

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM .

STUDENT GUIDEBOOK

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ART & ART HISTORY

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The UAB Department of Art + Art History fosters critical and creative thinking, communication, problem solving and community engagement through our curriculum and programs.

As an art and art history student at UAB, you will learn the skills and techniques needed to express yourself, practice the art of critique, and study from cultural producers new and old.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS



ART STUDIO COURSES

Art Studio courses typically meet twice a week for 2.5 hours each. Some of that in-class time is spent working on projects. For every hour you spend in an <u>art studio class</u>, you are expected to spend (at minimum) an hour outside of class working on projects for that course.

So for the standard class structure mentioned here, you would spend 5 hours/week in class, and 5 hours/week outside of class working on projects for that course.

EXTRACURRICULAR EDUCATION

Your education doesn't end when you walk out of your classroom door. In the UAB Department of Art and Art History, we go above and beyond to offer supplemental creative and educational opportunities outside of class.

We expect you to take an active interest in art.

You can dig in deeper at UAB by:

- seeing exhibitions at AEIVA and in the Art Lab
- attending guest artist and scholar lectures
- participating in workshops
- applying for our department exhibition opportunities
- and plenty more outside of UAB (more on that later)

ART HISTORY COURSES

Art History courses typically meet for an hour and 15 minutes 2 times per week. These classes are lecture-based and require sustained focus and note-taking. For every hour you spend in an <u>art history class</u>, you are expected to spend two hours outside of class studying and working on projects for that course.

For example, if your class met on T/Th for 75 minutes at a time, that means you're spending 2.5 hours in class and will need to spend 5 more hours outside of class studying and working on projects for that course.

MEET THE FACULTY



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MEET THE STAFF



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ADJUNCT & AFFILIATE FACULTY
see our website for a list of part-time faculty

uab.edu/cas/art/people/faculty

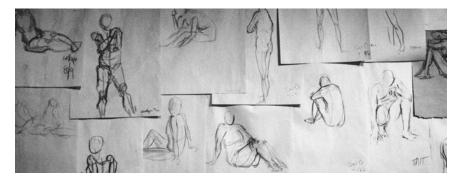


KASSIE DOGGETT

Academic Advisor (Heritage Hall 522)
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BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ART ART HISTORY CONCENTRATION

Art history is the study of artwork as expressions of human ideas, feelings, and conditions of life. The B.A. in Art with a concentration in Art History immerses students in cultural and aesthetic issues while emphasizing visual, verbal, and written literacy—broadly-transferrable skills that are critically important in a global society and are highly valued by employers across all business sectors.



BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ART ART STUDIO CONCENTRATION

The B.A. in Art with a concentration in Art Studio is offered for students who seek a liberal arts education with a focus on art. This degree offers a breadth of study among our seven studio areas. Whatever the chosen media, B.A. students experience the possibilities of what it means to create artwork that transforms the world in which they live.

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN ART STUDIO

The B.F.A. in Art Studio offers students an intensive exploration across a breadth of media and within a depth of discipline that allows the undergraduate student to prepare to be an artist or designer, to begin a career in arts organizations, or to continue their studies in graduate school. Students gain skills and competencies including team-based learning, technology, communication, aesthetic judgment, interdisciplinary and innovative approaches, critical analysis, and professional development throughout their program of study. The degree culminates in the B.F.A. exhibition, a highlight of the undergraduate career that demonstrates and celebrates the students' accomplishments.

B. A. ART HISTORY CURRICULUM

In addition to the core curriculum requirements in the College of Arts and Sciences, you will take the following:

□ Art Survey: choose 3 out of the 6 available art history surveys
□ Art History Methods
□ Art Studio Requirement:
choose 2 of the 7 available studio foundations courses
□ Asian / Non-Western Art: select one course in this category
□ Early Modern Art: select one course in this category
□ Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Art:
select one course in this category
□ Twentieth Century / Contemporary Art:
select one course in this category
☐ Art History Elective: select three evective art history courses
□ Art History / Art Studio Elective:
select one course from art history or art studio
□ B.A. Capstone (taken at senior level)
□ Foreign Language Requirement:
select one eligible foreign language course

For full details, visit the UAB course catalog:

go.uab.edu//art-course-catalog

Remember to make regular appointments with your academic advisor, **Kassie Doggett**, to make sure you are registering for the courses that will fulfill your degree requirements.

