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| New Student Orientation  The Department of Visual and Media Arts, Fall 2024 |

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| *Note* |
| If you have specific questions about your area of study, or any other academic related questions, please reach out to the faculty in the Department of Visual and Media Arts. You can find their contact information [HERE.](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/faculty-4.htm) |

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| **The Structure of the Department of Visual and Media Arts (VMA)** |
| The Department of Visual and Media Arts has five different areas, that include:  Art Education, Art History, Film and Video Production, Photography and Studio Art. |
| Different degrees can be pursued, depending on your interests. |

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| **The Degrees**   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Minor in Art, Art History, Film and Video Production or Photography**  An average of 24 credits.  Can be completed if one class that counts towards the Minor is taken each semester for four years. | **BA: Bachelor of Arts**  A degree with a language requirement.  A degree with a range of experiences in a variety of art related classes. | **BS: Bachelor of Science**  A degree with a math/science requirement.  A degree with a range of experiences in a variety of art related classes. | [**BFA: Bachelor of Arts**](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/studio-art-bfa-curriculum-and-requirements-302.htm)  A studio focus degree on which an *emphasis* is selected.  *A studio intensive degree with Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Reviews.* | |

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| **The Degrees offered in Each Area of the Department of VMA**   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | [**Art Education**](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/art-education-14.htm)  BA or BS  [*An application process required for this program.*](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/apply-art-education-portfolio-review-284.htm) | [**Art History**](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/art-history-13.htm)  BA and Art History Minor | [**Film and Video Production**](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/film-and-video-production-214.htm)  BA, BS and a  FVP Minor | [**Photography**](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/photo/)  BA or BS and a Photo Minor | [**Studio Art**](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/studio-art-299.htm)  BA or BS or BFA  Studio Art Minor |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Studio Art Has 8 Different Emphasis Areas**  *A BFA Student will have an emphasis in one of the Studio areas.*  *An Art Education student will have a teachable emphasis in one of these areas.*   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Ceramics** | **Graphic Design** | **Illustration** | **Jewelry and Metals** | | **Painting** | **Printmaking** | **Sculpture** | **Visual Studies** | | |

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| **Navigating the VMA Website**   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | [**VMA Home**](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/) | **About** | **People** | | **Future Students** | **Current Students** | **Advising Documents** | | |

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| **Navigating the GVSU System and Your Advisor/Mentor** |
| Your Advisor/Mentor in CLAS and the Department of VMA: *If you are a BA/BS or BFA student in the Department of VMA, you have two advisors/mentors.* |

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| [**Your My Path**](https://www.gvsu.edu/registrar/mypath-information-41.htm)  My Path is a tool designed to assist students in preparing for and tracking their progress toward graduation. It encompasses both a degree analysis audit and an educational planner.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | The “What If” Tool | The number of credits you need to graduate: 120 | **Free Electives:**  Classes that give you credits, but don’t count towards degree requirements. | | Transfer credits that may not be in the correct location. | “80” classes and other classes that may not count towards a requirement automatically. | My Path has access to the course descriptions of most classes. | |

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| **Navigating the Department of VMA** |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Take an average of 15 credits in the fall and winter semesters to graduate in 4 years from GVSU.  This can be a challenge, so consider taking one or more classes during the spring or summer. | Focus on your studies at GVSU more than working a regular job.  Such as 30-40 hours a week. | **BA/BS Students in Art Education and BA/BS and BFA Students in Studio Arts:**  *Complete your required Foundations courses in the first two years.*  *Four for BA/BS/BFA I Studio Arts, and five for BA/BS students in Art Education.* | | **BA/BS Students in Art Education:**  [*The Art Education program requires an application process.*](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/declare-your-vma-degree-286.htm)  ***Note:*** *If you have an interest in the Art Education program, please arrange an advising meeting with one of the faculty in Art Education as soon as possible:* •Professor Katalin Zaszlavik: [zaszlavk@gvsu.edu](mailto:zaszlavk@gvsu.edu)•Professor Hsiao-Ping Chen: [ch](mailto:campbean@gvsu.edu)[enh@gvsu.edu](mailto:chenh@gvsu.edu) | **Art 150: 2-D Design and Color is required before any Graphic Design emphasis class is taken.**  *Art 209: Graphic Design Basics should not be taken by students emphasizing in Graphic Design.*  **Students must become a Major in the Department of VMA before taking any Illustration course.** | **Transfer Credits:**  Transfer credits you received should be seen on your My Path.  If you have questions about transfer credits, contact your advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center, or your advisor in the Department of VMA.  You can take classes at another college or university and have them transferred to GVSU.  But GVSU requires that the last 30 credits of your degree are completed at GVSU. (There are exceptions.) | |

