Art

Gonzaga encourages its students to bring the whole of their spiritual, creative, and intellectual experience to the learning process. The University’s Art curriculum teaches students to discipline, refine, and focus their creative intellect. By exploring the aesthetic limitations and possibilities that exist within the applied rules of composition and design, students hone their skills in creative problem-solving and learn effective visual communication of ideas.

THE PROGRAM

Gonzaga’s Art Department offers a major and minor that encourage creativity and innovation and emphasize developing the fundamentals of each artistic medium. The department also offers a concentration in art history for art majors and a minor in art history for all non-art majors. The art history concentration/minor is a natural gateway into the study of different cultures and societies, providing students with an enhanced view into other cultures through the lens of art.

Gonzaga’s Art Department allows students to investigate a variety of visual experiences through a study of both the studio arts and art history. Studio courses allow students to explore the creative processes involved in producing original works of art. These courses include the areas of ceramics, design, photography, film, drawing, painting, and printmaking. Art appreciation and art history courses emphasize the role of the artist in society and develop a greater sense of the importance of art’s cultural context.

CURRICULUM

The Art curriculum is designed to help students become proficient in a variety of art forms and studio techniques, effectively use elements of design, and demonstrate a fundamental understanding of art history. Art students will also produce a competent body of work in one or more studio areas during their studies at Gonzaga.

The Art Department offers courses in:

- Art History
- Ceramics
- Creative Filmmaking
- Design
- Drawing
- Painting
- Photography
- Printmaking
DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Further instruction is offered at the Gonzaga University study abroad program in Florence, Italy. In Florence, students may work in one or more studio areas of drawing, design, sculpture, and painting. Students in Florence also have access to additional classes in art history. Art becomes a living study as students explore the artwork and techniques of the Italian Renaissance. Gonzaga students may also take art history courses in nearly all of the other study abroad programs available to them. Creative development and experiences outside the classroom are also stressed in the Art Department curriculum. Below is a list of activities and projects that art students have recently completed or participated in:

- Completion of murals for non-profit community organizations
- Creation of ceramic bowls for the annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser
- Demonstration of various printmaking techniques for the general public at the Spokane Print Fest
- Development of an art history app focused on women artists and artists of color
- Display of their work at local art galleries
- Internships at local art galleries

OUTCOMES

Ultimately, the best assessment of the program is student success beyond Gonzaga. Students have been accepted at major graduate programs throughout the United States. As a result of their education in the Art Department at Gonzaga, a large number of former students work as individual artists, teach at colleges and universities, work in galleries and museums, and work in applied art fields. Please visit gonzaga.edu/art for profiles of some of our alumni.

In the last 15 years, Gonzaga art students have been accepted into the following MFA programs:

- Cranbook Academy of Art
- Northern Illinois University
- San Francisco Academy of Art
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- University of Arizona
- University of Connecticut
- University of Georgia, Atlanta
- University of Iowa
- University of Kansas
- University of Montana
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- University of Oregon
- University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Washington State University
- University of Washington

THE PLACE

Gonzaga’s Jundt Art Center and Museum is located on the shores of the Spokane River. The heart of the center is a beautiful studio complex for ceramics, design, drawing, painting, and printmaking. A theatre-style lecture hall provides space for art history, visiting artist lectures, and video/film presentations.

The Jundt Art Museum provides collection, storage, and exhibition areas for Gonzaga University’s permanent art collection in addition to exhibit space for student and faculty art, and changing exhibits of local, regional, national, and international artwork.

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For more information:
gonzaga.edu/art