B. A. ART STUDIO CURRICULUM

In addition to the core curriculum requirements in the College of Arts and Sciences, you will take the following:

☐ Art Foundations (all courses below are required)

Drawing, Spatial Solutions, Type & Image, and Time & Duration

□ **200-Level Art Studio**, select four courses from the following:

Beginning courses in the 7 studio areas, Creativity & Imagination,
and Special Topics in Studio Art (ARS 295)

□ **300-Level Art Studio,** must have 200-level prerequisites: select four 300-level courses from across the 7 studio areas

□ **400-Level Art Studio:** take each of the following:

- Special Topics: Interdisciplinary (ARS 495), repeat two times
- Professionalism, Project Management, and Entrepreneurship

☐ Art History Requirements:

- take one of the 200-level Art History survey courses
- one course in Ancient, Medieval, Early Modern, or Non-Western Art
- one course in Modern and Contemporary Art

For full details, visit the UAB course catalog:

go.uab.edu//art-course-catalog

Remember to make regular appointments with your academic advisor, **Kassie Doggett**, to make sure you are registering for the courses that will fulfill your degree requirements.

B. F. A. ART STUDIO CURRICULUM

In addition to the core curriculum requirements in the College of Arts and Sciences, you will take the following:

☐ Art Foundations (all courses below are required)

Drawing, 2-D Design Foundations, Spatial Solutions, Type & Image, Time & Duration, and Visual Literacy & Application Foundations

- □ **200-Level Art Studio**, select four courses from the following:

 Beginning courses in the 7 studio areas, Creativity & Imagination
- □ **300/400-Level Sequences,** must have 200-level prerequisites: select four 300/400-level courses from across the 7 studio areas
- □ Elective Studio Courses, must have 200-level prerequisites:
 select four courses from the following: 300-level courses from across
 the 7 studio areas, Independent Study, Studio / Gallery Internship,
 AEIVA Internship, and Special Topics: Interdisciplinary (ARS 495)
- □ 400-Level Art Studio: take each of the following:
 - Special Topics: Interdisciplinary (ARS 495), repeat two times
 - Professionalism, Project Management, and Entrepreneurship
 - B. F. A. Exhibition

☐ Art History Requirements:

- take two of the 200-level Art History survey courses
- one course in Ancient, Medieval, Early Modern, or Non-Western Art
- one course in Modern and Contemporary Art

STUDIO AREAS:

DRAWING • GRAPHIC DESIGN • NEW MEDIA • PAINTING
PHOTOGRAPHY • PRINTMAKING • SCULPTURE

B.F.A. PROGRAM

As you can see on the previous page, the B.F.A. Art Studio degree requires the same number of credit hours as a B.A. in Art Studio, it's just structured a little differently. If you're planning to be a professional artist or designer, begin a career in the arts sector, or continue your studies in graduate school, the BFA is probably a good choice for you.

The benefits of being a BFA student include:

- formalized advising relationship with a faculty member
- feedback from panel of faculty during yearly BFA reviews
- a professional exhibition at AEIVA during your final spring semester
- likelihood of a stronger portfolio upon graduation
- BFA studio on campus

APPLICATION

FALL: DUE OCTOBER 1
SPRING: DUE MARCH 1

CHECK OUT THE "PRO TIPS" ON PAGE 27!

To be eligible for the B.F.A. program you must:

- have completed at least 12 hours of UAB art studio course credits
- have and maintain 2.5 GPA or higher in all studio classes

BFA applications are submitted online via Slideroom, where you will upload 15 examples of original work, across various media, demonstrating your level of development. Follow the Slideroom directions closely: format all images as described, and enter all other required information (title, medium, etc.).

