

ART

Contact Information

Division

Liberal Arts

Dean

Patrick Marasso

Associate Deans

Soni Verma, Maria Villasenor

Division Office

W 107, Rocklin Campus

Overview

The faculty of the Art Department is committed to the objective of making the arts of the past and present available to the students through historical surveys and the studio experience. It is believed that this heritage of thought and skill, going beyond our immediate time and culture, will enrich the students' lives, their personal view of their world and their communication of ideas, through added knowledge and inter-cultural understanding.

TRANSFER MAJOR REQUIREMENTS in Art are available in the Counseling Center. In all cases, students should consult with a counselor for specific transfer requirements. Positions for which four-year graduates in Art are qualified are professional artist, teacher, fine artist and crafts artist.

(Student art work may be retained by the Department, at its discretion, for one year)

Faculty

Sandra C. Escobar

Professor, Art

B.A., California State University, Northridge

M.A., California State University, Northridge

M.F.A., California State University, Chico

Nicholas Gagliardi

Professor, Art

B.F.A, Sonoma State University

M.F.A, University of Georgia

Degrees/Certificates

Associate Degree for Transfer

- Studio Arts for Transfer (p. 1)

Associate Degree

- Studio Art (p. 2)

Studio Arts for Transfer

AA-T Degree

Studio Arts is a program that provides students with broad exposure to the visual arts through basic requirements in two and three-dimensional studio and art history. Program curriculum introduces students to the fundamental concerns of art, including lab and material safety, visual literacy, design, problem solving and critical thinking. Through various hands on projects, students develop the skills necessary to approach

problems, analyze constraints and requirements and use appropriate techniques to invent creative solutions in a variety of media.

The Associate in Arts in Studio Arts for Transfer degree (AA-T) prepares students to transfer into the CSU system to complete a bachelor's degree in Studio Arts or a major deemed similar by a CSU campus. Students earning an associate degree for transfer and meeting the CSU minimum transfer admission requirements are guaranteed admission with junior standing to the CSU system, but not to a particular campus or major. Upon transfer, students will be required to complete no more than 60 additional prescribed units to earn a bachelor's degree.

To earn the Associate in Arts in Studio Arts for Transfer degree, students must complete 60 CSU-transferable semester units with a minimum grade point average of 2.0, including both of the following:

- completion of all courses required for the major with grades of "C" or better; and
- (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/general-education/associate-degree-requirements/>)California General Education Transfer Curriculum (CalGETC) (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/general-education/california-general-education-transfer-curriculum-cal-getc/>)

The exact wording of the law pertaining to associate degrees for transfer may be found in Education Code Section 66746.

It is highly recommended that, prior to transferring, students complete courses that satisfy the CSU United States History, Constitution and American Ideals graduation requirement. In all cases, students should consult with a counselor for more information on university admission and transfer requirements.

RESTRICTION: International coursework from non-United States regionally accredited institutions cannot be applied to associate degrees for transfer.

Required Courses

Code	Title	Units
ARHI 0120	Survey of Western Art II: Renaissance Traditions	3
ARHI 0130	Survey of Western Art III: Modern through Contemporary	3
ART 0002	Two-Dimensional Design Foundations	3
ART 0003	Three-Dimensional Design Foundations	3
ART 0004A	Drawing I	3
Select 3 units from the following:		3
ARHI 0110	Survey of Art from Prehistory to the Medieval Era	
ARHI 0140	History of the Arts of Africa, the Americas, and Oceania	
ARHI 0150	History of Asian Art	
Select 9 units from the following:		9
ART 0004B	Drawing II	
or ART 0005A	Figure Drawing I	
ART 0006C	Color Theory	
ART 0007A	Oil Painting I	
or ART 0008A	Watercolor Painting I	
or ART 0009A	Acrylic Painting I	

ART 0012A	Sculpture I
or ART 0017	Ceramic Sculpture/Handbuilding
ART 0018A	Ceramics I
ART 0022	Metal Arts
ART 0032A	Fiber Arts I
or ART 0041	Introduction to Jewelry and Metalsmithing
ART 0040A	Printmaking I
ART 0073	Digital Art Studio: Concepts and Practices (also AAD 0073)
PHOT 0060A	Beginning Photography
ART 0005B	Figure Drawing II
or ART 0007B	Oil Painting II
or ART 0008B	Watercolor Painting II
or ART 0012B	Sculpture II
or ART 0018B	Ceramics II
or ART 0019	Figure Sculpture
or ART 0020	Raku Ceramics
or ART 0040B	Printmaking II

