

CERAMICS, BFA

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ceramics (C10009BFA)

More on the Ceramics major (<https://www.uakron.edu/art/academics/ceramics.dot>)

The ceramics program at the Mary Schiller Myers School of Art is assembled on the belief that students can learn through doing: assembling hand-skills through practice, thinking through sketching and growing as artists by undertaking rigorous driven practice.

Education pioneer John Dewey wrote in *Art as Experience*, “we do not learn from experiences, we truly learn by reflecting on our experiences.” In keeping with this thinking, the curriculum at the Myers School of Art explores the history of ceramics and uses that knowledge to consider the future of the medium. Clay and ceramics as a material have developed alongside humanity since the earliest periods of civilization. In that time knowledge has been passed on through demonstration, practical instruction and the exchange that comes with the discussion of novel ideas.

The program at the Myers School of Art explores art making by considering the historical and cultural meaning of ceramic materials, as well as examining the importance of objects. Students are asked to draw on their personal experience with the world of things and then consider new possibility and uses for such items. In support of the creation of individual work, we include lectures, demonstrations, hands-on experiences and experimentation which allow students to develop the knowledge of processes and the skills necessary to production of their ceramic works.

Purpose

The ceramics program at the University of Akron’s Myers School of Art offers a comprehensive forward-thinking undergraduate education, which will prepare students for work as visual artists and independent thinkers. The program is structured so students may consider careers in ceramics, or further graduate education in the visual arts at the countries leading Masters of Fine Arts Programs.

The program aims to offer students a wide range of ceramic techniques and firing methods. The ceramics program at the Myers School of Art provides the highest quality of instruction and support to facilitate students learning and the development of their personal artistic voice.

Requirements for Admission

Students must have an overall GPA of at least 2.5 in all ART courses.

Goals

Students majoring in Ceramics at the University of Akron will develop:

- Skills for a useful future in the field of fine art.
- A focused understanding of the contemporary continuum of clay.
- Knowledge of the historical uses, importance, and aesthetics of ceramics.
- A tactile understanding of clay materials and their potential.
- Develop a set of problem-solving skills, methods of critical thinking, ideation, and the ability to talk about artwork.

- Reflective ways to self-evaluate and consider developing their own artwork.
- Develop the ability to transfer tactile skills to other media while figuring out how to draw in skills from other areas.
- The ability to operate and control a wide range of ceramics’ firing temperatures and atmospheres in various kilns including bisque, glaze, oxidation, reduction, salt firing, and raku firing.
- Skills of building ceramic forms by hand, on a potter’s wheel, by slipcasting and employing digital technology.
- Knowledge about the formulation of clay bodies, glazes and ceramics coatings for the widest range of color choices.
- Synthesize periodic assignments, and individual ideas into a unique voice and style of producing individual ceramic artwork.

Distinctions

Students at The University of Akron are presented with a broad range of skills and opportunities to develop their personal voice while pursuing a BFA in Ceramics, including:

- Large open studio spaces programmed to facilitate collaboration and a sense of community.
- More than 15 kilns able to fire in the widest range of oxidation, reduction, salt/soda atmosphere, as well as raku and smoke firing.
- A highly functional fully stocked glaze laboratory.
- Clay making facilities replete with a wide range of clay types.
- Access to cutting edge technology like 3D stereolithographic printing, decal printers, vinyl cutters, and a laser cutter.
- Access to a wide range of exhibition opportunities.
- Assistance finding and developing grant proposals.
- Opportunities to develop an understanding of the social aspects of the world’s oldest three-dimensional material.

The following information has official approval of **The Mary Schiller Myers School of Art** and **The Buchtel College of Arts & Sciences**, but is intended only as a supplemental guide. Official degree requirements are established at the time of transfer and admission to the degree-granting college. Students should refer to the Degree Progress Report (Stellic) which is definitive for graduation requirements. *Completion of this degree within the identified time frame below is contingent upon many factors, including but not limited to: class availability, total number of required credits, work schedule, finances, family, course drops/withdrawals, successfully passing courses, prerequisites, among others.* The transfer process is completed through an appointment with your academic advisor.

