

Visual Arts

Department Website: <http://dova.uchicago.edu>
 Program of Study

The Department of Visual Arts (DoVA) is concerned with art making as a vehicle for exploring creativity, expression, perception, and the constructed world. Whether students take courses listed under ARTV to meet a general education requirement or as part of a major in visual arts, the goal is that they will develop communicative, analytical, and expressive skills through the process of artistic production. The following three courses meet the general education requirement in the arts: ARTV 10100 Visual Language: On Images, ARTV 10200 Visual Language: On Objects, and ARTV 10300 Visual Language: On Time and Space. Most advanced courses require one of these as a prerequisite. (See individual course listings for specific prerequisites.) Students majoring or minoring in visual arts cannot use an ARTV course to meet the general education requirement in the arts.

Range of Course Offerings

The following courses introduce visual communication through the manipulation of various traditional and nonart materials, engaging principles of visual language while stressing the relationship between form and meaning. Readings and visits to local museums and galleries are required.

ARTV 10100	Visual Language: On Images	100
ARTV 10200	Visual Language: On Objects	100
ARTV 10300	Visual Language: On Time and Space	100

ARTV courses numbered 21000 to 29700 include media specific courses that teach technical skills and provide a conceptual framework for working in these media (e.g., painting, photography, sculpture, video). Also included are more advanced studio courses designed to investigate the vast array of objects, spaces, and ideas embedded in the contemporary artistic landscape. ARTV courses numbered 20000 to 20999 are not studio-based and may not be counted toward studio requirements for the major or minor. ARTV courses in the 20000 to 20999 range may be counted toward the two electives relevant to the major. (See Program Requirements for more information.)

Students in other fields of study may also complete a minor in visual arts. Information follows the description of the major.

Program Requirements

The BA program in the Department of Visual Arts is intended for students interested in the practice and study of art. DoVA's faculty consists of a core of artists and other humanists interested in making and thinking about art. Students who major in visual arts take an individually arranged program of studio, lecture, and seminar courses that may include some courses outside the Humanities Collegiate Division. The program seeks to foster understanding of art from several perspectives: the practice and intention of the creator, the visual conventions employed, and the perception and critical reception of the audience. In addition to work in the studio, these aims may require study of many other subjects, including but not limited to art history, intellectual history, criticism, and aesthetics.

All students take ARTV 10100 Visual Language: On Images, ARTV 10200 Visual Language: On Objects, or ARTV 10300 Visual Language: On Time and Space in the first two years of their studies. (NOTE: Students majoring or minoring in visual arts cannot use an ARTV course to meet the general education requirement in the arts.) After completing one of these general education courses but no later than Winter Quarter of their third year, students meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies to plan the rest of their program. At least six of the courses beyond the general education requirement in the arts must be drawn from the second level of studio-based offerings (studio art courses numbered 21000 and above). Please note that only courses that are primarily focused on art making can be applied toward this requirement. Students may take up to two studio-based independent study courses (ARTV 29700 Independent Study in Visual Arts) toward their six studio requirements. Two of the remaining three electives may include any intellectually consistent combination of visual arts studio courses, visual arts critical and theory courses, and any other relevant offerings in the College. One elective must be a 20000-level (not meeting the general education requirement in the arts) course in Art History (ARTH).

Students take ARTV 29600 Junior Seminar in their third year. At the end of the Junior Seminar, students may choose to apply for the visual arts studio track. Places in the studio track are limited. Applicants will be reviewed by a faculty committee at the end of their third year, and studio track decisions will be announced before the start of the Autumn Quarter of fourth year. Students in the studio track present their work in a thesis exhibition and may be eligible to receive shared studio space in their senior year. (See "Studio Track" section below for more details.)

Students who wish to study abroad in their third year should contact the department as soon as possible to discuss options for taking the Junior Seminar, which is generally only offered one quarter per year. Junior Seminar can sometimes be taken in the second year with permission from the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

All visual arts majors must take ARTV 29850 Senior Seminar in the Autumn Quarter of their fourth year. Students in the studio track are required to take an additional course, ARTV 29900 Senior Project, which serves as a critical forum to prepare for the thesis exhibition in the spring. (See "Studio Track" section below for more details.)

