

Visual Arts Major Overview:

The Visual Arts major focuses on the development of artistic skills and creativity through the study of various media, including painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, and digital arts. Students explore the history of art, techniques in different artistic disciplines, and contemporary art practices. The program emphasizes hands-on experience, critical thinking, and visual expression, preparing graduates for careers in the arts, education, or industries where creative expertise is valued. Students build a portfolio to showcase their work, which is essential for many art-related careers.

Typical Industry Sectors:

1. Fine Arts and Galleries
2. Education (Art Education)
3. Graphic Design and Digital Media
4. Advertising and Marketing
5. Film, Television, and Multimedia Production

10 Sample Entry-Level Job Titles:

1. Gallery Assistant
2. Art Teacher (K-12 or Adult Education)
3. Graphic Designer
4. Studio Assistant
5. Photography Assistant
6. Museum Curatorial Assistant
7. Digital Content Creator
8. Exhibition Coordinator
9. Production Assistant (Film/Video)
10. Art Sales Representative

5 Hard Skills:

1. Proficiency in Various Art Techniques (Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, etc.)
2. Digital Art and Design Software (e.g., Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator)
3. Photography and Digital Imaging
4. Printmaking Techniques
5. Knowledge of Art History and Criticism

5 Soft Skills:

1. Creativity
2. Attention to Detail
3. Communication (Written and Oral)

4. Time Management
5. Problem-Solving

Additional Training or Certifications:

While a Visual Arts degree provides a strong foundation in artistic practices, some students may pursue certifications or additional training in specialized areas such as graphic design, photography, or digital media to enhance their marketability. For teaching positions, students may need to complete a teaching certification program. Internships at art galleries, museums, or design firms provide valuable experience and help build professional connections.

Student and National Organizations:

1. [National Art Education Association \(NAEA\)](#)
2. [College Art Association \(CAA\)](#)
3. [American Institute of Graphic Arts \(AIGA\)](#)
4. [Artists' Network](#)