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| [**Student Resources at the Division of Student Affairs**](https://www.gvsu.edu/studentaffairs/student-resources-list-29.htm) |
| A list of resources available for you at GVSU. |

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| **VMA Scholarships** |
| Most scholarship deadlines fall between February 15 and March 1. Students can begin to submit applications for the 2024-2025 academic year on November 1.  [VMA Scholarship Information](https://www.gvsu.edu/vma/scholarships-16.htm)  [GVSU My Scholarship Page](https://www.gvsu.edu/financialaid/myscholarships-163.htm) |

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| [**Double Dips**](https://www.gvsu.edu/cms4/asset/581C3C8B-FAE0-ED2A-4C7A648F07872A65/double_dip_guide.pdf)  One class that counts for two at GVSU. |
| Students in the Department of VMA are advised to consider taking one or more double dips because it creates a more manageable schedule for one or more semesters and it can leave room for additional opportunities like a minor, study abroad or an internship. |

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| **Study Abroad Opportunities:** [**Studio Art Abroad Page**](https://www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad/studio-art-abroad-2051.htm) |
| GVSU has many affiliations with colleges and universities around the world where you could study.  [Study Abroad Advising From The CLAS Advising Center](https://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/study-abroad-145.htm)  [Study Abroad Scholarships](https://www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad/scholarships-grants-535.htm)  There are many scholarship opportunities to study abroad. One noteworthy scholarship is the [**Barbara H. Padnos International Scholarship**](https://gvsu.scholarshipuniverse.com/student/scholarship/193059?search=true) that awards up to $15000 if a student studies abroad for a minimum of 9 months. |
| **5 Week Kingston England Trip for up to 12 Credits**  A trip that will occur in the summer of 2025. Led by faculty from the Department of Visual and Media Arts at GVSU.  *There will be information shared about this opportunity throughout the fall of 2024 and the winter of 2025.* |

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| **Ox Bow School of Art, *An hour south of GVSU*** |
| Ox Bow is an art school in Saugatuck, MI that offers classes with scholarship opportunities *from Ox Bow.*  [Ox Bow Courses and Scholarship Information](https://www.ox-bow.org/summer-tuition)  [Ox Bow Fellowship Information](https://www.ox-bow.org/fellowship-program)  It’s a great place to learn and meet people. It has the feel of a summer camp-but for artists. |

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| [**Frederik Meijer Office of Fellowships**](https://www.gvsu.edu/fellowships/) |
| Provides support for undergraduate students to pursue inter/nationally competitive fellowships in all majors or areas of study.  The office is located on the GVSU Allendale campus in room 230 of the Mary Idema Pew Library.  The office helps current students and alumni find and apply for scholarships and study abroad opportunities. |

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| [**Clubs**](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organizations)  The Department of VMA has several clubs related to areas in the department that you can become involved with. It is a great way to learn and make connections.  [**Laker Link**](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/) provides a resource to find information about the over 400 clubs at GVSU. |
| [AIGA: American Institute of Graphic Arts](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/aiga)The Graphic Design club. |
| [SIGIL](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/sigil-illustration)[Illustration Club](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/sigil-illustration) |
| [Animators Guild](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/animators-guild) |
| [GVTV](https://www.gvsu.edu/soc/welcome-to-grand-valley-television-205.htm): Grand Valley State University's Student Run Television Station “Create and Watch News & Entertainment made by Lakers, for Lakers. You don't need any previous experience; you just need to join us and learn.” |
| [Women in Cinema Club](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/wic) |
| [CONTINUOUS: Screenwriting Club](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/continuous-scriptwriting-club) |
| [Cinematography Club](https://gvsu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/cinematography) |

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| **Consider A Minor/a Certificate or a Digital Badge** |
| A minor is between 18 and 24 credits.  A minor/certificate or digital badge can give you additional knowledge that can be a great benefit to you in your studies and in seeking employment.  [**Minors/Certificates and Digital Badges**](https://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/clas-minors-and-certificate-programs-86.htm)  [**Brooks College Minor List**](https://www.gvsu.edu/brooksadvising/advising-forms-for-the-brooks-college-of-interdisciplinary-145.htm) |

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| [**Outdoor Spaces Near GVSU, Allendale**](https://www.gvsu.edu/rec/outdoors/hiking-resources-9.htm) |
| There are many parks near GVSU that are great places to hike and take a break. |