

Liberal Arts and Sciences Course Descriptions

AH 210 Art History Survey: Paleolithic to Gothic

3 semester credits

Survey of the visual arts of the Western World from the Paleolithic to the Gothic eras. Major works are studied in relation to culture, to the evolution of style and to the history of ideas.

AH 212 Art History Survey: Renaissance to World War II

3 semester credits

This course is a continuation of an historical survey of the visual arts of the Western world from the Renaissance to World War II.

AH 311 Art Since 1945: Abstract Expressionism to Post-painterly abstraction

AH 312 Art Since 1945: Minimalism to Contemporary Issues

3 semester credits each

Survey of recent developments in the visual arts including painting, construction and sculpture, environmental art, happenings, mixed media and experimental film. Included is an introduction to contemporary art criticism. Prerequisite: LA 121-122, AH 211-212 and LA 125-126.

AH 313 History of Printmaking

3 semester credits

A survey of the great periods of printmaking history in the Occident up to 1900, the 20th Century to date, including Eastern art. Prerequisite: LA 121-122, AH 211-212 and LA 125-126.

AH 315 History of Design

A survey of the impact of art and technology on the visual qualities of graphics, illustration, advertising, fashion design, architecture and industrial design from the Victorian Arts and Crafts Movement to the contemporary computer environment.

Prerequisite: LA 121-122, LA 125-126 and AH 211-212 or consent of instructor.

AH 316 Contemporary Design Survey

3 semester credits

Prerequisite: LA 121-122, LA 125-126, AH 211-212 and AH 315 or consent of instructor.

AH 317 History of Photography

3 semester credits

This course emphasizes the artistic evolution of photography as reflected in the works and thoughts of its notable artists. Students study from the collections of the Portland Art Museum.

Students are assigned outside readings and projects and have the option of hands-on camera and darkroom projects. Prerequisite: LA 121-122, AH 211-212 and LA 125-126.

LA 121-122 English Composition

3 semester credits each

A two semester introductory writing course that has art, design, and literature as its subject matter. The course emphasizes active close reading and teaches writing process from idea generation through drafting to the production of finished, proofread copy. Writing projects include analytic pieces, research papers and a variety of essay forms.

LA 125-126 Art and Design in Contemporary Society

3 semester credits each

A two semester freshman level seminar that investigates central concepts and important works in current art and design, inquiring into their place in contemporary culture and exploring their historical antecedents. The course introduces various methods of gathering and interpreting information, developing clear arguments and presenting conclusions in compelling written form. The course is year-long with the first semester devoted to the analysis of individual works of art and the second semester to investigation of change in art and culture with attention paid to seminal works that altered views of what art is or could be.

LA 321 Social Science Seminar

3 semester credits

An upper-division course that gives students the opportunity to study a particular historical period or problem or a specific issue within the social sciences. Students investigate and apply the principles and methods of social science inquiry and critique, reading a variety of scholarly articles and monographs and completing at least one research project. The course also addresses the relationship of social science to other disciplines and to the arts. Prerequisites: LA 121-122, LA 125-126.

LA 325 Literature Seminar

3 semester credits

An upper-division literature course on topics related to concerns of the studio artist. Recent offerings: Poetry, Aesthetics of Ugliness, Ethnic American Experience in Literature and Film, Reading the Personal Memoir. Prerequisite: LA 121-122.

MTH 101-102 Beginning Mathematics

3 semester credits each

A two semester course that introduces students to methods of mathematical thought and problem solving, such as the interpretation of models, construction of proofs and logical analysis of problems. The course addresses subjects of particular relevance to art students, such as symmetry and the nature of polyhedra. Students also examine mathematics as a creative process of inquiry while developing skills in disciplined quantitative reasoning at the college level. Prerequisite: LA 121-122.

SCI 223-224 Natural Science

3 semester credits each

Introduces the scientific worldview and its impact on contemporary society. Students learn scientific principles, practice empirical interpretation of the physical world, are introduced to current research areas and investigate parallels between science and the arts. Prerequisite: LA 121-122.

Studio Course Descriptions

Drawing

DR 201-202 Life Drawing

1 semester credit each

This class continues the practice of drawing from live models, developing visual acuity, perceptual skills and technical range as well as exploring historical and contemporary ways the figure has been depicted. While fundamentals of drawing continue to be stressed, personal expression is encouraged. Each semester of this course fulfills one credit hour of the eight credit hour drawing requirement for Painting majors. Prerequisite: FD 101-102 and FD 105-106.

DR 265-266 Experiments in Drawing

3 semester credits each

This class is a continuation of the Basic Drawing course and is designed to improve both perceptual and conceptual skills. Problems are structured around a variety of spatial concepts, subject matters, materials and methods for image generation and supported with examples of contemporary artwork. Each semester of this course fulfills three credit hours of the eight credit hour drawing requirement for Painting majors. Prerequisite: FD 101-102 and FD 105-106.

DR 267-268 Anatomy for Artists

3 semester credits each

A course designed to strengthen figurative representation with anatomical knowledge gained through a survey of the skeleton, an introduction to the mechanics of movement and musculature, plus an examination of the main muscle groups. Each semester of this course fulfills three credit hours of the eight credit hour drawing requirement for Painting majors. Prerequisite: FD 101-102 and FD 105-106.

DR 301 The Figure

3 semester credits

Students explore both the nude and costumed figure with varied approaches to drawing and painting. This course not only emphasizes composition, figure to ground relations, awareness of anatomy and the organizational strategies of light, it also places emphasis on expression and explores the potential of the figure in contemporary practice. Prerequisite: DR 201-202 or DR 265-266 or consent of the instructor.

