

Art Education

Department of Art, College of Fine Arts & Communication



Major Programs

The Department of Art offers the Bachelor of Arts in Art Education to students seeking an art degree that leads to teaching at the K-12 grade levels. The degree prepares students to earn K-12 teacher certification in the State of Illinois. Preparation includes the development of technical and creative skills, exposure to a broad range of media, study of the theory and methods of art education, College of Education and Human Services requirements, and background in the historical study of art. The curriculum consists of General Education courses and a 58 semester hour Art major that requires an Art Core, specialized courses from a full range of studio offerings, art methods and theory courses, courses in art history, and College of Education and Human Services requirements.

Faculty

The Department of Art has more than 17 full- and part-time faculty who offer instruction and expertise in a broad range of courses. The Art faculty teach all classes. They also pursue careers as professional artists, exhibiting on a regular basis in regional, national, and international shows and winning many awards and honors of distinction. Check out the Faculty link on the department homepage for more information on individual faculty members at wiu.edu/art.

Scholarships

In addition to the grants, loans, and scholarships available through Western Illinois University's Financial Aid office, Art majors have other forms of scholarships available to them. Each year, the department offers competitive freshman scholarships aimed at attracting talented Art majors. The department also offers Talent Grants and partial tuition waivers to majors identified by a competitive portfolio process. For information about these scholarships, contact the Department of Art.

Student Activities

The Department of Art provides many activities that are of interest to our majors and other members of the campus community. Student organizations, such as the Student Art League, the Clay Club, and the Metals Club, offer students a unique opportunity to participate in art activities on a more personal level and to get an inside look at the world of an artist. Students also have the opportunity to become involved in many other campus activities. Artistic and academically gifted students are selected for membership in Kappa Pi, an international Honorary Art Fraternity.

Special Opportunities

Students have the potential to study with visiting artists, attend special workshops, and travel to major art centers. A low student-to-faculty ratio provides for many one-on-one learning experiences. The Art program is housed in three buildings: (1) Garwood Hall (painting, drawing, printmaking, graphic design, and art education), (2) the Heating Plant Annex (sculpture, ceramics, and metals), and (3) the Art Gallery. Each year, the Art Gallery sponsors 15 to 20 exhibitions. Academically talented and motivated Art students may apply for admission to the Centennial Honors College.

After College

Graduates of the Art Education Bachelor of Arts degree often find employment in the Illinois public school system as art teachers. Some will teach at the elementary level and others at the middle or high school levels. Some graduates pursue advanced degrees. Historically, placement has been very high—over 90%! This is a strong testament to the quality of our Art Education majors and of our program.

For More Information

Contact the Department of Art for additional information or to schedule an appointment:

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Mail: Department of Art
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University Libraries

University Libraries consists of the Leslie F. Malpass Library, which is the main branch, and four other branches: the Physical Sciences Library, the Music Library, the Curriculum Library, and the Quad Cities Library. We offer students access to a variety of resources in print and online. Research assistance is available in person at the Reference Desk and via instant messaging. Check out our website for hours, events, and services available: wiu.edu/libraries.

Higher Values in Higher Education

Located in Macomb (population 20,000), with a campus in the Quad Cities (Moline, IL), Western offers a caring and supportive learning environment to more than 10,000 students in west-central Illinois. Western students have all the advantages of a large public university—strong faculty, state-of-the-art technology and facilities, and a wide range of academic and extracurricular opportunities—in an atmosphere free from distractions. Western offers a broad-based athletics program, sponsoring 19 NCAA Division I intercollegiate varsity sports. Football competes in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision through the Missouri Valley Football Conference; all other varsity sports compete at the Division I level through The Summit League. Western's presence in the Quad Cities spans more than 40 years, and that campus offers undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 1,400 students. The core values that are at the heart of the University are academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth and social responsibility.

Western's GradTrac and Cost Guarantee programs ensure that students can achieve their degrees within four years while paying a fixed rate for tuition, fees and room and board.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, women and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes discrimination based on an individual's membership in the following classes: sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, genetic information, veteran status, and any other classes protected by state or federal law.

Campus Visits

The Admissions Reception Center (Sherman Hall 115) is open most weekdays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM when the University is in session. Group information sessions are available on Mondays and Fridays at 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, and individual appointments can be made on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Campus tours are conducted at 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Appointments with advisers, faculty, or a financial aid adviser may be arranged separately during the week. The Admissions Reception Center is open from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM most Saturdays when the University is in session. A group information session is available at 10:00 AM, and a campus tour is conducted at 11:00 AM. You may schedule your visit or tour online at wiu.edu/admissions by selecting "Visit Campus." You may also schedule a visit, tour, or individual appointment by calling toll free (877) PICKWIU (742-5948) or (309) 298-3157, or by e-mailing wiu.edu/admissions.



wiu.edu/art

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