Students are encouraged to visit the The Mary Schiller Myers School of Art their freshman year to obtain preliminary information regarding the program requirements and to learn more about on-campus opportunities available to students.

Three year accelerated option: for first time students who have earned credits for at least the first year of courses. Credits can be earned through qualifying scores on appropriate Advanced Placement (AP) exams or through [College Credit Plus Program \(CCP\)](#) courses. Credits for qualifying AP scores or [CCP](#) courses are determined by the appropriate academic department. Departments may assign varied course credit, depending on the student’s score on an AP exam or [grade in a CCP](#) course. Students may also receive credit by examination or via placement tests, where appropriate.

Requirements Summary

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Requirements (https://bulletin.uakron.edu/undergraduate/general-education/)		36
Foundation Core		12
Art History Requirements		15
Ceramics Requirements		15
Advanced Ceramics Requirement		12
Studio Electives		24
Electives		6
Total Hours		120

Note: A 2.5 cumulative GPA in all ART courses is required for graduation.

Recommended General Education Courses

Code	Title	Hours
Students pursuing a bachelor's degree must complete the following General Education coursework. Diversity courses may also fulfill major or Breadth of Knowledge requirements. Integrated and Applied Learning courses may also fulfill requirements in the major.		
Students are not required to enroll in the specific courses listed below. However, to facilitate successful degree completion, the academic department strongly encourages completion of the following recommendations.		
Academic Foundations		12
<i>Mathematics, Statistics and Logic: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Speaking: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Writing: 6 credit hours</i>		
Breadth of Knowledge		22
<i>Arts/Humanities: 9 credit hours</i>		
ART 101	Survey of Global Art 1: Prehistory to 1250 CE	
ART 102	History of Global Art 2: 1250 CE - 1850 CE	
<i>Natural Sciences: 7 credit hours</i>		
<i>Social Sciences: 6 credit hours</i>		
Diversity		
Domestic Diversity		
Global Diversity		
ART 101	Survey of Global Art 1: Prehistory to 1250 CE	
Integrated and Applied Learning		2
<i>Select one class from one of the following subcategories:</i>		
Complex Issues Facing Society		
Capstone		
<i>Review the General Education Requirements page for detailed course listings.</i>		
Total Hours		36

College of Arts & Sciences Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Students must also complete a minimum of 40 credits (excluding workshops) consisting of either:		
Upper-level (300/400) courses both in and outside of the student's major;		

or other courses outside the major department approved by the student's major department chair (permission should be obtained prior to enrollment); these may not include workshops

Foundation Core

Code	Title	Hours
ART 100	Arts Orientation	0
ART 131	Foundation Drawing I	3
ART 144	Foundation 2D Design	3
ART 145	Foundation 3D Design	3
ART 250	Foundation Lecture	1
ART 252	Foundation Studio	2
Total Hours		12

Art History Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ART 101	Survey of Global Art 1: Prehistory to 1250 CE	3
ART 102	History of Global Art 2: 1250 CE - 1850 CE	3
ART 103	History of Global Art 3: 1850 CE - Today	3
ART XXX	Advanced Level Art History	3
Choose one of the following:		3
ART 300	Art Since 1945	
ART 403	Art and Critical Theory	
ART 435	Contemporary Art Issues	
Total Hours		15

Ceramics Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ART 222	Introduction to Sculpture	3
ART 254	Introduction to Ceramics	3
ART 489	Special Topics in Studio Art	3
ART 353	Intermediate Ceramics	3
ART 457	Professional Practices	3
ART 456	Ceramic Portfolio Review	0
ART 495	Senior Exhibition	0
Total Hours		15

Advanced Ceramics Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Complete 12 credits: ¹		12
ART 454	Advanced Ceramics	
ART 453	Advanced Throwing	
Total Hours		12

¹ Advanced Ceramics must be repeated for a minimum of 9, and may be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

Advanced Throwing may be substituted for 3 credits only.