Foundation

FD 101 Visual Elements: 2D

3 semester credits

This semester long course introduces students to the basic elements and principles of 2D design and color theory with an emphasis on compositional strategies and creative and conceptual thinking. Students will develop a stronger visual language for communicating their ideas through problem solving, materials exploration, and critical discussion. This course allows students to develop organizational control in visual structures, and to improve their ability to manage complex design problems in a variety of disciplines.

FD 102 Visual Elements: Digital Tools

3 semester credits

This semester long course introduces students to the fundamentals of digital imaging as a tool for design. Students develop the use of line, shape, value, mass, texture and pattern and learn to apply this knowledge to achieve certain effects: harmony, contrast, balance, symmetry, rhythm, movement, perspective and space illusion. These concepts will be explored through the three basic types of applications used in contemporary digital design: vector programs, raster (bitmapped) programs and to a lesser extent, page layout programs.

FD 105-106 Basic Drawing

3 semester credits each

This introductory drawing course is designed to help students develop their perceptive awareness, hand-to-eye coordination, and aesthetic sensibility. Through a variety of projects, students will gain experience manipulating line, value, proportion, spatial relationships and composition. Critiques of finished work help students acquire a technical and critical vocabulary.

FD 111 Three-Dimensional Design

3 semester credits

Three-dimensional design is a broad discipline and can be thought of in terms of sculpture, industrial design, architecture and the creation of any space. This course introduces the fundamentals of three-dimensional design techniques and concepts such as space, mass, form, volume, texture, material, and structure. Spatial problems are investigated through a variety of traditional and non-traditional materials and methods to develop skills, as well as contexts for their expression.

FD 112 Time Arts

3 semester credits

Time Arts introduces the concepts and practical study of space, sound and time as they relate to both sequential and non-sequential narration, movement, timing and interactivity. Students will work both individually and collaboratively to explore these concepts through a variety of media including video, sound, performance, books (flipbooks, comic books, artist books), and other narrative and non-narrative structures.

Communication Design

CD 241 Design Studio I: Signs

3 semester credits

This course introduces the student to the structure of visual languages and how these structures are used consciously and unconsciously in design. The course begins by exploring modes of signification and the ideological roles of media in contemporary culture. Key strands in critical theory such as mythology and ideology will be introduced. Students will examine the transmission of meaning in our visual culture. In particular, students will be asked to judge for themselves the truth of old certainties relating to the techniques and the very purposes of graphic design.

Computer skills and compositional skills will be stressed and enhanced.

Prerequisites: FD 101-102 or consent of instructor.

CD 242 Design Studio I: Psychology of Seeing

3 semester credits

This course focuses on the roles that human perception and cognition play in the world of design. As such this studio course examines the notion of locating the individual in the sphere of cultural production and consumption. The aim of the course is to discover how notions of the unconscious affect the decision-making patterns of consumers in our visual culture. Students are introduced to various psychological principles that facilitate our understanding of how humans are motivated to action or behavior in design and advertising. Technically, the course will rely heavily on page layout, color response, and typography.

Prerequisites: FD 101-102, GR 241, or consent of instructor.

CD 245 Typography

3 semester credits

Typographic skills and concepts are applied to situations involving the use of type in layout, illustration, and time-based applications. The emphasis is not only on style and composition, but also on formal and semantic issues as these are influenced by project function and technological criteria. Students will be able to understand the history and evolution of typography, and to discuss and analyze the physical aspects and nuances of type and typographic measurements. Some key concepts in type design will be explored as well. Projects will explore a variety of solutions to design problems that require both expressiveness as well as an understanding of the practical uses of type in communication design.

Prerequisites: FD 101-102 or consent of instructor.

CD 246 Production

3 semester credits

This course provides an understanding of the scope and correlation of design, pre-press preparation and the production process. Fundamentals of computer hardware/software management and the importance of time management and project planning will be stressed.

Prerequisites: CD 241, CD 245, CD 250 and CD 251.

CD 251 Fundamentals of Interactive Media

3 semester credits

This course serves as an introduction to web design. Basic principles of design for the web are discussed, as well as web design theory such as "Experience design". The first half of the course focuses on mastering the HTML programming language and generates an overall understanding of how art and design is created on the Web. The second half of the course focuses on Dreamweaver and the synthesis of the ideas and skills. Students will develop the background needed to understand how sound, video, animation and motion graphics affect user' interaction and experience with the media. Web media literacy will be developed. Prerequisites: FD 101-102.

CD 341 Design Studio II: Culture and Audience

3 semester credits

This course begins to prepare the student for understanding the audience that design always addresses. As a means to understand audience, we investigate where that is found – a cultural context. Borrowing ideas from anthropology and political economy, students explore graphic design from the perspective of total communication – from the larger issues confronting a society to the discreet objects and messages contained therein. Projects include identity and collateral, produce and brand development, as well as publication design. Prerequisites: CD 241-242, CD 245 and CD 246, or consent of instructor.

CD 342 Design Studio II: Rhetoric and Persuasion

3 semester credits

The use of communication design in shaping history, scholarly discourse, the media and even genres such as film and literature, seems transparent. This class will link to the traditional aims of rhetoric (developing a good argument), with becoming a perceptive interpreter. We will investigate the integral role of building solid visual arguments and developing the rhetorical skills to defend a position. Students will be asked to develop an argument on a complex issue and advance that argument through the use of design media such as posters, websites, billboards, etc. Prerequisites: CD 241-242, CD 244 and CD 246, or consent of instructor.