Students are encouraged to meet with a full time faculty member prior to application to discuss their application and potential for success in the BFA program. For questions, contact Associate Professor Stacey Holloway shollow@uab.edu.

BFA ADVISOR

Once accepted into the BFA program, please talk to a full-time faculty member to discuss/agree to be your BFA Faculty Advisor. It is suggested that your advisor be in the primary media area in which you will be working. Your faculty advisor will be the person with whom you register for ARS 491, the BFA Exhibition course in your final semester (note: your BFA Faculty Advisor is not your CAS academic advisor).

BFA REVIEWS

Every spring semester, BFA students present their work to a panel of faculty members in BFA Reviews. You must participate/present in one review each spring semester, and one fall review prior to the semester you plan to graduate. You will be notified of the time and date for your review by email.

In addition to participating in your own review, you are strongly encouraged to attend a minimum of 3 individual BFA reviews of your fellow students.

BFA reviews are an important part of your education, and provide a graduate-school-like experience while you are pursuing your undergraduate degree.

BFA EXHIBITION

You will plan, prepare and present an exhibition of work at the Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts (AEIVA) during the final spring semester, with the direction of you BFA advisor. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain professional experience as an exhibiting artist working with curators in a world-class gallery. AEIVA staff treat student artists with the same respect and professionalism that they offer all of their exhibiting artists.

During the semester of your BFA exhibition, you will enroll in ARS 491 with your advisor. You will get extensive details about your exhibition from Department and AEIVA staff as your exhibition nears.



IT'S IN THE SYLLABUS

Adjusting to the responsibilities of being a college student can be a big challenge. Thankfully, your professors provide you with detailed information about what to expect from—and how to succeed in—your classes. That info? **It's in the syllabus.**

It's your responsibility to adhere to the policies and expectations that are clearly outlined for you in your course syllabi. If you have a question about class details, **look in the syllabus.** The info you need is probably there.



IMPORTANT DATES

Refer to the UAB academic calendar for important academic dates and deadlines. In addition to those, here are a few important Department of Art and Art History dates that you should be aware of:

B.F.A.
APPLICATIONS

FALL: DUE
OCTOBER 1

SPRING: DUE MARCH 1

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 1

JURIED EXHIBITION APPLICATIONS

ANNOUNCED
NEAR END OF
FALL SEMESTER

SCHOLARSHIPS

A list of available scholarships is displayed on our website.



All scholarship applicants must submit information and supporting materials to UAB's B-Smart. https://uab.academicworks.com/

SLIDEROOM (ART STUDIO ONLY)

To apply for undergraduate art studio scholarships, you must submit all required applications to B-Smart **AND** upload a portfolio to Slideroom. The link to the Slideroom application will be provided for you in the B-Smart application.

If you are applying for more than one scholarship, you only need to upload your portfoio one time. Art Studio scholarship applicants must upload all materials to both platforms to be considered for department scholarships.

QUESTIONS?

If you encounter any problems with the scholarship application process, reach out to department staff Laura Merrill **Imerrill@uab.edu** or Kelsea Nichols **kelsn@uab.edu**.

If you would like guidance about what to include in your scholarship application, reach out to a faculty member or two for advice.

ANNUAL JURIED STUDENT EXHIBITION

Creative careers don't usually blossom overnight. They grow from incremental steps: an exhibition here, a new connection there. We offer you an opportunity to start putting yourself out there: the Annual Juried Student Exhibition. This time-honored tradition, almost as old as UAB itself, has long been an opportunity for UAB student artists to showcase their work to the community. It has led to connections and opportunities that have boosted many UAB artists' careers. You don't want to be left out!

This juried exhibition, coordinated by the UAB Department of Art and Art History and presented at the AEIVA galleries, includes student works selected by a professional artist and functions as an experiential learning opportunity for UAB art students. The show is open to all students currently enrolled in courses in the Department of Art and Art History. Students may submit up to 3 works. Work must have been created no earlier than 2 years prior to the application date.