Studio Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Complete 24 Credits		24
ART 111	Emerging Technologies	

ART 132	Introduction to Design
ART 189	Production I
ART 213	Introduction to Printmaking
ART 214	Relief/Screenprint
ART 216	Intaglio/Lithography
ART 223	Sculpture: Stone
ART 233	Introduction to Life Drawing
ART 234	Anatomy for Artists
ART 243	Introduction to Painting
ART 244	Color Concepts
ART 246	Introduction to Water-based Media
ART 251	Watercolor
ART 266	Introduction to Metalsmithing
ART 273	Introduction to Digital Photography
ART 275	Introduction to Photography
ART 276	Introduction to Commercial Photography
ART 280	Digital Media
ART 281	Web and Devices I
ART 283	Drawing Techniques
ART 317	Print Matrix
ART 318	Portrait Lighting
ART 320	Product Photography
ART 322	Sculpture II
ART 323	Lost Wax Casting
ART 324	Installation Art
ART 335	Intermediate Life Drawing
ART 348	Intermediate Painting
ART 365	Intermediate Jewelry
ART 366	Metalsmithing II
ART 368	Color in Metals
ART 369	Production for Jewelry
ART 377	Medium and Large Format Photography
ART 380	Illustration
ART 381	Digital Imaging II
ART 385	3D Modeling, Printing and Prototyping
ART 418	Multiples and Multiplicity
ART 419	Special Topics in Print
ART 422	Advanced Sculpture
ART 423	Art Bomb Brigade: Methods for Creating Public Art
ART 450	Advanced Drawing/Life Drawing
ART 455	Advanced Painting
ART 465	Color in Metals II
ART 466	Advanced Metalsmithing
ART 473	Photography III: Color
ART 475	Advanced Photography
ART 479	Professional Photographic Practices
ART 485	Advanced Illustration
ART 489	Special Topics in Studio Art
ART 493	Advanced Photography: Digital Printing
ART 496	Art Internship/Professional Experience

ART 499 Honors in Art

Total Hours 24

Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Complete 6 Credits		6
Total Hours		6

Recommended Sequence

1st Year

Fall Semester		Hours
ART 100	Arts Orientation	0
ART 131	Foundation Drawing I	3
ART 144	Foundation 2D Design	3
ART 145	Foundation 3D Design	3
	Writing Requirement	3
	Mathematics, Statistics, and Logic Requirement	3
Hours		15

Spring Semester

ART 250	Foundation Lecture	1
ART 252	Foundation Studio	2
ART 254	Introduction to Ceramics	3
ART 101	Survey of Global Art 1: Prehistory to 1250 CE	3
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
	Writing II Requirement	3
Hours		15

2nd Year

Fall Semester		
ART 102	History of Global Art 2: 1250 CE - 1850 CE	3
ART 222	Introduction to Sculpture	3
ART 489	Special Topics in Studio Art	3
COMM 105 or COMM 106	Introduction to Public Speaking or Effective Oral Communication	3
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
Hours		15

Spring Semester

ART 103	History of Global Art 3: 1850 CE - Today	3
ART 353	Intermediate Ceramics	3
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
	Social Science Requirement	3
Hours		15

3rd Year

Fall Semester		
ART 453 or ART 454	Advanced Throwing or Advanced Ceramics	3
ART 457	Professional Practices	3
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
ART 3XX/4XX	Contemporary Art History Elective	3

	Natural Science Requirement	3
	Hours	15
Spring Semester		
ART 454	Advanced Ceramics	3
ART 456	Ceramic Portfolio Review	0
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
ART 3XX/4XX	Art History Elective	3
	Social Science Requirement	3
	Humanities Requirement	3
	Hours	15
4th Year		
Fall Semester		
ART 454	Advanced Ceramics	3
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
	Social Science Requirement and Domestic Diversity	3
	Social Science Requirement and Complex Issues	3
	Hours	15
Spring Semester		
ART 454	Advanced Ceramics	3
ART 495	Senior Exhibition	0
ART XXX	Art Studio Elective	3
	Natural Science with Lab Requirement	3
	Open Elective	3
	Open Elective	3
	Hours	15
	Total Hours	120