CD 344 Marketing and Branding

3 semester credits

This class is an overview of basic marketing principles and their relevance to the advertising art director and graphic designer. Students will be exposed to product development, pricing, distribution and promotion, merchandising and public relations in consumer and industrial markets and comparing various media, their selection and use. Prerequisites: LA 121-122 or LA 123-124 and LA 125-126, or consent of instructor.

CD 350 Interface and Structure

3 semester credits

This course will further the student's ability to design for the web by focusing on advanced technical topics such as CSS and Flash. Exploration of various browsers, color applications, animation and appropriate typography will be included. The student will also develop a deeper web literacy and understand what makes websites successful. Prerequisites: CD 241-242, CD 250-251, or consent of instructor.

CD 351 Image, Interaction, Experience

3 semester credits

This final course in the web sequence explores the conceptual mash up of art direction and heuristics, visual affordance, narrative, technology, and data. Production values will be stressed and usability concerns will be addressed. Students will create desire with interactive design following the constructs unique to the digital medium and investigate parallels in other design sectors. A variety of design techniques will be taught to challenge aesthetic approaches. Students will become versed in technology, and explore dynamics of project collaboration, client relationships, and principle driven design. Prerequisites: CD 241-242, CD 250-251, CD 350, or consent of instructor.

CD 441 Practicum

3 or 6 semester credits

Communication Design students with junior or senior standing are placed with cooperating employers for approximately 9 hours per week. Employers include designers, design firms, advertising agencies and other creative firms. Within the actual creative environment, students are able to sharpen their skills, gain confidence and have practical work experiences that are invaluable. Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing or consent of Department Chair.

CD 442 Communication Design Thesis

3 semester credits

Seniors complete a formal thesis before graduating from PNCA and receiving the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The Thesis is a culmination of the four-year curriculum, and represents a significant body of work within a chosen discipline. The Thesis reflects personal search and artistic expression, as well as focusing the skills and abilities needed as an entry-level professional. A selection from each graduate's thesis project is exhibited at the annual Thesis Exhibition. Prerequisite: Senior standing.

CD 443 Design Studio III: Concentration

3 semester credits

Running concurrently with the Practicum and Thesis, students use the opportunity to share their experiences, projects and evaluations. This exchange of information and insight benefits all class members. Prerequisite: Senior standing.

CD 444 Design Studio III: Portfolio

3 semester credits

Running concurrently with the Practicum and Senior Project, students use the opportunity to share their experiences, projects and evaluations. This exchange of information and insight benefits all class members. Prerequisite: Senior standing.

CD 445 Center4Design

3 semester credits

The Center4Design is a student –staffed design studio located on campus. Art direction for the variety of client projects is provided by PNCA faculty. In addition to developing a large body of work for a portfolio the student will have an insider's look the complicated interactions of a working design studio where art and business meet. Student designers are chosen based on portfolio review.

Illustration

IL 251 Illustration Studio I: Word + Image

3 semester credits

This course provides an introduction to the verbal/visual relationship of the illustrator's creative process. Students will gain an understanding of the history of illustration as it relates to the contemporary marketplace and the key practitioners of the art form. Self-expression and experimentation are placed within the context of illuminating information through pictures and symbols.

IL 252 Illustration Studio I: Conceptual Techniques

3 semester credits

Illustration is an art of illuminating ideas. This course provides the groundwork for developing the ability to communicate effectively through image content. Multiple ways of expressing a visual solution are investigated while working with a variety of contemporary and historical themes and ideas. In addition to the student gaining the conceptual skills needed as an illustrator, technical skills and processes in a number of key media areas will be explored and developed.

IL 253 Illustration Painting Techniques I / Traditional Media

3 semester credits

This course introduces the student to wet media processes and techniques. Using watercolor and gouache as the medium of choice, students will gain a broad understanding of color theory, design, and traditional and experimental approaches to painting as they relate to the contemporary illustration and new media marketplaces.

IL 351 Illustration Studio II: Visual Vocabulary

3 semester credits

A mature, well developed personal vision is central to the contemporary illustrator's practice. This course focuses on the development of a personal artistic voice – bridging the gap between the boundaries of the commercial marketplace and the highly personal act of making art. In this course, the student will interact with a dynamic variety of themes placed in the context of art direction and time constraints. Refining the highly relational creative process of concept sketch to finished art will be stressed.

IL 352 Illustration Studio III: Cultural Marketplace

3 semester credits

Cultural marketplace contemporary culture and the illustration marketplace are fluid and ever-changing. It is essential that today's illustrator is equipped to function within this dynamic and competitive landscape. This course takes the student into the current marketplace, exploring each of the key areas of creative opportunity including digital media, games, entertainment, publishing, advertising, and new markets. Projects relating to the professional marketplace will be investigated by each student, while continuing the development of a personal artistic vision.

IL 353 Illustration Painting Techniques II / Digital Media

3 semester credits

This course introduces the student to digital painting processes and techniques. Vector and raster based programs will be thoroughly explored, allowing the student the skills necessary to create a dynamic relationship between traditional and digital media for both production processes and art making.

IL 355 Observational Painting

3 semester credits

"Referential color" refers to the colors of the world as we perceive them. This class deals with how to quickly analyze referential colors and recreate them in paint. The class also emphasizes placing paint on the canvas with minimal blending to quickly create a realistic visual construction of space and form by the use of color alone. Prerequisite: PA 261-262 and DR 201-202 or DR 265-266 or consent of the instructor.

IL 451 Advanced Illustration Studio

3 semester credits

The advanced studio allows the senior student to apply technical skill and an understanding of the contemporary marketplace to the creation of a body of work related to their own personal vision. Professional work processes will be employed and art direction will be central to this creative process as each student begins the creation of professional level projects related to their chosen area of focus. This 16 week studio course works in close proximity with the Illustration Senior Project, allowing for a broader context leading towards a completed senior portfolio.

