

FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CU Denver Photography program is a Fine Arts photography program, allowing students to learn and build upon visual arts foundations – including drawing and two-dimensional design, among others – to study both traditional and contemporary photographic techniques. Studio work is complemented by theory and history courses, as well as by instruction on how to promote oneself as an artist. Faculty focus on personal artistic expression, broad conceptual concerns, and nurturing the creative process. Students enjoy small classes with instructors who are successful, practicing artists. Unlike many other programs, we explore the potential of not only contemporary digital photography but also of traditional film photography to combine a range of specific techniques with broad artistic concepts and theory. We also offer the opportunity to study and earn credit abroad. Moreover, students find a close-knit and supportive community of fellow artists with whom to share ideas and critiques – in the classroom and in the lab. This community proves invaluable as long-term projects are developed with faculty and peer feedback, culminating in a final senior show and an individualized, professional-level portfolio.

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.

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.

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.

CAM Recruitment and Enrollment

CAMinfo@ucdenver.edu

Visit the CAM website [here](#)

Arts Building, Suite 177

303-315-7400 (option 1)

CAM Office of Advising and Student Services

CAMadvising@ucdenver.edu

Visit the CAM website [here](#)

Arts Building, Suite 177

303-315-7400 (option 1)

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, Photography Emphasis Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a minimum of 40 FINE credit hours.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 24 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.

PHOTOGRAPHY

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

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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 (<i>MAT 1240 recommended</i>) | 3 - 4 |
| Arts | 3 | GT-AH (<i>ART 1111 recommended</i>) | 3 |
| Humanities | 3 | GT-AH or GT-HI (<i>ART 1112 recommended</i>) | 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 (<i>except the course used for Core Math</i>) or GT-SC1 | 3 - 5 |
| International Perspectives | 3 | Additional GT-AH, HI, SS* (<i>see note below</i>) | 3 |
| Cultural Diversity | 3 | <i>To be completed at CU Denver. This requirement must be completed with an upper-division course and CCCS courses will not apply.</i> | |
| Non-Major Arts (Music, Theatre, Film, or Dance) | 3 | | 3 |
| Photography Transfer Credits | 18-30 | | |
| FINE 1100 Drawing I | 3 | ART 1201 | 3 |
| FINE 1500 3D Design | 3 | ART 1003 | 3 |
| FINE 2600 Art History Survey I | 3 | ART 1111 | 3 |
| FINE 2610 Art History Survey II | 3 | ART 1112 | 3 |
| FINE 2155 Intro to Digital Photo | 3 | ART 1401 | 3 |
| FINE 1150 Darkroom Photo | 3 | ART 1402 | 3 |
| Visual Arts Electives | 0-15 | Please consult a CAM Advisor for options. | 0-6 |
| Pre-20 th C. Art History | 0-3 | Please consult a CAM Advisor for options. | 0-3 |
| TOTAL | 52-70 | | |

*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.

Note: this plan assumes students have completed the CAM Foreign Language proficiency requirement. Students who have not fulfilled this requirement must work with a CU Denver CAM Academic Advisor to modify this plan.

YEAR ONE

| Fall | CRS |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| FINE 3630 History of Photography (<i>Fall only</i>) | 3 |
| Upper Division Visual Arts Elective | 3 |
| Cultural Diversity | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 9 |

| Spring | CRS |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| FINE 3631 Photo Theory/Criticism (<i>Spring only</i>) | 3 |
| FINE 4990 Contemporary Art | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 9 |

YEAR TWO

| Fall | CRS |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| FINE 3156 Photo Studio and Lighting (<i>Fall only</i>) | 3 |
| FINE 3161 Silver Fine Print (<i>Fall only</i>) | 3 |
| FINE 3162 Digital Fine Print (<i>Fall only</i>) | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 9 |

| Spring | CRS |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| FINE 3160 Color/Constructed Image (<i>Spring only</i>) | 3 |
| FINE 3171 Concepts and Processes (<i>Spring only</i>) | 3 |
| FINE 3172 Photo and Community (<i>Spring only</i>) | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 9 |

YEAR THREE

| Fall | CRS |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| FINE 3635 Photography Now (<i>Fall only</i>) | 3 |
| FINE 4195 Photography Portfolio I (<i>Fall only</i>) | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 6 |

| Spring | CRS |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| FINE 4196 Photography Portfolio II (<i>Spring only</i>) | 3 |
| FINE 4950 Studio BFA Thesis (<i>Spring</i>) | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | 6 |