APPLICATION

Applications for the Annual Juried Student Exhibition are available at the end of the fall semester. Submit your application via Slideroom, where you will upload up to 3 works for consideration, Follow the Slideroom directions closely: format all images as described, and enter all other required information (title, medium, etc.).

DUE DATE ANNOUNCED NEAR END OF FALL SEMESTER

EXHIBITION

A professional artist from outside of UAB will jury the exhibition, reviewing all submitted artworks and selecting the pieces that they believe will make a strong exhibition. All applicants will be notified of the juror's decisions. Those selected for inclusion in the exhibition will recieve detailed instructions from the Department and from AEIVA. The exhibition takes place during the first half of the Spring semester.

SPECIAL TOPICS

In the B.A. and B.F.A. studio art curricula, you will see that you must take courses listed as ARS 495, "Special Topics." These courses are exactly what they sound like: unique classes that change every semester.

Many Special topics courses are media specific—investigations into a specialized technique or topic in one studio area. Examples include Screenprinting and 3D Printing. Other special topics are interdisciplinary and are suitable for students in any discipline. If you see a faculty member listed in the UAB Course Catalog as teaching an ARS 495 class, feel free to reach out to them to ask for more info.

Some Special Topics courses, such as Book Arts and Web Design, are taught on a regular rotation (once every 1, 2, or 3 years). Other courses are taught only once, so sign up for a class if it looks interesting to you. It might be your only chance!



As you advance in your degree program, you might discover that you want to explore a niche concept or process. Or, you might be working on a big project that necessitates prolonged faculty feedback. In cases like these, you can enroll in Directed Studies courses with a faculty member of your choice. Of course, the first step is to reach out to the faculty member to express why you're interested in pursuing Directed Studies, and to ask their permission to enroll with them. Faculty schedules get busy quickly, so it's best to ask as soon as you can.

WORK-STUDY AND INTERNSHIPS

If you want to work while attending school, work-study might be perfect for you! Reach out to UAB's Financial Aid office to ask about the work-study program. If you qualify, you could work with us here in the Departent, at AEIVA, or in many locations across campus. uab.edu/cost-aid

Also, while you're a student (or soon after you graduate), internships are a great way to gain professional experience and jump-start your career. Ask your faculty advisors to point you towards internship opportunities in your field.



ART SUPPLIES

SHOPPING IN PERSON:

- Forstall Art Center **forstallart.com** (locally owned, Downtown)
- Alabama Art Supply **alabamaart.com** (locally owned, Southside)
- Michael's michaels.com (Hoover)
- Joann Fabric and Craft joann.com (Hoover)
- Woodcraft of Birmingham woodcraft.com (Pelham)
- Five Points Hardware (205) 252-1200 (locally owned, 5 Points South)
- Lowe's lowes.com (multiple locations)
- Home Depot homedepot.com (multiple locations)
- Harbor Freight harborfreight.com (Homewood)
- Sewing Machine Mart sewingmachinemart.com (Homewood)
- Tandy Leather Factory tandyleather.com (Hoover)
- Goodwill goodwill.org (multiple locations)
- Salvation Army salvationarmyusa.org (multiple locations)
- Lovelady Thrift Store loveladycenter.org (Irondale)
- Habitat ReStore habitatbirmingham.org/habitat-restore (Irondale)

SHOPPING ONLINE:

Most of the businesses above have online stores with larger selections. You might also want to check these out:

- BLICK Art Materials dickblick.com
- Utrecht Art Supplies utrechtart.com
- B&H Photo bhphotovideo.com
- Freestyle Photo & Imaging freestylephoto.biz
- Smooth-On Liquid Plastics & Rubbers smooth-on.com
- Uline uline.com
- Amazon amazon.com
- Ebay ebay.com

PSSSST...

Don't forget to budget for art supplies every semester!