IL 452 Illustration Thesis

3 semester credits

Seniors complete a formal thesis before graduating from PNCA and receiving the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The Thesis is a culmination of the four-year curriculum, and represents a significant body of work within a chosen discipline. The Thesis reflects personal search and artistic expression, as well as focusing the skills and abilities needed as an entry-level professional. A selection from each graduate's thesis project is exhibited at the annual Thesis Exhibition. Prerequisite: Senior standing.

IL 453 Illustration Professional Practice + Portfolio

3 semester credits

This course provides an in-depth exploration into the daily practice of the professional illustrator equipping the student with the skills and knowledge to effectively enter the professional job market. Central to this work is the preparation & building of a final portfolio in both web & traditional formats.

IL 455 Internship

3 semester credits

Graphic Design students with junior or senior standing are placed with cooperating employers for approximately 9 hours per week. Employers include designers, design firms, advertising agencies and other creative firms. Within the actual creative environment, students are able to sharpen their skills, gain confidence and have practical work experiences that are invaluable. Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing or consent of Department Chair.

Intermedia

IM 201 Theory and Practice: Gods, Heroes and Monsters

3 semester credits

Mythology and religion have been a source of inspiration for artists for millennia. In a multicultural, secular, commercial society, what part does mythological imagery play? This class will examine contemporary art practice through the lens of the mythology. It will also look at how mythological ideas manifest themselves in contemporary art. By using the mythological lens, students will be exposed to a wide variety of ideas in current art practice. Students will produce studio work based on the ideas discussed in class. The class will give students an introduction to many theoretical strains in contemporary art.

IM 201-202 Theory and Practice: Art in Context

3 semester credits each

These courses introduce a conceptual or idea-based approach to thinking about, talking about and making art within the context of contemporary culture. Students will be exposed to contemporary art-making strategies and issues through a variety of approaches. During the fall term, conceptual strategies cover language and semiotics, appropriation, simulation, deconstruction, technology, time based strategies, temporary site specific and collaborative methods. During the spring term the topics covered are gender and identity, ethnicity and religion, government and war, capitalism and consumption, disease, environment, phenomenology and psychoanalysis.

IM 251 Moving Image Arts

3 semester credits

Contemporary moving image artists are breaking boundaries between painting, sculpture, music, and performance. This studio course will explore the relationship of sound and moving image from the frame-by-frame perspective of animation. Through a planned series of lecture/screenings, hands-on experiences, and an introduction to software programs, the course will provide students from differing majors the fundamental knowledge and skill sets to create media work that reflects an understanding of animation principles, cinematic vocabulary and the conceptual foundations of animation as a moving image arts form. The course will include a diverse survey of visual works to encompass the scope and application of auteur animation in media production. Students will be encouraged to explore a range of alternative approaches to creating the illusion of movement as well as to see animation as a nuanced medium for self-expression and communication within and outside the traditional movie house.

Prerequisites: FD 112

IM 251 Beginning Video + Sound

3 semester credits

This course is about creativity, competence, context and awareness in video and sound production and art making. This course will concentrate on learning digital video and sound based art forms. Emphasis will be put on the fundamentals of video production including exposure, framing, composition, content, coverage, sequencing and creating narrative. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of digital video and sound through exercises, project creation, lecture, critique, and screenings of films, videos, commercials and previous student work. Digital video cameras, Final Cut Pro, Flash and/or After Effects and Soundtrack will be used to complete assignments. Critique and class discussions are an important element of this class.

Prerequisite: Time Arts.

IM 300 Theory and Practice: Art and Religion

3 semester credits

This course explores in both theory and practice the relation of the image to what is deemed sacred, taboo, or simply inaccessible to the light of day with a focus on the question of representation and representability. How does the artist render the invisible, the deniable, the forbidden, or the unbelievable? What are the means of capture? In trying to answer these questions, we will dissect the network of signs, symbols, and often secret codes for, amongst other things, revelation, exposure, eros, initiation, illumination, violence, sacrifice, martyrdom, temptation, the divine and the demonic in the history of religious art; and in the medium or media of their choice, students will explore these themes in their own work. We will examine not only the religious iconology of the past as techniques of knowing and transformation but also naive, ironic, and subversive reformations in contemporary art and popular culture; kitsch and other failures; and contemporary controversies in both East and West centering on religious themes and religio-political preoccupations.

IM 301 Theory and Practice: Art and Anthropology

3 semester credits

Art and Anthropology approaches art making as a mapping of culture and considers the artist to be a fieldworker whose object of study is everyday life. The course explores ways of framing and representing small views of culture and ways of extending and elaborating those views both critically and imaginatively. At times students use methods that mimic those of the ethnographer or archaeologist and at other times those of the maker of fictions.

IM 301 Theory and Practice: Art and Politics

3 semester credits

Is art the privileged handmaiden of the powers-that-be in the form of cultural capital, ideological mask, or propaganda, or is it a means of opening up spaces for political reconfiguration? Is it a force of hegemony or resistance, capitulation or intervention? Under what conditions is it one, the other, both, or neither? Can various political systems be said to possess a ruling aesthetic and style; and if so, who or what determines them? What does it mean to aestheticize a political phenomenon, and how does such a process work; conversely, what is the process by which art is politicized, and how does that work? Is this the right way of thinking about the problem? Is art capable of generating social, ideological, and political realities, or does it simply express or encode already existing constellations? Put differently, are the present and the future largely immune to the labor of art, or are they imagined, shaped, and, indeed, sometimes made possible by it? These are some of the questions we will explore in this course. We will examine several political regimes and movements of the past, including National Socialism, Stalinism, the French Revolution, the American Revolution, the Russian Revolution, the Cultural Revolution, and the Solidarity Movement, but will devote most of our time and attention to the major sites of contemporary political contestation, including not only war and revolution but also identity, ethnicity, science, technology, and the environment, exploring them in and through a wide range of visual mediums including painting, sculpture, architecture, installation, photography, video, and film as well as poetry and prose. Students will be responsible for designing and executing three major projects in the visual medium or mediums of their choice as well as a written essay.

