Art (Photography), BFA

Develop your photography skills at ASU, in one of the finest photography programs in the country.

Program Description

Students in the BFA program in art with a concentration in photography are offered an education in the creation and analysis of photographs as a form of creative expression. Students work in a wide range of photographic media including specialized 19th-century processes, traditional black-and-white and state-of-the-art digital output.

The internationally recognized photography faculty at ASU are diverse, representing and encouraging a wide range of approaches to the creation of photo-based art. Students learn to be self-disciplined and self-directed to understand complex ideas around how images function in their work and to develop a strong sense and control of the craft of photography. The Northlight Gallery engages students and provides opportunities to learn about gallery and museum practice through mounting exhibitions and working with artists and the collection.

A portfolio submission is required for a BFA with a concentration in photography. Students are not able to register for upper-division photography courses until their portfolio has been submitted and reviewed (typically submitted during the second year of study). To be eligible to submit their portfolio, a student must have completed two courses: ART 201 and ART 204 OR ART 205 (transfer credit applicable). Students must submit the online application form and a hard copy portfolio to the Art Office Rm 102 by the posted deadline.

Portfolio details: 10 to 15 hard copy, student-edited prints (8"x10" or 11"x14"); packaged in a simple envelope labeled with name and ASU ID number. If the student has completed ART 205, the prints should be in color and printed by the student on a professional grade printer. If the student has completed ART 204, the prints should be silver gelatin black and white.

At a Glance

• College/School: Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
• Location: Tempe campus

• Additional Program Fee: Yes
• Second Language Requirement: No
• **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
  OR MAT 117 OR MAT 119
• **Math Intensity:** General

**Required Courses (Major Map)**

[2020 - 2021 Major Map](#)
[Major Map (Archives)](#)

**Admission Requirements**

**General University Admission Requirements:**
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

[Freshman](#) | [Transfer](#) | [International](#) | [Readmission](#)

**Additional Requirements:**

There is no portfolio review process for admission to the School of Art. Usually in their second semester, after completing either ART 204 Black & White or ART 205 Color Photography, photography majors submit a portfolio to continue in the degree program.

**Transfer Admission Requirements:**

To complete an undergraduate degree in four years, it is recommended that community college transfer students complete the foundational core and pre-art requirements. There is no portfolio review process for admission to the School of Art. If a transfer student has completed a course equivalent to either ART 204 Black and White or ART 205 Color Photography, they may submit a portfolio in their first semester at ASU to continue in the degree program.

Direct transfer of courses from other accredited institutions to the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts are subject to the existence of parallel and equal courses in the college's curriculum and subject to departmental or school evaluation of studio courses with respect to performance standards.

Every candidate for the bachelor's degree must earn a minimum of 30 credit hours in resident credit at ASU. Transfer students enrolled in the college must complete a minimum of 15 credit hours of resident credit in the major as approved by the faculty.
Change of Major Requirements

An ASU student who would like to change majors to one offered by the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 (scale is 4.00 = "A").

Students should refer to https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU™ to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience
Study abroad programs in countries such as France, Japan and South Africa refine students' own creative vision and comprehensive knowledge of the theory, practice and history of photography. The international practice of photography allows students to expand their portfolio and pursue onsite locations similar to those found only in the professional field. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

A degree in the arts offers students a pathway to a rich and varied choice of careers. Students with a photography degree may work as independent studio photographers or contract for commercial work for firms, museums, galleries, individuals and other artists. Though this is not a commercial degree program, some students apply their skills post-graduation by doing product photography, portraits or event photography. Students have also started their own successful art galleries.
Photo skills hone a particular sensitivity to issues of representation and a heightened sense of time, among many other life-enhancing attributes. These critical and creative sensitivities can be brought to bear in life after graduation whatever career path a student chooses. The bachelor’s degree is essential for advanced study leading to the terminal MFA. This advanced degree offers opportunities in:

- curatorial work in galleries, museums and historical collections
- history or studio areas
- nonprofit arts organization management
- university teaching

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animator</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>$70,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Director</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>$92,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art Professor</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>$66,930</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audio-Visual Technician</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>$42,190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camera Operator</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>$53,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craft Artist</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>$34,940</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine Artist</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>$49,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>High School Teacher</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>$59,170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photographer</td>
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<td>$32,490</td>
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<tr>
<td>Talent Agent</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>$64,940</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook ☀ Green Occupation

Contact Information

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