

# Department of Art, Music, and Theatre

*Professors:* Michelle Graveline, Rev. Donat Lamothe, A.A. (emeritus); *Associate Professors:* Carrie Nixon, Toby Norris (Chair); *Assistant Professors:* Scott Glushien; *Visiting Assistant Professors:* Peter Clemente, Lynn Simmons; *Instructors, Lecturers:* Jonathan Bezdegian, Elissa Chase, Bruce Hopkins, Susan Hong-Sammons, Jon Krasner, Gary Orlinsky, Michele Italiano Perla, Joseph Ray, Peter Sulski, Margaret Tartaglia, Tyler Vance.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The department aims to give students an understanding of the importance of rigorous practical and intellectual formation in stimulating creative thought and achieving creative expression. We also strive to help students appreciate Art, Music and Theatre as significant dimensions of the human experience. Studying the history of the arts brings home the central role that they have played in the development of human thought, both within and outside the Judeo-Christian tradition. Practicing the arts encourages students to incorporate creative expression into their wider intellectual and personal development. In forming the human being more completely, the department fulfills a fundamental goal of Catholic education.

## MINOR IN STUDIO ART (6)

ART 101	Drawing I
ART 111	Painting I
ART 201	Drawing II
ART 211	Painting II
ARH 125	History of Western Art or ARH140R Art in Rome
ART 401	Senior Studio Art Seminar <i>or</i> one 300-level ART course

## AFFILIATED PROGRAMS

### FORTIN AND GONTHIER CORE TEXTS AND ENDURING QUESTIONS PROGRAM (CTEQ)

Designed for select students who want to combine their pursuit of a specialized major with a fully integrated, interdisciplinary minor, the CTEQ minor brings four separate departments—Art History, Philosophy, Theology, and Political Science—together in one unified minor. Our students explore perennial human questions (about the nature of justice, beauty, human nature, and God) with the help of the Great Books. CTEQ students and faculty form a distinctive and close-knit learning community at Assumption College. For more information, see our entry under “Interdisciplinary Programs of Study” or contact us at [CoreTexts@Assumption.edu](mailto:CoreTexts@Assumption.edu).

## Course Descriptions

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### STUDIO ART (ART)

#### ART 101 DRAWING I

This introductory course focuses on learning to see and learning to translate what is seen into two dimensions. Learning to see often requires overriding what the brain knows and learning to trust one’s growing skill at visual response. Translating visual information to the page involves developing skill with line, shape, space, form, and composition. The intent is to develop a broad visual vocabulary which allows communication of the subject matter with sensitivity in charcoal, pencil, ink, and collage. This involves working from life, including the figure, and using images to clarify and enrich what we do through references to art history. Students will be responsible for purchasing a supply kit and for a Studio Fee of \$40.00. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

Nixon, Staff/Three credits

**ART 106 SCULPTURE I**

This course is an introduction to the concepts and the forms of three-dimensional design. It is based upon the recognition that the origins of and inspiration for much of design stems from nature. Projects will start with an idea, and then the appropriate medium will suggest itself. Students will be responsible for purchasing a supply kit and for a Studio Fee of \$40.00. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

*Orlinsky/Three credits*

**ART 107 COLLAGE AND ASSEMBLAGE**

This course is an examination of collage and assemblage — art made from the found and collected debris of the contemporary world. Questions of memory, history, fragmentation, ecology, and language will be explored in the making of collages from found, recycled, and constructed images and objects. These things that resonate with the past might suggest a collective memory for humanity, but one that is hazy at best. We will consider the public culture of mass produced objects and the autobiographical symbolism of private mementos, as we raise questions about memory, history, recycling, and reuse in relationship to material culture. These issues will be addressed in the making of collages from recovered, recycled, and constructed images and objects and in-class discussions. In addition to studio work, assignments include readings, films, and in-class presentations. Students will be responsible for purchasing a supply kit and for a Studio Fee of \$40.00. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

*Orlinsky/Three credits*

**ART 111 PAINTING I**

This course is an introductory investigation of painting. Using oil paint, students will thoroughly examine questions of composition and space, issues of light and color, and exploration of technical issues. In weekly in-studio and outside-of-class assignments, students will also consider both contemporary and historical approaches to painting. Students will be responsible for purchasing a supply kit and a Studio Fee of \$75.00. For classes prior to 2020, this course satisfies the Core requirement in Art, Music and Theatre. For the class of 2020 and subsequent classes, this course fulfills the Core requirement for a fine art in Culture and Expression.

*Nixon, Staff/Three credits*

**ART 201 DRAWING II**

The course concentrates on the drawing as an object and on the physical activity involved in making it an expressive phenomenon. Students will explore a variety of materials, ideas, formal issues, and art history, as well as natural phenomena as sources for inspiration. Work with the human figure will emphasize context and environment, and encourage the student to develop more personal attitudes toward content. Studio Fee: \$40. Prerequisite: ART 101.

*Nixon, Staff/Three credits*

**ART 211 PAINTING II**

A continuation of ART 111, this course will deal with both figurative and nonfigurative approaches to painting. Depending upon the instructor's preference, students will work with the figure, the landscape, still life, or a combination of the three. Students will be directed in more advanced painting problems using varied techniques and conceptual frameworks. Studio Fee: \$75. Prerequisite: ART 101, ART 111.

*Nixon, Staff/Three credits*

**ART 299, 399 OR 499 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN STUDIO ART**

Each of these numbers designates a specific level of specialized study on a relevant topic that has been designed by the student in conjunction with a faculty member. Permission of Chair required.

*Staff/Three credits*

**ART 300 INTERNSHIP IN STUDIO ART**

This upper level, field-based course is designed for juniors and seniors to explore and develop professional opportunities and apply concepts and skills learned in their coursework in studio art. Permission of Chair required.

*Staff/Three credits*

**ART 301 DRAWING III**

This course focuses on the issue of personal expression in drawing, and includes a reevaluation of the elements of drawing from

that point of view. Working problems take into consideration the individual's inclinations as he/she begins to formulate his/her own rationale for making art. Specific artists will be studied with a focus on the nature of the expression in their work. Studio Fee: \$40. Prerequisite: ART 201 or permission of the instructor.

Nixon, Staff/*Three credits*

**ART 311 PAINTING III**

This course explores advanced problems in painting. Students will be directed in a more in-depth examination of the extensive possibilities of the oil painting medium. Both abstract and figurative approaches will be explored. Emphasis is on thematic self-direction and group critiques. The focus of the course shifts annually to reflect the perspective of the faculty member teaching it. Studio Fee: \$75. Prerequisite: ART 211 or permission of the instructor.

Nixon, Staff/*Three credits*