IM 301 Theory and Practice: Image/Text/Media

3 semester credits

Image/Text/Media is an interdisciplinary, research-oriented studio course that focuses on the concerns of the individual artists making art in the image-and-information abundance of today's culture. It is an inquiry into the images, texts, and media that we experience in our daily lives, asking how we can use the information and events that come to us in ways that reflect our participation in today's world. Students will investigate different approaches to mass media and the relationship of the individual and the group to today's massive amounts of information.

IM 301 Theory and Practice: Body Politics

3 semester credits

During this course students explore the conditions that inform our notions of the body as a means to examine various aspects of identity. This focus on the body in contemporary art and culture over the past 15 to 20 years has resulted in a multitude of books, news articles, films, art exhibitions and catalogs chronicling various aspect of this theme. Students will cover fashion (clothing as metaphor), sexuality, bio/technology, and ritual and behavior. Using sources from mass media, popular culture, art history and current creative practices, as well as science, literature and other disciplines, students will examine ideas that are circulating within and around the theme of this course.

IM 301 Theory and Practice: Narrative

3 semester credits

Throughout history and across cultures, storytelling has been used to help us explain and understand our experience of the world. This interdisciplinary studio course investigates narrative construction, both implied and explicit, through the frame of literature, film and critical theory. Students will examine the elements of narrative unity, explore the relationship between the visual and the verbal and consider strategies of sequence, simultaneity and non-linear arrangement. Examples in both "high" and "low" culture will be paired with a survey of the narrative tradition within visual art.

IM 301 Theory and Practice: Homeland: The American Landscape

3 semester credits

This course will look at the American Landscape through several different lenses—art historical, literary, legal, geologic, and historical. Students will explore artistic strategies for addressing landscape and place through slide lectures, film, field trips, readings, writing and critiques. The course will be broken into two parts: Wilderness and County. Wilderness will begin with nineteenth century conceptions of the American landscape as a repository of divinity. County will examine the rural landscape. Rural America is often seen as what is most honest and, simultaneously, most small-minded about the United States. The course will try to look into and beyond both wilderness and agrarian myths to a fuller view of landscape.

IM 301 Theory and Practice: Art and Philosophy

3 semester credits

This course that examines the history of ideas in the West, particularly the concepts of beauty, art, and creativity. We begin with ancient beliefs about harmony and order, move through Greek philosophy, Medieval Christianity, Renaissance and Enlightenment ideas, Romanticism, Existentialism, and end with contemporary notions of meaning and interpretation. Along the way we look at the various relationships between art and other branches of thought, such as ethics and metaphysics, and how the role of art in society has shifted with changes in the world view. We also examine some relationships between Western and Eastern thought, such as Taoism and Buddhism, focusing on correspondences and contrasts.

IM 351 Social Practices: Art and Community

3 semester credits

This studio course will address the artistic and social practices that exist outside the traditional venues where **art** is experienced. The ideas of relational aesthetics, social intervention, and the collaborative restructuring of established systems of both discourse and expression will be explored in this class. We will use existing community networks (YouTube, MySpace, Craigslist, etc.) and create new ones to explore the "social" in social intervention, the "communal" in community, and the ethical responsibility of artists who challenge the notion of a singular, solitary mode of artistic production.

IM 351 Cyber Art: Interactivity on the Web

3 semester credits

Cyber Art acknowledges the Internet, and particularly the World Wide Web, as a new and potentially huge opportunity for artistic creativity. What is unique about the course is its focus on the Web space as a new art medium and its use by artists for non-commercial and/or non-professional purposes. The Web space's potential for making art that is non-linear, time-based, interactive, personal yet globally accessible, sculptural, animated, dimensional, subversive, community building and non-commercial, is being increasingly exploited as growing numbers of artists are learning the technology. This course complements the professional course currently taught in the Graphic Design department called WWW Design Processes.

IM 351 Photography and Sculpture: New Bodies and Postmodern Presence

3 semester credits

In this class students will work in a number of combined media including carving, life casting, assemblage, image transfer, cyanotype, liquid silver halide suspensions, etc., to explore body-related issues across different fields of study. Topics covered include the relationship between Outside and Inside, the connection between the Body and the Mind, how the body is manipulated to satisfy cultural paradigms of beauty and how postmodern identities are constructed.

IM 351 Hybrid Painting and Drawing

3 semester credits

This course that explores the edges of what painting can be. Focusing on blurring the boundaries between painting and space, objects, light, and non-visual modes of art making, this course aims to inquire into what painting can become when it moves off the canvas and into mixed media. Idea generation is a core constituent of this course, along with student-driven research into crossing disciplines.

IM 351 Non-Silver Photography and Contemporary Practices

3 semester credits

This class introduces students to non-silver, alternative processes. Students will learn to apply antique photographic processes (cyanotype and VanDyke print), as well as new technologies (digital negative and photo transfers), towards exploring contemporary concerns in the photographic medium. An integral part of this course is to study contemporary artists who use photo-based media and alternative processes in their work. This course also fulfills the Junior Interdisciplinary requirement for the Intermedia major.

