking among artists Planning and installing exhibitions Assessing client needs Managing design and product Understanding economic and legal issues
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BUILDING YOUR SKILLS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Employers seek out individuals who can demonstrate excellent verbal and written communication skills, teamwork and interpersonal skills, initiative, and a strong work ethic. Student organizations and campus employment offer valuable opportunities to add to the skills you are developing in your classes. Most

concentrations sponsor specific student groups like an undergraduate organization or an honor society. Other options include study abroad, off-campus employment, or volunteering in the community. Finally, a summer internship may be the best way of all to test out a career field and develop marketable skills.

FROM SKILLS TO CAREER

Art and Design concentrators develop both general and technical skills applicable to a wide range of careers. For example, aesthetic skills may be equally useful whether working as an illustrator, art teacher, or industrial




designer. Many concentrators go on to graduate or professional school. The list below is a sample of careers undertaken by Art and Design graduates.

Artistic and Aesthetic Skills




Independent artist /designer
Book designer
Jewelry designer
Photojournalist
Photographer
Illustrator
Textile designer

 = Further Study Required

Analytical and Communication Skills

Art historian 
Professor 
K-12 teacher
Adult educator
Art reporter /writer /critic
Media specialist
Website designer / administrator
Exhibition designer
Art salesperson
Art therapist 

Technical Skills

Animator /cartoonist
Medical illustrator 
Police /courtroom artist
Scientific illustrator
Computer graphics specialist
Model maker
Materials consultant
Restorer /conservator 
Industrial designer (products, packaging, furniture)
Graphic designer (signs, publications, corporate identity)
Medical equipment designer 

Organizational Skills

Gallery director
Film /video producer
Arts administrator
Art program coordinator
Arts fundraiser
Artists' agent
Market researcher
Advertising art director
Design researcher
Design manager
Museum curator/exhibition specialist 
Museum publications director 

For more career information, see O*Net at online.onetcenter.org

CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

The School of Art and Design offers 3 undergraduate degrees: a BFA in Art and Design, a BA in Art and Design, and a BFA in Interarts Performance (an interdisciplinary program with the Theater and Drama Department). While the BFA program is an intense, rigorous program in Art and Design, the BA degree allows students to utilize a wide range of University resources and has fewer studio course requirements.

Both degrees allow students to pursue a highly individualized program of study. Students may focus in any of the following areas:

- graphic design
- industrial design
- web design
- interactive design
- user interface design
- ceramics
- metalworking and jewelry design
- mixed media
- painting and drawing
- photography
- printmaking
- sculpture
- weaving, fibers and textiles.

For specific program requirements, please visit the School's website.

School of Art and Design

2038 Art and Architecture Building
734-764-0397
stamps.umich.edu

NEXT STEPS / RESOURCES

To begin connecting to professionals in fields that interest you, create your own LinkedIn account: careercenter.umich.edu/article/getting-started-linkedin

To identify internships or job opportunities, visit Career Center Connector: careercenter.umich.edu/article/c3

For more information on career development in the arts, see: stamps.umich.edu/career/handouts

On campus jobs (work-study and non work-study jobs) are listed at:

studentemployment.umich.edu/JobX_Home.aspx

Maize Pages list hundreds of organizations for students to get involved in: maizepages.umich.edu

Connect to Community lists volunteer opportunities in local organizations: connect2community.umich.edu

The Career Center

3200 Student Activities Building
734-764-7460
careercenter.umich.edu
facebook.com/careercenter.umich
twitter.com/careercenter
linkedin.com/company/the-career-center-at-the-university-of-michigan

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