



## **FINE ARTS (B.F.A.) | COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

### **B.F.A. IN FINE ARTS**

The B.F.A. degree offers an intensive study of the studio arts with an accompanying focus on art history to prepare students for lifelong visual literacy, employment in the arts, and application to graduate programs. This program requires students to master introductory through advanced-level studio courses in a specific medium while encouraging exploration with new artistic directions, alternative media, or conceptual works.

### **DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

Admission to the B.F.A. program is based upon a portfolio and transcript review at the end of the sophomore year. Prerequisites for admission include:

1. Completion of the following courses:
  - A100 series history of art, A101 and A102 (6 credits)
  - Fundamental studio (9 credit)
  - Two, 200-level studio courses
  - English W131
  - One of the following math courses: M100, M118, M119, M125, or M215
2. Portfolio review by department committee

### **COURSEWORK**

- A100 series history of art, A101 and A102 (6 cr.)
- Art history at the 300 and 400 level (6 cr.)
- Fundamental studio (9 cr.)
- Studio courses above the 100 level (48 cr.) must include a minimum of three and maximum of six of the introductory (200-level) courses
- FINA-A 435 Art Theory for Graduating Seniors (2cr.) must be taken during the fall semester.
- During the final year, each student must assume full responsibility for mounting a personal exhibit that will include terminal and representative work in their major field and, if applicable, in the minor field as well. To meet this requirement, the student must:
- File in the department office an "Intent to Graduate" one calendar year prior to the intended completion date. You must meet with your principal teacher to determine if you are prepared to enroll in FINA-S497.
- Submit a portfolio of the most recent and best work in the major discipline to the departmental office before completion of the fall semester, prior to enrolling in FINA-S497. The studio program in the final year shall be coordinated with the evaluation of the portfolio.
- Enroll in FINA-S497 Independent Study in Studio Art for the spring semester during the final year. (1-6 cr.)
- Prepare the exhibit under the principle teacher's guidance. This will include drafting a descriptive statement about the

work in the exhibit: goals, intent, approach, techniques, etc.

- Be prepared to exhibit in accordance with the departmental schedule at any time during the final semester. FINA-A435 and FINA\_S497 fulfill the capstone requirement.
- Graduating Senior Exhibit
- Student must also complete the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences under Bachelor of Fine Arts.

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

IU Northwest is located on an attractive campus just off of I-80/94 in Gary, Ind., approximately 35 minutes by car from downtown Chicago. This gives our students and faculty easy access to one of the country's great art centers and world-class museums. From the class trips to Chicago museums to the faculty we attract to our campus, IU Northwest benefits from being close to Chicago, while maintaining the openness and ease of a freestanding campus.

The faculty at IU Northwest is an impressive group of artists and scholars actively engaged in their creative work and renowned in their fields. Faculty accomplishments include high-level public commissions and acquisitions to the permanent collections of some of the most prestigious museums, including: The Metropolitan Museum of Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art; the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago; The Museum of Contemporary Photography; and many others. Our faculty has exhibited widely across the U.S. and in Europe and Asia in addition to being active members of the Chicago arts community.

In addition to being accomplished artists, IU Northwest's faculty are committed teachers with a long history of working closely with students and helping them to grow their general knowledge, studio work, and individual visions. Students work directly with their individual instructors, exploring new concepts and techniques in an energetic and collaborative environment. As a student-centered institution, IU Northwest is committed to putting students first.

### **WHAT CAN I DO WITH A B.F.A. IN FINE ARTS?**

Students completing the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in studio art will be prepared to consider careers in a variety of fields connected to the arts, such as positions in museums and galleries, curatorial, research, art history, critical writing, positions in the corporate world which require creative sensibilities, and art education, as well as

becoming professional visual artists and designers.

The study of studio art is not primarily about mastering techniques, but also about thinking, evaluating, analyzing, and creating unique and personal solutions. The Studio Art program is also excellent preparation for postgraduate study in the visual arts.

### **HANDS-ON LEARNING**

Students in the Department of Fine Arts have tremendous opportunities to view extraordinary works of art, both on campus and in the Chicago area. The IU Northwest Gallery for Contemporary Art showcases many different forms of contemporary art and offers close access to important museums, galleries and public art in Chicago. Classes take frequent field trips and have the opportunity to meet well-established artists.

### **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**

The Department of Fine Arts sponsors the IU Northwest Art Club, which strives to help students of all majors gain an appreciation for art and to take influence from the art community. The club hosts the Annual All Campus Art Exhibits and guest lecturers.

The Student Screen Printer's Society explores the different methods and techniques of screen printing through group-supported activities and events that help to create a positive and fun student environment while helping each student to achieve his or her own personal artistic goals.

The IU Northwest Student Design Organization strives to create a supportive design community through event programming, collaborative projects, the exchange of ideas, and development of ethical design practices.

### **RELATED DEGREE OPTIONS**

- B.A. in Studio Arts
- B.A. in Graphic Design
- B.S. in Computer Based Graphic Design
- B.A. in Graphic Design

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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