IM 351 Experiments in Combined Print Media

3 semester credits

Experiments in Combined Print Media is an advanced print course that focuses on strategies for creating work that combines traditional and non-traditional print based media and a wide range of image sources. In addition, students will explore ways of combining print media with other 2D and 3D processes. Prerequisite: DR 201-202 or PH 273 and PR 281-282. This course also fulfills the junior interdisciplinary Intermedia requirement.

IM 351-352 Video Art and Installation

3 semester credits each

This is a 2-semester upper-division course. First semester will focus on advanced elements of video art, including multiple channel videos, projection, and more advanced problems involving video and sound, not necessarily tied to Installation. Projects will include narrative and non-narrative work, interview based pieces, site-specific projection, and projects inspired by contemporary artists.

The second term focuses on advanced skills tied to non-traditional contexts and practices. A series of rigorous projects will emphasize collaboration, video in non-traditional environments, conceptual work and more involved installation applications. The student is required to demonstrate an advanced grasp of skills such as framing, composition, content, coverage, sequencing, story telling, audio acquisition and non-linear video and sound editing. Final Cut Pro, Soundtrack, Photoshop, Flash, 8 mm film and After Effects may be used. Through looking at the work of video artists from inception to contemporary, students will gain a greater understanding of the art form. Guest artists will further expand the students' vision and encourage experimentation and personal exploration. Project proposals, site floor plans, artist statements and documentation of work will all be important elements of the class. Introduction of projectors, monitors, spy cameras, small mobile cameras and other installation equipment will be covered. Cooperation and teamwork is stressed. The breadth and scope of the work will depend on the student's own energy and vision in response to problems presented.

Prerequisite: PH 274- Beginning Video + Sound; Fall semester IM 351 or consent of instructor is required for Spring semester class.

IM 401 Advanced Intermedia Studio

3 semester credits

During the course of this term students utilize this time as a forum for developing, presenting and critiquing the experimental phase of the thesis year which will result in the execution of a project to be completed in the following term. This curriculum is designed to address a variety of issues affecting the development of independent work. The topics covered are Thesis and Professional Practice as related to contemporary interdisciplinary practice, as well as some of the issues artists address beyond undergraduate study. Prerequisite: Senior standing.

IM 402 Intermedia Thesis

3 semester credits

Seniors complete a formal thesis before graduating from PNCA and receiving the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The thesis is a culmination of the four-year curriculum, and represents a significant body of work within a chosen discipline. The thesis reflects personal search and artistic expression. During the first semester of the senior year, students select a thesis advisor and submit a written proposal to a faculty committee for approval. Upon acceptance, students may proceed with the thesis, working in a studio space provided by the College. A mid-thesis review takes place in March for Spring graduates. In May (for Spring graduates), students submit a written statement and work to a faculty committee for critique and acceptance. A selection from each graduate's thesis project is exhibited at the annual Thesis Exhibition. Prerequisite: IM 401.

Non-Departmental

ND 300 Independent Study

1 to 2 semester credits

Available to full-time juniors or seniors, for studies which are not available in the regular curriculum.

ND 301 Internship

1 to 3 semester credits

An art-related work experience administered by the Career Services Office. Internships, graded on a pass/fail basis, may range from 1 to 3 credit hours, at a ratio of 45 hours of work per credit.

ND 315-316 Contemporary Art Theory

3 semester credits each

This course is a study of contemporary critical problems, including changing approaches to criticism. Special attention is paid to Post-Modernism and its sources in Post Structuralistic literary criticism; the influence of recent social movements on recent criticism; the artist as critic/the role of the critic; time, space and electronic media; pluralism—the basis and the effect of lack of critical consensus; theories about making art for love, for money, for revolution.

Prerequisite: Junior standing.

ND 401 Professional Practices

3 semester credits

This course is designed to help senior fine arts majors better understand and navigate a professional life in the arts. We will address a broad range of ways to engage art into your life, beyond the studio. Guest speakers will discuss such topics as exhibition strategies, resume writing, legal and financial issues, graduate study, grants/residencies and fellowships, as well as documenting work (slides, video, digitally, etc.). Students will write their Thesis Proposals in this class.

ND 402 Thesis Research and Writing

3 semester credits

This course assists the student in the research and development of the thesis writing. The class guides the student towards an understanding of the contemporary and historic references that influence the direction of their thesis work. Students will engage in the kinds of scholastic readings, discussions, and research that will support and strengthen the thesis project and the final thesis paper.

Painting

PA 261-262 Beginning Painting

3 semester credits each

The painting program builds on Foundation skills of drawing, design, color theory and critical discourse. Projects focus materials and methods while exploring a variety of subjects and pictorial strategies. Emphasis is on the development of core skills in the discipline, knowledge of contemporary and historical work as well as critical judgment. Two-semester course, sequence optional but highly recommended. Prerequisite: FD 101-102 and FD 105-106.

PA 263-264 Composition

3 semester credits each

Composition explores the analytical and theoretical aspects of two and sometimes three dimensional art works through contextual assignments demanding personal interpretation in a variety of media. The course stresses development of a vocabulary for art criticism, self-directed work, artistic research and strategies, as well as personal voice and assessment. Two-semester course, sequence optional but highly recommended. Prerequisite: FD 101-102 and FD 105-106.

PA 265 Painting Techniques of the Old Masters

3 semester credits

A one-semester studio course designed to give students some familiarity with traditional painting materials and methods. Students gain technical insight into the history of painting while gaining practical experience with a variety of media, which may include: egg tempera, fresco, oil glazing, metal point and gilding. The skills and knowledge gained provide opportunities for use in contemporary practice. Prerequisite: FD 101-102 and FD 105-106.

