Visual Arts

What is the Visual Arts Program?
HCC’s Visual Arts Program is designed to challenge and encourage creative excellence and professional growth for visual arts majors specializing in painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, illustration, and other related fields. HCC understands the demands of four-year colleges and has maximized instructional depth in both foundation and upper level classes to meet transfer requirements and expectations.

In a structured, supportive environment, students learn how to apply acquired skills to create successful images in each discipline. Emphasis is on observation and skill training. Learning how to overcome creative blocks by identifying and solving problems builds student confidence and excellence.

Studio art classes are small and limited to 12 students, which allows abundant time for students to work one-on-one with instructors in order to maximize the learning experience.

An exit portfolio review, an important step to the next level, is required of each visual arts major who wishes to pursue a bachelor of fine arts degree or go directly into creative fields such as photography or other design areas.

A newly formed collaboration between HCC, the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, and the Washington County Arts Council will offer students work-study opportunities in exhibiting and curating.

Classes in this program are organized into two categories: foundation or 100 level classes and upper or 200 level classes.

Studio classes include:
- Ceramics I and II
- Drawing I and II
- Figure Drawing
- Jewelry I and II
- Painting I and II
- Photography I and II
- Photography for the Public Discourse
- Portraiture
- Sculpture I and II
- Two-Dimensional Design

A complete listing of classes and requirements can be found in the College Catalog at www.hagerstowncc.edu/academics/catalogs.

What is the employment outlook for careers in the visual arts?
Many fine arts majors specialize in one or two art disciplines choosing from painting, drawing, sculpting, ceramics, or photography. However, career opportunities span a broad spectrum of art related fields available to art majors such as illustration, art direction, animation, cartooning, printmaking, and multimedia presentations.

For those interested in conceptual art or design, options include jewelry, fibers and textiles, furniture, glassware, and set and exhibit installations. Fashion design and illustration offers additional opportunities. Industrial design—including conceptual development of cars, home appliances, toys, kitchens, baths, lighting, closets and buildings, products, and environments that are inherently accessible to older people—can lead the way to a career in architecture or landscape architecture. Interior design is another growing industry with an expected increase of 16 percent in the next decade.

Positions for archivists, curators, and museum technicians offer opportunities and also are expected to increase by 16 percent in the next decade.

Employment of art and design occupations is projected to grow five percent from 2016 to 2026, about as fast as the average for all occupations, adding about 41,100 new jobs. More workers will be needed to meet the growing demand for animation and visual effects in video games, movies, television, and on smartphones, as well as to help create visually appealing and effective layouts of websites and other media platforms. (source: www.bls.gov/ooh).

What are the estimated annual earnings?
Earnings will vary with locality, experience, and education. For example, salaries for those with bachelor’s degrees could range from a median annual income of $89,820 for art directors to a median annual income of $25,850 for floral designers.

Additional examples include:

2016 Median Pay
- Fine & Craft Artists $48,780
- Art Directors $89,820
- Animators & Multimedia Artists $65,300
- Designers:
  - Fashion $65,170 per year
  - Floral $28,850 per year
  - Interior $49,810 per year
  - Set & Exhibit $46,680 per year
  - Industrial $67,790 per year
  - Architects $76,930 per year
  - Landscape Architects $63,480 per year
  - Curators, Museum Technicians, Conservators $47,230 per year
  - Educators (all subjects):
    - High School $58,030 per year
    - Middle School $56,720 per year
    - Kindergarten and Elementary School $55,490 per year

(source: www.bls.gov/ooh)

Why should I choose HCC?
The HCC Visual Arts Faculty
Art faculty members hold advanced degrees and are experienced educators and exhibiting artists in the disciplines they teach. Each instructor is committed to studio excellence
both in instruction and in student achievement. The small classes offer the best possible means of achieving these goals.

Faculty members lead with their skills and experience working with students one-on-one in the studio. The learning process is extended through the use of online resources, which helps to connect faculty and students outside the classroom.

