



New Student Orientation

The Department of Visual and Media Arts, Fall 2024

<p><i>Welcome!</i></p> <p>This meeting is an overview of the Department of Visual and Media Arts</p>
<p>Professor Bill Hosterman: hostermw@gvsu.edu Coordinator of the Foundations Program in the Department of Visual and Media Arts</p>
<p>Professor Renee Zettle Sterling: zettlesr@gvsu.edu Coordinator of Jewelry and Metalsmithing and the 3-D Area in Foundations</p>

The Structure of the Department of Visual and Media Arts (VMA)
<p>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.</p>
<p>Different degrees can be pursued, depending on your interests.</p>

The Degrees			
<p>Minor in Art, Art History, Film and Video Production or Photography</p> <p>An average of 24 credits.</p> <p>Can be completed if one class that counts towards the Minor is taken each semester for four years.</p>	<p>BA: Bachelor of Arts</p> <p>A degree with a language requirement.</p> <p>A degree with a range of experiences in a variety of art related classes.</p>	<p>BS: Bachelor of Science</p> <p>A degree with a math/science requirement.</p> <p>A degree with a range of experiences in a variety of art related classes.</p>	<p>BFA: Bachelor of Arts</p> <p>A studio focus degree on which an <i>emphasis</i> is selected.</p> <p><i>A studio intensive degree with Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Reviews.</i></p>

The Degrees offered in Each Area of the Department of VMA				
<p>Art Education BA or BS</p> <p>An application process required for this program.</p>	<p>Art History BA only</p>	<p>Film and Video Production BA, BS and a Minor</p>	<p>Photography Photo Minor, BA or BS</p>	<p>Studio Art Studio Art Minor, BA or BS or BFA</p>

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

Navigating the VMA Website

VMA Home	About	People
Future Students	Current Students	Advising Documents

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.*

Your [My Path](#)

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.
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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: <i>Complete your required Foundations courses in the first two years.</i>
BA/BS Students in Art Education: The Art Education program requires an application process. Note: <i>If you have an interest in the Art Education</i>	Art 150: 2-D Design and Color is required before any Graphic Design emphasis class is taken. <i>Art 209: Graphic Design Basics should not be taken by students emphasizing in Graphic Design.</i>	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

<p><i>program, please arrange an advising meeting with one of the faculty in Art Education as soon as possible:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Professor Katalin Zaszlavik: zaszlavk@gvsu.edu •Professor Hsiao-Ping Chen: chenh@gvsu.edu 	<p>Students must become a Major in the Department of VMA before taking any Illustration course.</p>	<p>advisor in the Department of VMA.</p> <p>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.)</p>
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[Student Resources at the Division of Student Affairs](#)
A list of resources available for you at GVSU.

VMA Scholarships
Each February there is there is a call for applications for VMA and GVSU Scholarships. The scholarships range from a one-time award to awards that can be renewed each semester.
[VMA Scholarship Information](#)
[GVSU My Scholarship Page](#)

[Double Dips](#)
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.

Study Abroad Opportunities: [Studio Art Abroad Page](#)
GVSU has many affiliations with colleges and universities around the world where you could study.
[Study Abroad Advising From The CLAS Advising Center](#)
[Study Abroad Scholarships](#)
There are many scholarship opportunities to study abroad. One noteworthy scholarship is the [Barbara H. Padnos International Scholarship](#) that awards up to \$15000 if a student studies abroad for a minimum of 9 months.

5 Week Kingston England Trip for art credit
Every two-year trip led by faculty from the Department of Visual and Media Arts at GVSU. Students can receive credits for *two Issues* courses and *1 studio elective*. (9 credits in total.)

[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](#)

[Ox Bow Fellowship Information](#)

It's a great place to learn and meet people. It has the feel of a summer camp-but for artists.

[Frederik Meijer Office of Fellowships](#)

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.

[Clubs](#)

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](#) provides a resource to find information about the over 400 clubs at GVSU.

[AIGA: American Institute of Graphic Arts](#)

The Graphic Design club.

[SIGIL](#)

[Illustration Club](#)

[Animators Guild](#)

[Consider A Minor](#)

A minor is between 18 and 24 credits.

A minor can give you additional knowledge that can be a great benefit to you in your studies and in seeking employment.

The most common minors for students in the Department of VMA are Photography, Art History, Business, and the Digital Studies minor.

[Minors In The College Of Liberal Arts And Sciences](#)

[Brooks College Minor List](#)

[Outdoor Spaces Near GVSU, Allendale](#)

There are many parks near GVSU that are great places to hike and take a break.