PA 361-362 Intermediate Painting

3 semester credits each

Course begins with loosely structured assignments, encouraging students to develop their own voice and ideas within painting. The instructor assists the student in defining and working toward personal goals while practicing self-evaluation. Students research historical and contemporary ideas, styles, methods and materials relevant to their own interests. Teaching is primarily on a tutorial basis with critiques held periodically. The course concludes with the presentation of an independent project, developed through a written proposal, independent research, and a verbal/visual presentation. A digital portfolio of each semester's work is required. Two-semester course, sequence optional but highly recommended. Prerequisite: PA 261-262 or consent of instructor.

PA 461 Advanced Painting

3 semester credits

During the first semester of their thesis year, students use this seminar for developing, researching, presenting and critiquing the experimental phase of their independent projects. The curriculum is designed to address issues of context, audience, methods and strategies as they relate to contemporary practice and individual expression. Students make a public presentation of their Thesis Proposal during Focus Week (14) and prepare a digital portfolio of the semester's work, research and writing. Prerequisite: Senior Standing

PA 462 Painting Thesis

3 semester credits

Seniors complete a formal thesis before graduating from PNCA and receiving the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The thesis is a culmination of the four-year curriculum, and represents a significant body of independent work within a self-defined area. The project demonstrates integrated knowledge and critical thinking gained through personal research and discourse, exhibits creative practice and artistic expression, examines and evaluates the historical, cultural and/or aesthetic context and effectively communicates these concerns through verbal, visual and written means. Thesis Candidates work with a mentor during the semester using the proposals developed in Advanced Painting as a beginning point. A mid-thesis review takes place in week 7 and consists of a critique of work in progress from a committee of artists, curators and critics selected from the Portland community at large. During Focus Week, Candidates formally present their project and provide an oral presentation and defense to a faculty committee. A selection from each graduate's thesis project is exhibited at the annual Thesis Exhibition. Prerequisite: PA 461 and senior standing.

Photography

PH 271 Beginning Photography (B&W: Analog & Digital)

3 semester credits

This course covers both analog and digital black & white photography. Topics include film exposure, camera functions, darkroom processes, Photoshop, scanning, digital printing, and the use of natural and available light. Students will be introduced to the basic vocabularies of visual language in relationship to historical and contemporary fine art photography. The course emphasizes conceptual development and the ability to articulate ideas verbally and visually. Prerequisite: LA 121-122 or LA 123-124, FD 101-102, FD 105-106 and AH 110-111. PH 271 is a prerequisite for PH 272.

PH 272 Beginning Color Photo: Digital

3 semester credits

This is non-darkroom beginning color and digital photography studio course. The course covers basic techniques including film exposure, camera functions, digital and color photography processes, digital manipulations and the use of natural and available lighting. Students will learn how to create coherent and critical bodies of work. Conceptual development will be emphasized as well as gaining a basic understanding of contemporary photographic practices through readings and discussions on art historical, social, political, and cultural productions. Prerequisite: PH 271.

PH 273 Beginning Digital Imaging

3 semester credits

This class will serve to enhance the creative practice through digital imaging technologies. Projects provide a grounding in intermediate/advanced raster and vector graphics giving students a platform to digitally manipulate images. Integrating these technologies into their individual practice, students will develop a confident mastery over a variety of software, a range of peripheral (input and output) devices, and the concepts implicit in the technology. Prerequisite: FD 102 Visual Elements: Digital Tools.

PH 274 Beginning Video + Sound

3 semester credits

This course is about creativity, competence, context and awareness in video and sound production and art making. This course will concentrate on learning digital video and sound based art forms. Emphasis will be put on the fundamentals of video production including exposure, framing, composition, content, coverage, sequencing and creating narrative. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of digital video and sound through exercises, project creation, lecture, critique, and screenings of films, videos, commercials and previous student work. Digital video cameras, Final Cut Pro, Flash and/or After Effects and Soundtrack will be used to complete assignments. Critique and class discussions are an important element of this class. This course also fulfills Intermedia requirement IM 251. Prerequisite: Time Arts

PH 371 Intermediate Black & White Photography

3 semester credits

This course addresses the expressive potential of black and white photographic printmaking with both gelatin silver materials and carbon pigment inkjet printers. It builds skills in advanced film exposure and development controls, variable contrast split-light printing on fiber base papers, and toning. Negative scanning and digital processing for carbon pigment printing are introduced. Students will pursue individually designed projects that explore the aesthetic and conceptual possibilities of the media as means of artistic expression. Prerequisite: PH 271 and PH 272.

PH 372 Intermediate Studio Photography

3 semester credits

This course will focus on the aesthetics of advanced studio lighting and the use of strobe in natural light settings. We will also review the zone system and introduce students to the use of medium and large format cameras. Students will be exposed to a variety of different lighting techniques with emphasis on using lighting as a tool for conceptual and aesthetic concerns. We will look at the work of various photographers whose work has played an important role in fine art photography. Prerequisite: PH 371.

PH 373 Non-Silver Photography and Contemporary Practices

3 semester credits

This class introduces students to non-silver, alternative processes. Students will learn to apply antique photographic processes (cyanotype and VanDyke print), as well as new technologies (digital negative and photo transfers), towards exploring contemporary concerns in the photographic medium. An integral part of this course is to study contemporary artists who use photo-based media and alternative processes in their work. This course also fulfills the Junior Interdisciplinary requirement for the Intermedia major.

PH 374 Advanced Digital Printing

3 semester credits

In this course students will refine image editing skills learned in Beginning Digital Imaging and move on to the nuances of making portfolio quality prints. We will delve into the advanced methods in PhotoShop involving more sophisticated control over image values and tonal rendering. Students will be able to achieve finely tuned colors in all forms of output and will be able to merge input from various types of sources and output their work on wide format printers in both color and monochrome.

