

ART & DESIGN (B.F.A.)

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree in Art & Design is designed to provide students with a comprehensive course of study consisting of a minimum of 72 credits in visual arts courses. The B.F.A. degree can lead directly to graduate work for a Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) or to professional careers in the Studio Art and Graphic Design fields. To be eligible for the B.F.A. degree, students must first be accepted into the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) program in Art & Design.

The B.F.A. degree is organized into the following three options:

- Graphic Design
- Studio Art
- Studio/Design

Acceptance into the B.F.A. Program (Required)

To be eligible for the B.F.A. degree, students must first declare their major in the B.A. program in Art & Design. Students can be admitted directly into the Bachelor of Arts program in either the Studio Art or Graphic Design option by indicating their intention upon acceptance to Keene State College. Otherwise, students are asked to declare their major in Art & Design preferably by the first semester of the sophomore year to ensure timely completion of degree requirements.

The B.F.A. Portfolio Review

Once declared as a major in the B.A. program in Art & Design, students may elect to pursue the more intensive B.F.A. degree. Acceptance into the B.F.A. options in Studio Art, Graphic Design, or Studio/Design is based on assessment by Art & Design faculty of a portfolio consisting of ten to fifteen pieces of college-level artwork by the applicant. All work must be properly identified with the following information: name, medium, size, course title, and date of execution. Submitted portfolios must have a written statement of personal educational goals, an official transcript (KSC and other colleges), and be submitted to the Art & Design Department prior to the posted portfolio deadlines (see below). Following acceptance into all B.F.A. programs, students will consult with their assigned academic advisor and submit a new declaration of major form to the Registrar's Office.

Transfer Requirements for All B.F.A. Options

Transfer students are eligible to apply for the B.F.A. degree options provided they meet the admissions standards for the B.A. degree in Art & Design as well as those required for the specific B.F.A. option to which they wish to apply. Acceptance into the B.F.A. includes an independent review by the Art and Design faculty of transfer courses and art/design work completed at another institution.

All B.F.A. candidates must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in the major (Art & Design courses). The B.F.A. Committee will also conduct mid-level reviews of accepted students during the fall semester of their senior year. The purpose of the review is to assess the candidate's progress toward the completion of the degree as well as the development of their artwork. Individuals whose GPA falls below the 3.0 minimum standard or whose art and /or design work is not at the appropriate level for the B.F.A. degree by the beginning of their second senior-year semester (or equivalent) will be returned to the B.A. degree program and will only be allowed to reapply for the B.F.A. when the above requirements are met.

The Graphic Design Option Requirements

Students may apply to the Graphic Design option after completion of a minimum of 6 courses (24 credits) that must include the Foundation Core (12 credits), ART-160 Typographic Form & Function, and ART-253 Digital Imaging. Students are expected to have maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in these 6 courses. Acceptance to the B.F.A. program is based on an assessment of a portfolio of artwork from these courses (see above).

In the beginning of the fall semester of their sophomore year, all students seeking the Graphic Design option for the B.F.A. degree will submit a portfolio (see above). Students not accepted into the B.F.A. Graphic Design option will remain as B.A. students and are eligible to reapply for the B.F.A. program in the next year's portfolio review.

Individuals whose GPA falls below the 3.0 minimum standard or whose design work is not at the appropriate level for the B.F.A. degree by the beginning of their second senior-year semester (or equivalent) will be returned to the B.A. degree program and will only be allowed to reapply for the B.F.A. when the above requirements are met.

The Studio Art Option Requirements

Students may apply to the Studio Art option after completion of a minimum of 6 courses (24 credits), these must include the Foundation Core (12 credits) and an additional 12 credits, not counting 200-400 level art history courses, in Studio Art. Students are expected to have maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in these 6 courses. Acceptance to the B.F.A. program is based on an assessment of a portfolio of artwork from these courses.

Accepted B.F.A. Studio Art option students will have the opportunity to have an individual studio space and work one on one with an Art & Design faculty mentor. All accepted candidates will mount a B.F.A. solo thesis exhibition as a graduation requirement. Candidates in the B.F.A. Studio Art options will meet with the B.F.A. Committee after their completion of their B.F.A. Senior Exhibition. The Committee will conduct an oral review in which candidates will field questions and outline for a mixed audience the related to process/concept/realization of their exhibition material.

The Studio/Design Option Requirements

Students may apply to the Studio/Design option after completion of a minimum of 6 courses (24 credits). Studio/Design option applicants must take the Foundation Core (12 credits), ART-160 Typographic Form & Function, ART-253 Digital Imaging and one additional major requirement course as part of the 24-credit minimum. Students are expected to have maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in these 6 courses. Acceptance to the B.F.A. program is based on an assessment of a portfolio of artwork from these courses (see above).

Accepted B.F.A. Studio/Design option students will have the opportunity to have an individual studio space and work one on one with an Art & Design faculty mentor. All accepted candidates will mount a B.F.A. solo thesis exhibition as a graduation requirement. Candidates in the B.F.A. Studio/Design options will meet with the B.F.A. Committee after their completion of their B.F.A. Senior Exhibition. The Committee will conduct an oral review in which candidates will field questions and outline for a mixed audience the related to process/concept/realization of their exhibition material.