CAREERS IN ART

After completing your degree here at UAB, you have plenty of options. Our Alumni have contined on to graduate school and establish thriving careers such as:

- graphic designers
- photographers
- photo editors
- K-12 educators
- college professors
- curators
- arts administrators
- museum preparators
- consultants
- fabricators
- video/film editors
- set designers
- art directors
- professional artists



HITTING THE TRAIL

There's more than one trail through the woods, but no matter which path you take, **it's up to you** to put one foot in front of the other. The quality of your work is what guides your career. Apply for every professional opportunity that suits you. Seek mentorship from professionals in your field. **It's crucial to be open to constructive feedback.**









WHERE TO SEE ART IN BIRMINGHAM

As a student at UAB, you'll be part of the synergy created through our community partnerships across Birmingham, a city rich with history, culture, and opportunity. Here, you have access to the most vibrant community of artists, cultural organizations, and creative entrepreneurs in the state of Alabama. Here are a few places to get you started:

- Bib & Tucker Sew-Op
- Birmingham Artwalk
- Birmingham Museum of Art
- The Fuel and Lumber Company
- Gallery VOX
- Ground Floor Contemporary
- Hoover Public Library
- Magic City Art Connection

- Maus Contemporary
- Moss Rock Art Festival
- Paperworkers Local
- Scott Miller Projects
- Sloss Furnaces Metal Arts
- Space One Eleven
- Studio by the Tracks
- Vinegar

IN ALABAMA

- Huntsville Museum of Art
- Lowe Mill (Huntsville)
- Tennessee Valley Museum of Art
 (Tuscumbia)
- Gadsden Museum of Art
- Fayette Art Museum
- Sarah Moody Gallery of Art (Tuscaloosa)
- Sella-Granata Art Gallery (Tuscaloosa)
- The University of Alabama Gallery (Tuscaloosa)
- Coleman Center for the Arts (York)

- Marcia Weber Art Objects (Wetumpka)
- Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts
- Gallery One (Montgomery)
- The Georgine Clarke Alabama Artists Gallery (Montgomery)
- Jule Collins Smith Museum (Auburn)
- Wiregrass Museum of Art (Dothan)
- Mobile Museum of Art
- Alabama Contemporary Art Center (Mobile)

ACCOUNTS TO #FOLLOW

UAB ACCOUNTS

- @ exploreuab
- @ uabcas
- a uabarts
- aeivauab
- @ uabstudentmedia
- a uabstudents
- a uabstudenthealthservices
- a uabscs
- @ dssuab
- a uabveterans
- safezoneuab
- @ uab_sustainability

LOCAL ACCOUNTS

- @ cityofbirmingham
- p happeninsintheham
- ø bibandtuckersewop
- bhamartwalk
- a bhammuseum
- thefuelandlumbercompany
- @ galleryvox
- groundfloorcontemporary
- plant in the plant is a second of the plant
- @ magiccityartconnection
- @ mossrockfest
- paperworkerslocal
- scottmillerprojects
- slossmetalarts
- spaceoneeleven
- studiobythetracks
- vinegarprojects





FACILITIES

Our classrooms, studios, and campus amenities are here to serve UAB students. Make good use of these resources and take care of them. They're yours!



ART STUDIO/CLASSROOMS

We have dedicated studios for all 7 of our studio areas. These studios are accessible after hours, so you can get to work on your projects outside of class. We have two staff (Heather Holmes and Jacob Phillips) dedicated to keeping the studios safe and operational. **Take care to follow all safety precautions and community guidelines when using UAB studio facilities.**

BFA STUDIOS

Creating a BFA exhibition is a lot of work and takes a lot of **stuff**, so UAB offers individual studios for BFA students. Heather Holmes coordinates these studios and will be in touch with all BFA students about details.

UAB LIBRARIES

Did you know that UAB has a dedicated Arts Librarian? It's true!! And the Mervin H. Sterne Library is right next to the art buildings, so it's easy to stop by and ask for help. The libraries are useful for both Art History and Art Studio students. You'll be amazed what you can find in a library that isn't available on the internet! **library.uab.edu**

AEIVA

AEIVA is the Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts. The second floor houses Department of Art and Art History offices and classrooms, and the first floor is the home of AEIVA's galleries. **uab.edu/aeiva**

AEIVA's mission is to provide a cultural gateway that enriches and supports accessible learning, research, and thinking for the UAB community, Birmingham, and beyond, through transformative and challenging exhibitions, engaging programming, and purposeful collecting.