Tutoring is available and students are encouraged to take full advantages of these services to assure a successful semester.

The HCC Visual Arts Facility
The newly renovated Kepler Performing and Visual Arts Education Center is designed specifically to house the arts: visual arts, music, dance, multimedia, and theater. Kepler Center is an inviting venue for students to gather for a visit, to study, or simply enjoy the beautifully designed Campus Gallery.

Studies are specifically designed for each art discipline. There are two visual arts studios in Kepler Center. One is equipped with easels for drawing and painting and the other with professional drafting tables for design. Each studio offers students an environment in which to do their best work.

In addition, the Career Programs Building, also located on HCC’s campus, features a professional studio for ceramics, sculpture, and jewelry.

A.A. Degree

Arts and Sciences Option in Visual Arts

Instructional depth in the Visual Arts Program is developed to meet the transfer requirements and expectations of a four-year school. Students should begin assessing possible four-year institutions immediately and should confer with advisors to determine transfer requirements.

All art majors will be required to pass a professional portfolio exit review with an art department faculty panel in order to secure their associate degree.

General Education Requirements 31-33 credits

Arts/Humanities

ART 231 History of Western Art I ................................. 3

OR

ART 232 History of Western Art II ...............................(3)

Select another course from approved General Education course list ........................................ 3

Behavioral/Social Sciences

Select two courses in different disciplines from approved General Education course list ................. 6

Biological/Physical Science

Select two courses from approved General Education course list—one must be a laboratory course .......... 7-8

Diversity

Select a course from approved General Education course list ................................................. 3

English

ENG 101 English Composition .................................... 3

*minimum grade of “C” or better is required

Select another ENG course from approved General Education course list ............................. 3

Mathematics

Select a MAT course from approved General Education course list ........................................ 3-4

Program Requirements 14 credits

ART 102 Two-Dimensional Design ............................... 3

ART 103 Drawing I .................................................... 3

ART 104 Painting I ..................................................... 3

ART 120 Beginning Ceramics ..................................... 3

ART 122 Sculpture I ..................................................(3)

OR

ART 289 Independent Study in Chosen Medium and Portfolio Review ....................................... 2

Restricted Electives 6 credits

Select one course from each area.

Area 1

3 credits

ART 115 Photography I .............................................(3)

ART 120 Beginning Ceramics ....................................(3)

ART 122 Sculpture I ..................................................(3)

ART 123 Jewelry I .....................................................(3)

Area 2

3 credits

ART 203 Drawing II ..................................................(3)

ART 204 Painting II ................................................... (3)

ART 209 Figure Drawing ..........................................(3)

ART 211 Portraiture ................................................... (3)

ART 215 Photography II ............................................ (3)

ART 218 Photography for the Public Discourse .......(3)

ART 220 Advanced Ceramics ....................................(3)

ART 222 Sculpture II ..................................................(3)

ART 223 Jewelry II ....................................................(3)

Free Electives 9 credits

Electives should be selected in consultation with an academic advisor. Some recommended courses are listed below:

ART 101 Introduction to Visual Arts .........................(3)

ART 231 History of Western Art I .............................(3)

ART 232 History of Western Art II ...........................(3)

Any Graphic Design (GDT) course .........................(3)

Degree Requirement.......................... 60

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Recommended Professional Resources

American Craft Council: www.craftcouncil.org

IC Illustrators Club: www.illustratorsclub.org

Maryland Art Place: www.mdartplace.org

Maryland Society of Portrait Painters: http://mdspp.com

Maryland State Arts Council
Visual Artists Registry: www.msalc.org

National Association of Schools of Art and Design: http://nasad.accredit.org

National Council for Education on the Ceramic Arts: http://nceca.net/

New York Foundation for the Arts: www.nyfa.org

Society of Illustrators: www.societyofillustrators.org

Washington County Arts Council: www.washingtoncountyarts.com