PH 471 Advanced Photography Studio

3 semester credits

This course will provide a forum for students to have their work critiqued on a regular basis by their peers, the faculty and visiting artists. Through slides, assigned readings and visiting artists, students will study the work of contemporary artists as it relates to their own pre-thesis explorations. Prerequisite: Senior standing.

PH 472 Photography Thesis

3 semester credits

Seniors complete a formal thesis before graduating from PNCA and receiving the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The thesis is a culmination of the four-year curriculum, and represents a significant body of work within a chosen discipline. The thesis reflects personal search and artistic expression. A selection from each graduate's thesis project is exhibited at the annual Thesis Exhibition. Prerequisite: PH 471.

Printmaking

PR 281-282 Beginning Printmaking

3 semester credits each

281 Intaglio and Lithography

282 Screenprint and Blockprint

Printmaking revolutionized world culture with the possibilities of repeated imagery. This sequence introduces the basic printmaking processes of intaglio, lithography, relief and screenprinting with emphasis on the unique possibilities for visual expression in each process. Beginning Printmaking is offered in both fall and spring semesters. Prerequisite: FD 101-102 and FD 105-106

PR 381-382 Intermediate Printmaking

3 semester credits each

381 Intaglio and Lithography

382 Screenprint and Blockprint

This sequence supports the transition from the structure of assigned problems to greater responsibility in the exploration of personal goals along with the introduction of advanced processes including digital media. Prerequisite: PR 281-282.

PR 385 Experiments in Combined Print Media

3 semester credits

Experiments in Combined Print Media is an advanced print course that focuses on strategies for creating work that combines traditional and non-traditional print based media and a wide range of image sources. In addition, students will explore ways of combining print media with other 2D and 3D processes. Prerequisite: DR 201-202 or PH 273 and PR 281-282. This course also fulfills the junior interdisciplinary Intermedia requirement.

PR 387 Monotype

3 semester credits

The spontaneity of printing a painted surface has engaged artists for the past two centuries. This course bridges the gap between painting and printmaking. Several approaches to monotype will be introduced, including reductive and additive black and white processes to the exploration of color and collage.

PR 481 Advanced Printmaking Studio

3 semester credits

This seminar focuses on three areas: preparation of the thesis proposal, continued studio exploration and professional practices. Students will participate in one-on-one and group critiques, discussions and presentations by guest speakers. One semester course. Prerequisite: All required coursework through the Junior year.

PR 482 Printmaking Thesis

3 semester credits

Seniors complete a formal thesis before graduating from PNCA and receiving the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The thesis is a culmination of the four-year curriculum, and represents a significant body of work within a chosen discipline. The thesis reflects personal search and artistic expression. A mid-thesis review takes place in March for Spring graduates. In May (for Spring graduates), students submit a written statement and work to a faculty committee for critique and acceptance. A selection from each graduate's thesis project is exhibited at the annual Thesis Exhibition. Prerequisite: PR 481

Sculpture

SC 291 Beginning Sculpture: Figure Modeling

3 semester credits

The three-dimensional image of a human figure simultaneously embraces formal, psychological and political concerns. This class will explore those questions as well as basic skills in rendering the figure in three-dimensions. Through observation, slides and critiques students will explore modeling the figure. This class will examine basic sculptural concepts such as form, mass, structure and movement.

SC 291 Beginning Sculpture: Mixed Media Materials

3 semester credits

Students will concentrate on materials and developing processes and ideas appropriate to those materials as they apply to the exploration of three-dimensional concepts.

SC 291 Beginning Sculpture: Welding

3 semester credits

This class emphasizes the metal processes of welding and fabrication. Students develop and integrate both technical and sculptural skills. Students will also study historical and contemporary sculpture created utilizing welding and fabrication.

SC 291 Beginning Sculpture: Ceramics

3 semester credits

Students will be introduced to clay as a medium, emphasizing the hand-building techniques of pinching, coiling and slab construction. Students will learn a variety of low temperature glaze techniques, loading and firing electric kilns, and the basic concepts of three-dimensional design. The awareness of form, visual thinking and the history of ceramics are also stressed.

SC 391-392 Intermediate Sculpture

3 semester credits each

This course is designed as an intermediate/advanced studio experience in the three-dimensional construction of forms in space. The student will continue to develop various possibilities of building meaningful objects, drawn from and contributing to the physical, visual and spatial environment. A broad range of techniques, materials and conceptual studies will be the focus of assignments and critiques. Readings, slide lectures, studio visits and discussion will further establish a contemporary context for sculpture. Prerequisite: SC 291 or consent of instructor.

SC 491 Advanced Sculpture Studio

3 semester credits

This senior level course further addresses the thesis experience. We will discuss topics ranging from proposals, grant writing, graduate schools, resumes, slides and galleries. One semester course. Prerequisite: SC 391-392 or consent of instructor.

SC 492 Sculpture Thesis

3 semester credits

Seniors complete a formal thesis before graduating from PNCA and receiving the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The thesis is a culmination of the four-year curriculum, and represents a significant body of work within a chosen discipline. The thesis reflects personal search and artistic expression. During the first semester of the senior year, students select a thesis advisor and submit a written proposal to a faculty committee for approval. Upon acceptance, students may proceed with the thesis, working in a studio space provided by the College. A mid-thesis review takes place in March for Spring graduates. In April (for Spring graduates), students submit a written statement and work to a faculty committee for critique and acceptance. A selection from each graduate's thesis project is exhibited at the annual Thesis Exhibition. Prerequisite: SC 491.