Total Units 27

Studio Art

AA Degree

(formerly Art)

The AA program in Studio Art is intended to prepare students for entry-level positions in the fine and applied art fields. The program seeks to provide breadth through basic requirements in two and three-dimensional studio and art history courses. Additional course work is selected by students toward specific career alternatives such as fine artist, graphic designer, crafts person, illustrator, or computer artist. Employment opportunities in these fields are highly dependent on the quality and breadth of one's artistic portfolio. In all cases, students should consult with a counselor for more information on university admission and transfer requirements. Students must fulfill the following major requirements with grades of "C" or better, complete a minimum of 60 degree-applicable semester units (12 of which must be completed at Sierra College) with a grade point average of at least 2.0 and complete one of the following three general education patterns:

- Sierra College Associate Degree Requirements (Local General Education) (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/general-education/associate-degree-requirements/>)
- (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/general-education/associate-degree-requirements/>)California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/general-education/california-general-education-transfer-curriculum-cal-getc/>)

Required Courses

Code	Title	Units
ARHI 0120	Survey of Western Art II: Renaissance Traditions	3
ARHI 0130	Survey of Western Art III: Modern through Contemporary	3
ART 0002	Two-Dimensional Design Foundations	3

ART 0003	Three-Dimensional Design Foundations	3
ART 0004A	Drawing I	3

Select 3 units from the following: 3

ARHI 0110	Survey of Art from Prehistory to the Medieval Era
ARHI 0132	History of Women in Art
ARHI 0140	History of the Arts of Africa, the Americas, and Oceania
ARHI 0150	History of Asian Art
ARHI 0155	History of Islamic Art

Select 9 units from the following: 9

ART 0004B	Drawing II
ART 0005A	Figure Drawing I
ART 0005B	Figure Drawing II
ART 0006C	Color Theory
ART 0007A	Oil Painting I
ART 0007B	Oil Painting II
ART 0008A	Watercolor Painting I
ART 0008B	Watercolor Painting II
ART 0009A	Acrylic Painting I
ART 0009B	Acrylic Painting II
ART 0012A	Sculpture I
ART 0012B	Sculpture II
ART 0017	Ceramic Sculpture/Handbuilding
ART 0018A	Ceramics I
ART 0018B	Ceramics II
ART 0019	Figure Sculpture
ART 0020	Raku Ceramics
ART 0022	Metal Arts
ART 0024	Advanced Metal Arts
ART 0028	Independent Study
ART 0032A	Fiber Arts I
ART 0033	Art Metal Casting
ART 0034	Collage and Assemblage
ART 0040A	Printmaking I
ART 0040B	Printmaking II
ART 0041	Introduction to Jewelry and Metalsmithing
ART 0052	Portrait Drawing and Painting
ART 0055	Illustration (also AAD 0055)
or ART 0071	Introduction to Digital Painting
or AAD 0020	Portfolio Design
or AAD 0071	Introduction to Digital Painting
or AAD 0090	Interaction Design for Web Products
or PHOT 0060B	The Creative Image

Total Units 27

Courses

Understanding course descriptions (<https://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2025-2026/student-resources/course-information/understanding-course-descriptions/>)

ART 0002. Two-Dimensional Design Foundations*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to the concepts, applications, and historical and contemporary references related to two-dimensional art and composition, including the study of the basic principles and elements of line, shape, texture, value, color, proportion, and spatial illusion. Students develop a visual vocabulary for creative expression through lecture presentations, studio projects, problem-solving, and written assignments. (C-ID ARTS 100) (CSU, UC)

ART 0003. Three-Dimensional Design Foundations*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to the concepts, applications, and historical references related to three-dimensional design and spatial composition, including the study of the elements of art and principles of design as they apply to three-dimensional space and form. Development of visual vocabulary for creative expression through lecture presentations and use of appropriate materials for non-representational three-dimensional studio projects. (C-ID ARTS 101) (CSU, UC)

