ART PRACTICES—PAINTING/DRAWING

Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) – Catalog Year 2026-2027

FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Art Practices emphasis provides students with a comprehensive education in visual art practices, which includes creative influences, ideas, materials, tools and skills, as well as theory and art history, with an emphasis on current trends in contemporary art. Students receive focused professional skills in two self-selected areas of studio art, whereby the student can develop a fully formed and thoughtful body of work with conceptual impact. The work of contemporary artists is a dynamic combination of materials, methods, concepts, and subjects that challenges traditional assumptions and definitions. Contemporary artists give voice to the varied and changing landscapes of identity, values, and beliefs in the increasingly global culture of our diverse and technologically advancing world. Artists today explore ideas, concepts, questions, and practices that examine the past, describe the present, and imagine the future. This emphasis will give **Bachelors of Fine Arts (BFA)** students a clear sense of what it is to produce art today and be competitive in their field.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Freshmen with fewer than 30 credits and/or CAM students who are Undeclared are assigned to the Center for Undergraduate Exploration and Advising (CUE&A). All other College of Arts & Media (CAM) students with more than 30 credits who have declared CAM majors are assigned to the CAM Office of Advising and Student Services.

Students can connect with the internal CAM admissions team to learn more about the program, additional admission requirements, spaces, equipment and technology.

CAM Recruitment and Enrollment
CAMinfo@ucdenver.edu
Visit the CAM website here
Arts Building, Suite 177
303-315-7400 (option 1)

Students with a declared CAM major that have more than 30 credits are encouraged to meet with a CAM advisor every semester prior to registration.

CAM Office of Advising and Student Services
CAMadvising@ucdenver.edu
Visit the CAM website here
Arts Building, Suite 177
303-315-7400 (option 1)

Freshmen with fewer than 30 credits and/or CAM students that are Undeclared students are assigned to the Center for Undergraduate Exploration and Advising. These students are required to meet with an advisor every semester prior to registration.

Center for Undergraduate Exploration and Advising (CUE&A)
CUEA@ucdenver.edu
Visit the CUEA website here
Student Commons 1113
303-315-1940

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CAM students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CAM, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 hours at CU Denver

*The following are **maximum** semester hours that can apply toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:*

- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study
- 12 semester hours of internship credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

The following program requirements are based on degree requirements for the current Catalog year at CU Denver and are subject to change. Students are responsible for completing degree requirements based on the Catalog year for which they are admitted.

Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CAM requirements, students completing the BFA Fine Arts, Art Practices (Painting/Drawing Primary Concentration) Emphasis Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a minimum of 27 FINE credit hours.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 21 upper division (3000-level and above) FINE credit hours. Most upper division courses have lower division pre-requisites.
3. Students must achieve a minimum GPA of 2.0 for all courses applied to major requirements.
4. Students must complete all major courses taken at CU Denver with a minimum grade of C (2.0) and all transfer courses applying to major requirements with a minimum grade of C (2.0). Students cannot complete major course requirements as pass/fail.
5. Students must complete a minimum of 21 FINE credit hours with CU Denver faculty.

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COURESWORK THAT CAN BE COMPLETED AT PREVIOUS INSTITUTION

The following is a "bucket" of requirements students can complete prior to transferring to CU Denver, including equivalent Colorado Community College System (CCCS) courses. To determine the equivalencies of courses to be completed at non-CU Denver institutions, students can visit www.transferology.com. **It is critical students connect with a CU Denver academic advisor to ensure planned courses will transfer *and* apply to CU Denver degree requirements.** All non-CU Denver coursework must be completed with a C- or better to be eligible for transfer.

Students interested in completing an Associate (A.A. or A.S.) Degree or a Colorado Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement or Degree with Designation (DWD) must work with their community/junior college academic advisor to create an academic plan that accounts for all degree or transfer articulation agreement requirements. Colorado Community College Students may also explore the option to complete Reverse Transfer at CU Denver.

CU Denver Requirements	CU Denver Credits	CCCS Equivalent Courses & Notes	CCCS Credits
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	**34 - 40**		
ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3	ENG 1021	3
ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3	ENG 1022	3
Mathematics	3 - 4	GT-MA1 *(MAT 1240 recommended)*	3 - 4
Arts	3	GT-AH *(ART 1111 recommended)*	3
Humanities	3	GT-AH or GT-HI *(ART 1112 recommended)*	3
Behavioral Sciences	3 - 4	GT-SS	3 - 4
Social Sciences	3 - 4	GT-SS or GT-HI*	3 - 4
Natural/Physical Science with lab	4 - 5	GT-SC1	4 - 5
Natural/Physical Science without lab or Math	3 - 5	GT-SC2 or GT-MA1 *(except the course used for Core Math)* or GT-SC1	3 - 5
International Perspectives	3	Additional GT-AH, HI, SS* *(see note below)*	3
Cultural Diversity	3	*To be completed at CU Denver. This requirement must be completed with an upper-division course and CCCS courses will not apply.*	
Non-Major Arts (Music, Theatre, Film, or Dance)	3		3
Art Practices Transfer Credits	**24 - 36**		
FINE 2600 Art History Survey I	3	ART 1111	3
FINE 2610 Art History Survey II	3	ART 1112	3
FINE 1100 Drawing I	3	ART 1201	3
FINE 1500 3D Design	3	ART 1003	3
FINE 1150 or 2155 Darkroom or Digital Photography	3	ART 1402 or 1401	3
FINE 2200 Painting I	3	ART 1301	
FINE 2030 Life Drawing	3	ART 1203	3
FINE 2200 Painting I	3	ART 1301	3
Visual Arts Electives	0-9	Please consult a CAM advisor for options.	0-9
Total	**58-76**		

***The applicability of Guaranteed Transfer (GT Pathways) courses to specific CU Denver Core Curriculum requirements requires completion of a block of five courses: two GT-AH course; one GT-HI course; one GT-SS course; and one additional GT-AH, GT-HI, or GT-SS course.**

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SAMPLE PLAN – COURESWORK TO BE COMPLETED AT CU DENVER

Based on successful completion of 60 applicable transfer credits and the complete "bucket" of requirements outlined above, students would have the following remaining to complete at CU Denver. At CU Denver, students must tailor this plan based on the evaluation of previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, individual preferences related to course load, summer term courses, part-time or full-time student status, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

YEAR ONE

Fall	CRS
FINE ____ Secondary Studio Concentration Course	3
FINE 3556 Concepts in Studio Art *(Fall only)*	3
FINE ____ Upper Division Art History Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	**9**

Spring	CRS
FINE 3030 The Media of Drawing	3
FINE ____ Secondary Studio Concentration Course	3
FINE 4990 Contemporary Art	3
Total Credit Hours	**9**

YEAR TWO

Fall	CRS
FINE 3200 Intermediate Painting & Drawing *(Fall only)*	3
FINE 3500 Installation Art *(Fall only)*	3
FINE ____ Secondary Studio Concentration Course	3
Total Credit Hours	**9**

Spring	CRS
FINE ____ Secondary Studio Concentration Course	3
Cultural Diversity	3
Total Credit Hours	**9**

YEAR THREE

Fall	CRS
FINE 4215 Interdisciplinary Studio *(Fall only)*	3
FINE ____ Secondary Studio Concentration Course	3
Total Credit Hours	**6**

Spring	CRS
FINE 4515 Advanced Art Practices *(Spring only)*	3
FINE 4950 Studio BFA Thesis (*Spring only)*	3
Total Credit Hours	**6**