Summary of Requirements for Majors

GENERAL EDUCATION

One course outside of ARTV that meets the arts requirement *	100
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Total Units	100
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MAJOR

One of the following:	100
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ARTV 10100	Visual Language: On Images	
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ARTV 10200	Visual Language: On Objects	
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ARTV 10300	Visual Language: On Time and Space	
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ARTV 29600	Junior Seminar	100
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ARTV 29850	Senior Seminar	100
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Six studio art courses numbered 21000 and above**	600
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Two electives relevant to the major	200
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One 20000-level course in Art History ‡	100
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Total Units	1200
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* Students majoring in visual arts cannot use an ARTV course to meet the general education requirement in the arts.

** ARTV courses numbered 20000 to 20999 cannot be used toward this requirement.

‡ ARTH courses that satisfy the general education requirement in the arts are not eligible.

Studio Track

Visual arts majors may apply for the studio track at the end of their third year. Places in the studio track are limited. Applicants will be reviewed by a faculty committee at the end of the third year, and studio track decisions will be announced before the start of the Autumn Quarter of fourth year. Studio track students work in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the visual arts faculty to mount a thesis exhibition at the beginning of the Spring Quarter of their senior year. Studio track students may also be awarded shared studio space during the senior year, based on merit and need, and contingent upon space being available.

Additionally, studio track students must take ARTV 29900 Senior Project in the Winter Quarter of their final year, in preparation for their thesis exhibition.

Summary of Requirements for Studio Track Majors

GENERAL EDUCATION

One course outside of ARTV that meets the arts requirement *	100
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Total Units	100
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MAJOR

One of the following:	100
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ARTV 10100	Visual Language: On Images	
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ARTV 10200	Visual Language: On Objects	
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ARTV 10300	Visual Language: On Time and Space	
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ARTV 29600	Junior Seminar	100
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ARTV 29850	Senior Seminar	100
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ARTV 29900	Senior Project	100
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Six studio art courses numbered 21000 and above**	600
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Two electives relevant to the major	200
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One 20000-level course in Art History ‡	100
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Total Units	1300
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* Students majoring in visual arts cannot use an ARTV course to meet the general education requirement in the arts.

** ARTV courses numbered 20000 to 20999 cannot be used toward this requirement.

‡ ARTH courses that satisfy the general education requirement in the arts are not eligible.

Honors

Students must have a portfolio of exceptional quality to be recommended to graduate with honors in visual arts. Visual arts faculty make final honors decisions at the end of the student's fourth year, based on performance in visual arts courses, the quality of participation in critiques, and the thesis exhibition.

Grading

Students majoring in visual arts must receive quality grades for the 12 or 13 courses that constitute the major. With consent of their College adviser and the instructor, nonmajors may take visual arts courses for P/F grades if the courses are not used to meet a general education requirement.

Minor Program in the Department of Visual Arts

The minor in visual arts requires six courses: one is from the 10000-level sequence (ARTV 10100 Visual Language: On Images, ARTV 10200 Visual Language: On Objects, or ARTV 10300 Visual Language: On Time and Space), and five are drawn from visual arts studio courses numbered 21000 to 29700, chosen in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. ARTV courses numbered 20000 to 20999 are not studio-based and may not be counted toward studio requirements for the minor. (NOTE: Students minoring in visual arts cannot use an ARTV course to meet the general education requirement in the arts.)

Students who elect the minor program in visual arts must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor. Students choose courses in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. The Director's approval for the minor program should be submitted to a student's College adviser by the deadline above on a form obtained from the adviser.

Courses in the minor (1) may not be double counted with the student's major(s) or with other minors; and (2) may not be counted toward general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades, and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

Summary of Requirements for the Minor in Visual Arts

GENERAL EDUCATION

One course outside of ARTV that meets the arts requirement *	100
Total Units	100

MINOR

One of the following:	100
ARTV 10100 Visual Language: On Images	
ARTV 10200 Visual Language: On Objects	
ARTV 10300 Visual Language: On Time and Space	
Five studio art courses numbered 21000 and above**	500
Total Units	600

* Students minoring in visual arts cannot use an ARTV course to meet the general education requirement in the arts.

** ARTV courses numbered 20000 to 20999 cannot be used toward this requirement.

Course Attendance

Students must attend the first and second classes to confirm enrollment. No exceptions will be made unless the student notifies the instructor before the first class.



Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Trajan.

Times was used instead of Palatino.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.