ART 0004A. Drawing I*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to quick and long forms of drawing; different types of line drawing including gesture and contour; rendering of volumetric form showing light and shadow; description of forms in space along with perspective drawing; and basic principles of compositional arrangement or placement of elements on the page. Instruction in the use of black and white drawing media including pencil, charcoal, and ink. References to various historical and cultural styles, including non-eurocentric examples and techniques. (C-ID ARTS 110) (CSU, UC)

ART 0004B. Drawing II*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 4A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Continued exploration of the various concerns of drawing, including gesture and contour drawing, rendering of volumetric form showing light and shadow, description of forms in space, and basic principles of compositional arrangement using color drawing media including pencils, pastels, and inks. Drawing studied with reference to various historical, contemporary, and cultural styles and techniques. Creative studies in scale, non-traditional materials, and different surfaces also explored. (C-ID ARTS 205) (CSU, UC)

ART 0005A. Figure Drawing I*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 4A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to drawing the human figure from direct observation using live models and a variety of black and white drawing media and techniques. Topics include an introduction to human anatomy and the historical and contemporary roles of figure drawing. Students practice objective, descriptive approaches to drawing the figure. (C-ID ARTS 200) (CSU, UC)

ART 0005B. Figure Drawing II*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 5A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Advanced drawing of the human figure from direct observation of live models. Continued explorations of the human form in space, anatomical construction, proportions, and composition with emphasis on the use of color. Study of figurative art in historical and global cultural contexts. Students practice subjective, expressive interpretations of the human figure, building on fundamental drawing skills to develop personalized approaches to drawing the human form through exercises covering various historical and contemporary approaches to drawing. (CSU, UC)

ART 0006C. Color Theory*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Basic principles and properties of color. Theoretical study and direct studio projects of historical and contemporary colorists. Study of the physics of light and color; physiology of color vision; psychological and compositional effects of color use; cultural interpretations and traditions; history of color theory and its impact on art and design. (C-ID ARTS 270) (CSU, UC)

ART 0007A. Oil Painting I*Units: 3*

Advisory: Completion of ART 4A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

An introduction to the techniques and concepts of oil painting. Painting techniques explored in historical/cultural contexts, with emphasis on perceptual skills and creative responses to materials and subjects. Compositional strategy, introduction to color theory, and sources of inspiration are explored through in-class and independent painting assignments. (CSU, UC)

ART 0007B. Oil Painting II*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 7A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Further in-depth study of oil painting techniques and concepts. Painting techniques explored in historical/cultural contexts, with emphasis on perceptual skills and creative responses to materials and subjects. Compositional strategy, color theory, and sources of inspiration are explored through in-class and independent painting assignments, with emphasis on development of personal expression and style. (CSU, UC)

ART 0008A. Watercolor Painting I*Units: 3*

Advisory: Completion of ART 4A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to watercolor as a transparent painting medium through exploration of traditional watercolor methods and techniques. Topics include composition, color use, development of sources of personal inspiration, and the study of watercolor in historical and contemporary art periods. (C-ID ARTS 210) (CSU, UC)

ART 0008B. Watercolor Painting II*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 8A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Advanced, in-depth study of the techniques and processes of painting in transparent watercolor. Continued exploration of design and composition with emphasis on the subjective and expressive use of color, including abstract and non-objective approaches. Students practice subjective uses of watercolor to develop personal style. Watercolor painting studied in relation to global and cultural contexts. (CSU, UC)

ART 0009A. Acrylic Painting I*Units: 3*

Advisory: Completion of ART 4A with grade of "C" or better
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

An introduction to the techniques and concepts of acrylic painting. Painting techniques explored in historical, cultural, and contemporary contexts, with emphasis on perceptual skills and creative responses to materials and subjects. Compositional strategy, introduction to color theory, and sources of inspiration explored through in-class and independent painting assignments. (C-ID ARTS 210) (CSU, UC)

ART 0009B. Acrylic Painting II*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 9A with grade of "C" or better
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Further in-depth study of acrylic painting techniques and concepts. Painting techniques explored in historical/cultural contexts, with emphasis on perceptual skills and creative responses to materials and subjects. Compositional strategy, color theory, and sources of inspiration are explored through in-class and independent painting assignments, with emphasis on development of personal expression and style. (CSU, UC)