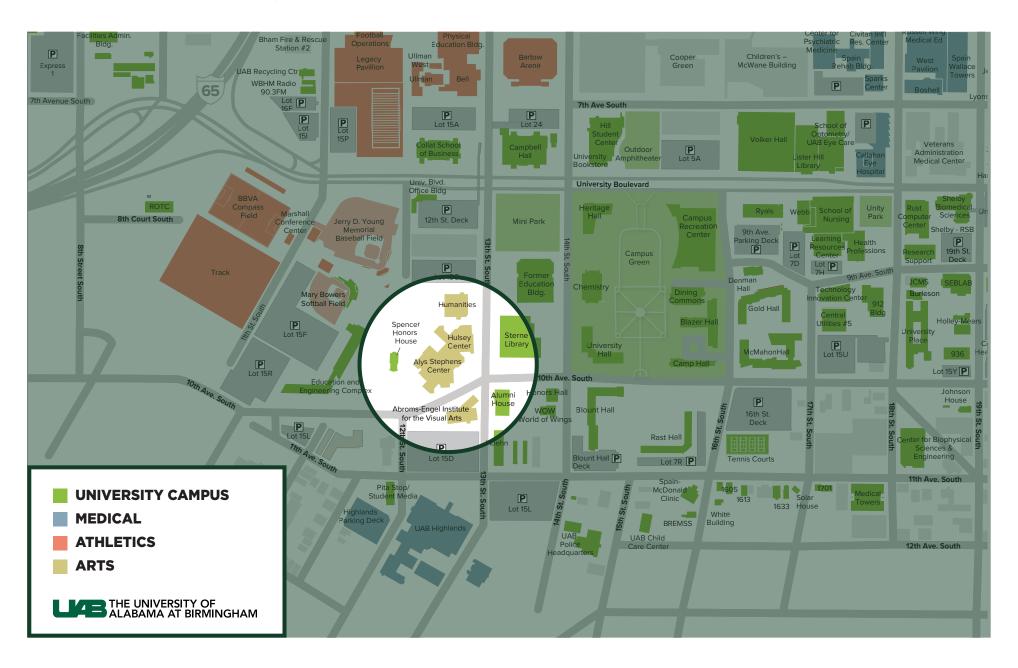


In addition to hosting exhibitions by artists from around the world, AEIVA also hosts two student exhibitions (Annual Juried Student Exhibition and BFA exhibition) every year.

Here's the thing: not every campus has a world-class contemporary art museum on campus. You can walk out of class, go downstairs or across the street, and see some of the most vibrant and thought-provoking artwork being created today. Often, exhibiting artists give guest lectures and visit with students. If and when these opportunities arise, take advantage of them! Showing up to see art isn't part of your grade, but it is part of your education.



UAB CAMPUS MAP



PRO TIPS

quality images and attention to detail can take you from good to great (and can help you get awards and shows)



A PICTURE'S WORTH 1000 WORDS

Document your artwork as soon as you've made it. Take photos in good lighting against a solid background (you can pin up a bedsheet if you need to!)
Organize your images, and always make a copy of the original photo before you crop or edit it.



SHARPEN YOUR WRITING SKILLS

uab.edu/writingcenter



SLOW DOWN AND ~ R E A D ~

Applications for awards, exhibitions, and other opportunities ask for very specific things. Sometimes applications will be disqualified if they are incomplete or don't follow directions. Slow down and carefully read the instructions to make sure you got everything right.



USE A SECOND PAIR OF EYES

When preparing application materials it can be easy to overlook things. Ask a friend, colleague, or professor to look over your application materials. **If they offer advice, take it!** They're trying to help.



The University of Alabama at Birmingham