

BFA Foundation

Tyler's BFA curriculum is designed to give sound preparation to the future artist through coursework that provides a variety of approaches, practices, skills and goals. The BFA Foundation Program and introductory courses in each studio area develop a thorough understanding of fundamental processes and information. Advanced courses in the major stress the development of an individual idiom and preparation for the professional world. At Tyler, art students find an atmosphere of aesthetic freedom that encourages personal experimentation and the exploration of visual concepts.

Freshman Year

The Foundation Program is highly structured and intensive; it forms the base that establishes the fundamental studio practice and principles for all visual art expression. In addition to presenting traditional vocabulary, theory, media, and technique, the Foundation Program develops creative thinking and problem solving, visual thinking, and perceptual and imaginative abilities. Faculty members from across the art and design areas teach the Foundation courses, assuring a broad range of experience and diverse viewpoints.

Sophomore Year

Sophomore studio electives serve as prerequisites to enter the major, of which one or two specific courses are required in each major. During the sophomore year, students are offered the opportunity to explore a wide range of studio areas. This experience gives the necessary background with which to make an informed selection of a major and adds to the overall breadth of the educational experience. Requirements are six 2000-level studio courses (18 s.h.), not to exceed three courses from any one major area and additional credits in Art History electives and/or General Education.

Junior and Senior Years

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree is completed after a final two-year focus in a major studio area. Because expressive work is often achieved by synthesis of disparate media, studio work outside the major is encouraged. Requirements are the specified major courses (21-24 s.h. depending on the major) and one major capstone course (3 s.h.), with a minimum grade of C- required in each course; a minimum of three studio electives which may be taken outside the major (9-12 s.h. depending on the major); and additional credits in Art History, General Education and elective courses.

These requirements are for students who matriculated in academic year 2023-2024. Students who matriculated prior to fall 2023 should refer to the Archives to view the requirements for their Bulletin year.

Summary of Requirements

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in one of the studio arts majors (i.e., Ceramics, Fibers and Materials Studies, Glass, Graphic and Interactive Design, Metals/Jewelry/CAD-CAM, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, or Sculpture) may be conferred upon a student by recommendation of the faculty and upon the satisfactory completion of a minimum of 126 semester hours of credit with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00.

General Education, courses waiving General Education requirements, and major courses all must be completed with a minimum grade of C- to fulfill requirements. Please confer with the advising staff and review your DARS for further information.

BFA Curriculum

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Studio courses		74
Foundation Program (20 credits)		
2000 level Sophomore studios including major prerequisites (18 credits)		
Major studio requirements (21-24 credits, varies depending on major)		
Capstone (WI) course in Major (3 credits)		
Studio electives (9-12 credits, varies depending on major)		
Art History		13-14
ARTH 1155 or ARTH 1955	Arts of the World I: Prehistoric to 1300 Honors Arts of the World I: Prehistoric to 1300	
ARTH 1156 or ARTH 1956	Arts of the World II: 1300 to the 21st Century Honors Arts of the World II: 1300 to the 21st Century	
2000+ ARTH elective		
2000+ ARTH writing intensive		
General Education ¹		32
Successful completion (minimum C-) of FDPR 1511 and ARTH 1156 satisfies the GenEd Arts (GA) requirement.		
Summer or semester study abroad program will satisfy the GenEd Global/World Society (GG) requirement.		

Non-studio elective	3
Open elective	3-4

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Students waived from General Education requirements must make up the credits with academic coursework taken outside of Tyler departments to be in compliance with BFA accreditation.

Sophomore Prerequisites for BFA Departments

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Ceramics		
ART 2101	Beginning Ceramics	
ART 2102	Intermediate Ceramics	
Glass		
ART 2301	Introduction to Glass	
ART 2302	Intermediate Glass	
Fibers and Material Studies		
ART 2201	Introduction to Fibers and Material Studies	
ART 2202	Dyeing for Color I	
Metals/Jewelry/CAD-CAM		
ART 2401	Jewelry	
ART 2402	CAD-CAM I: Introduction to 3D Modeling	
Graphic and Interactive Design		
GAD 2001	Graphic Design	
GAD 2021	Computers for Design	
Photography		
ART 2601	Photo I: Digital	
or ART 2603	Photo I: Digital	
ART 2602	Digital Imaging	
Printmaking		
ART 2701	Survey of Lithography and Serigraphy	
or ART 2702	Survey of Etching and Relief	
Select one of the following printmaking studios:		
ART 2704	Serigraphy	
ART 2705	Etching	
or ART 2706	Intaglio Printmaking	
ART 2707	Lithography	
Painting		
ART 2501	Painting	
or ART 2503	Painting	
Select one of the following:		
ART 2502	Intermediate Drawing	
or ART 2504	Intermediate Drawing	
ART 2507	Intermediate Figure Drawing	
Sculpture		
ART 2801	Sculpture	
or ART 2807	Sculpture: Rome	

Suggested Academic Plan

Please note that this is a **suggested** academic plan. Depending on your situation, your academic plan may look different.

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Suggested Plan for New Students Starting in the 2023-2024 Academic Year

Year 1		Credit Hours
Fall		
ENG 0802 or ENG 0812 or ENG 0902	Analytical Reading and Writing or Analytical Reading and Writing: ESL or Honors Writing About Literature	4
FDPR 1511	Foundation Drawing ¹	3
FDPR 1521	2D Foundation Principles	3
FDPR 1531	3D Foundation Principles/W	3
FDPR 1503	Woodshop Fundamentals	1
ARTH 1155 or ARTH 1955	Arts of the World I: Prehistoric to 1300 or Honors Arts of the World I: Prehistoric to 1300	3
Credit Hours		17
Spring		
IH 0851 or IH 0951	Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life or Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life	3
FDPR 1512	Foundation Drawing	3
FDPR 1522	2D Foundation Principles	3
FDPR 1532	3D Foundation Principles/C	3
FDPR 1502	Investigations of Art and Design	1
ARTH 1156 or ARTH 1956	Arts of the World II: 1300 to the 21st Century ¹ or Honors Arts of the World II: 1300 to the 21st Century	3
Credit Hours		16
Year 2		
Fall		
Select three of the following:		9
ART 2xxx (Studio Electives/Prerequisites) ²		
GAD 2xxx (Studio Electives/Prerequisites) ²		
IH 0852 or IH 0952	Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good or Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good	3
GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course ^{GQ}		4
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
Select three of the following:		9
ART 2xxx (Studio Electives/Prerequisites) ²		
GAD 2xxx (Studio Electives/Prerequisites) ²		
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		15
Year 3		
Fall		
Studio Major Courses		6
Studio Elective		3
Art History Elective ³		4
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
Studio Major Courses		6
Studio Elective		3
Art History Writing-Intensive Elective ^{WI 4}		4

GenEd Breadth Course	3
Credit Hours	16
Year 4	
Fall	
Studio Major Courses	6
Studio Elective	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3
Non-Studio Elective	3
Credit Hours	15
Spring	
Studio Major Courses	6
Writing Intensive course in major (Capstone) ^{WI 5}	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3
Open Elective ³	3
Credit Hours	15
Total Credit Hours	126

1

These 2 courses constitute the waiver for the GenEd Arts category if the courses are completed with a grade of C- or better.

2

See academic advisor for details.

3

Students completing a 3 credit Art History 2000+ elective **must** select a 4 credit open elective to reach the minimum 126 credits to earn the BFA degree.

4

Students may elect to take a second writing intensive course within their majors (if available), but must still fulfill a total of 13-14 credits in Art History - see academic advisor for details.

5

In some majors, the Capstone is taken in the junior year.