ART 0012A. Sculpture I*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduces the fundamental issues of sculpture through a variety of materials, processes and techniques. Skills acquired in a wide range of techniques and materials, both traditional (wood, metal, plaster) as well as non-traditional (fabric, video projections, performance, sustainable/salvaged/recycled materials). Emphasis on conceptual idea development, connecting metaphorical ideas and symbolic meaning to the crafting/making of sculptural objects. (CSU, UC)

ART 0012B. Sculpture II*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 12A with grade of "C" or better
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

In-depth exploration of sculpture philosophy and materials with a focused emphasis toward development of personal direction and individual style. Students work with a variety of materials to create works of art. (CSU, UC)

ART 0017. Ceramic Sculpture/Handbuilding*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Exploration of various ceramic hand-forming methods with clay as a medium; cultural, traditional, and contemporary ceramics techniques explored through the development of three-dimensional projects. Emphasis on handbuilding and hand forming techniques. (CSU, UC)

ART 0018A. Ceramics I*Units: 3*

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL C1000
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to the ideas, techniques, history and tradition of the art and craft of ceramics. Designed for students interested in working with clay, the course provides experiences in making functional as well as sculptural pieces using a variety of techniques. Emphasizes well-thought-out forms, designs and functional uses along with good craftsmanship. Ceramics explored through handbuilding projects, wheel throwing, decorating and glazing of ceramic works. A rigorous exploration of clay as a craft and art form. (CSU, UC)

ART 0018B. Ceramics II*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 18A with grade of "C" or better
Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL C1000

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Students integrate techniques and concepts learned in introductory ceramics to produce works of a more prioritized and personal nature. Introduces advanced techniques and concepts of using clay for creative expression to produce a fundamentally more self-directed portfolio using the potter's wheel and or hand building techniques. Provides increased sensitivity to the materials, to aesthetic design, and to further development of individual and imaginative use of the materials. Glaze technology is introduced. (CSU, UC)

ART 0019. Figure Sculpture*Units: 3*

Advisory: Completion of ART 12A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to figure sculpture using the live model. Emphasis on understanding the human figure as it relates culturally to contemporary and traditional sculptural concepts. Introduction to a variety of construction materials beginning with clay, plaster and mixed media. (CSU, UC)

ART 0020. Raku Ceramics*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to Raku, a traditional ceramics process. Explores origins and cultural developments and their application to the contemporary world. Includes fabrication techniques, glaze chemistry, firing techniques, and design theory. (CSU, UC)

ART 0022. Metal Arts*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Exploration of metalworking techniques, design principles, and material use for sculpture, functional and nonfunctional art forms. Common welding processes, forming, bending, and blacksmithing techniques for ferrous and nonferrous metals. (CSU)

ART 0024. Advanced Metal Arts*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 22 with grade of "C" or better
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Advanced exploration of metal techniques, design principles, and material use for sculpture and functional and nonfunctional art forms. Emphasis on development of a personal creative vision, furthering technical skills, and complex problem solving. Includes ferrous and nonferrous metal machining, advanced welding techniques, advanced forming methods, and public outdoor art installation. (CSU)

ART 0028. Independent Study*Units: 1-3*

Designed for students interested in furthering their knowledge at an independent study level in an area where no specific curriculum offering is currently available. Independent study might include, but is not limited to, research papers, special subject area projects, and research projects. See Independent Study page in catalog. (CSU, UC-with unit limitation)

ART 0032A. Fiber Arts I*Units: 3*

Formerly known as ART 32

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to basic materials, methods and vocabulary used in fiber and textile media as well as the hands-on development of expressive visual ideas. Develop familiarization with materials and basic understanding of several off-loom construction techniques. Emphasis on techniques requiring little specialized equipment with materials that are found readily in the environment. Contemporary and historical development and cultural relevance of the fiber media is also explored. (C-ID ARTS 282) (CSU, UC)

ART 0033. Art Metal Casting*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Foundations of art casting techniques and skills with an emphasis on the elements of art and principles of design. Introduction to mold making, wax working, traditional and nontraditional metal casting methods, chasing finishing for bronze and aluminum. (CSU)

ART 0034. Collage and Assemblage*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Explores the variation and formation of an altered surface with found and constructed materials. The application of historical and contemporary techniques and concepts provides the foundation for creating two and three dimensional works of art. Development of a personal visual language is essential to this course. (CSU)

ART 0040A. Printmaking I*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to printmaking processes. Direct practice in woodcut, linocut, and collagraph; planographic processes, such as monotype and monoprint; drypoint, a form of intaglio printing using a non-toxic etching process; stencil techniques; chine collé; color printing; registration; and traditional and contemporary printmaking practices. Students practice skills required to work in a shared studio environment using an etching press, and practice hand-pressing using various implements. Most inks used are soy-based and non-toxic. (C-ID ARTS 220) (CSU, UC)

ART 0040B. Printmaking II*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Completion of ART 40A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Further in-depth study of printmaking processes. Direct practice in relief, intaglio, collagraph, monotype, and digital prints and transfers. Exploration of traditional and contemporary printmaking practices. Techniques of creating and labeling print editions. Students practice skills required to work in a shared studio environment using an etching press, and practice hand-pressing using various implements. Most inks used are soy-based and non-toxic. (CSU, UC)

ART 0041. Introduction to Jewelry and Metalsmithing*Units: 3*

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to a wide range of methods, techniques, and materials used to create jewelry and small-scale metal artwork and objects. Includes examination of the history and contemporary practices of jewelry-making and small metal casting/fabrication with a global cultural perspective. (CSU)

ART 0052. Portrait Drawing and Painting*Units: 3*

Advisory: Completion of ART 4A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to drawing and painting the human portrait from live models. Basic proportions, facial features, basic rendering and painting techniques, and portrayal of individual portrait characteristics with a variety of drawing and painting media. Historical study of the art form of portraiture integrated into studio projects. (CSU, UC)

ART 0055. Illustration*Units: 3*

Also known as AAD 55

Prerequisite: Completion of AAD 44, 60, 62, 75 or ART 4A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 72 (36 lecture, 36 activity)

Professional practices of illustration, including concept development, communication of ideas, identification and use of appropriate styles and techniques, time management, pricing and contracts, and presentation of finished artwork. (CSU)

ART 0071. Introduction to Digital Painting*Units: 3*

Also known as AAD 71

Prerequisite: Completion of AAD 44 or ART 4A with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to the concepts, tools, and techniques of painting and drawing using creative software. Exploration of traditional artistic techniques in a digital environment. Includes development of skills such as form, color, space, and composition. Development of projects in for both print and screen. (CSU)

ART 0073. Digital Art Studio: Concepts and Practices*Units: 3*

Also known as AAD 73

Advisory: Completion of AAD 70, or AAD 75, or AAD 79 with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 laboratory)

Introduction to the tools, concepts, and processes for digital art creation with an emphasis on experimental animation, multimedia, digital art, and new genres. Topics include the integration of traditional design, color, and compositional principles with contemporary digital tools in an art studio context. (CSU, UC)

ART 0095. Internship in Art*Units: 0.5-4*

Designed for advanced students to work in an area related to their educational or occupational goal. Provides new on-the-job technical training under the direction of a worksite supervisor, allowing students to expand knowledge and skills in the chosen field. Mandatory orientation session and faculty approval to determine eligibility. One unit of credit is equal to 54 hours of work. Students may earn up to a total of 16 units in internship courses (any course numbered 95 and PDEV 94). (CSU-with unit limitation)

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

- Differentiate and evaluate verbally or in written form a work of art (his or her own art, the work of other students, and/or historical works of art) in terms of technical and aesthetic success and historical/cultural references.

- Analyze problem, formulate/invent idea then execute and use appropriate techniques to build or construct a solution/project that meets assignment criteria.
- Practice and demonstrate appropriate, safe and sustainable studio/lab practices, when inventing and producing solutions, to meet assigned project criteria.
- Use both pre-compiled knowledge and devise alternative knowledge structures to demonstrate understanding of works of art. Identify, analyze, and/or create images and objects which may contain multiple meanings and ways of communicating.
- Identify and analyze the achievements and contributions of significant artists and cultures throughout history.