

Which is your major—BA or BFA?

The department offers several majors:

BA	Art/Art History and Visual Culture
BA	Art/Studio Art/Preparation for Teaching
BA	Art/Studio Practice <i>(includes Digital Media, Photo, Pictorial, Spatial Art)</i>
BFA	Art/Digital Media Art <i>(computer graphics, web development, programming, physical computing, fabrication, interactivity and computer games)</i>
BFA	Art/Photography <i>(fine art and commercial photography)</i>
BFA	Art/Pictorial Art <i>(drawing, painting, printmaking)</i>
BFA	Art/Spatial Art <i>(ceramics, glass, installation art, metal fabrication and casting, multimedia, performance art, and sculpture)</i>

How is a BFA different from a BA?

All degrees are now 120 units. BFA degrees are intended to be more concentrated, to direct majors in a specific program of study, to indicate more advanced professional training. A BFA major must (1) apply to and pass a portfolio review; (2) take the interdisciplinary BFA seminar; (3) have a solo exhibition in one of our student galleries in the last semester before graduation, OR a group exhibition for DMA majors only. The BA is probably preferable if you want to take classes in a variety of media; the BA and BFA have a common core of prep classes, however, and you can decide on your path once you are enrolled.

SJSU directly admits students only to one of the following:

- BA Art/Art History and Visual Culture
- BA Art/Studio Art/Preparation for Teaching
- BA Art/Studio Art (these majors have the option of applying later to BFA in Photo, Pictorial, or Spatial Art)
- BFA Art/Digital Media Art (these majors must apply later to the portfolio review before officially recognized as BFA)

Portfolio reviews for the BFAs are held every October and April

Instructions for applying to the BFA are found here: <https://www.sjsu.edu/art/resources/forms.php>

Essentially, you apply to the portfolio review as soon as you have a body of work (10 images) to show and preferably before you have completed a total of 90 units. If you decide against the BFA or don't pass the portfolio review (rare), then you default to the BA in Art/Studio Art, without "losing" units. You can re-apply if you do not pass portfolio review.

Where to start? Common core required classes for all BA and BFA majors except Art History*:

ART 12 2D	ART 01 (1 unit) Pre-professional	<u>SJSU/Advanced GE—WST first:</u>
ART 13 3D	ART 02 Artist in Contemporary Culture	ART 100W (Z) Writing
ART 24 Drawing I	ART 03 Medium and Message	ARTH 193A or B (V) Global Arth
PHOT 40 Beginning Photo	ART 177 Professional Practices	Area S (your choice)
ART 74 Digital Media		Area R (your choice)
ARTH 70A or 70B Art History		

*Art History majors take: ARTH 70A and B; 6 units of studio art or world language; then ARTH 101 and upper-division courses of choice (numbered 100-199)

Art & Art History

Office: ART 116 **Phone:** 408 924-4353 **Email:** art@sjsu.edu
Website: <http://www.sjsu.edu/art>

All forms, advising, program information can be found on the website; office open M–R 9a–5p

Prof. Virginia San Fratello – Interim Department Chair (virginia.sanfratello@sjsu.edu)

Bill Alley (bill.alley@sjsu.edu)—assists in academic advising, declaring/changing major/minor, filing for graduation, etc.

SJSU College of Humanities and the Arts Student Success Center (H&A SSC)

Clark Hall room 244, 408 924-5095, ha-successcenter@sjsu.edu, provides GE checklist (by appointment—please obtain checklist during your first semester, before graduation filing), assistance with university and GE advising and petitions

Advising Resources

SJSU Advising Hub

sjsu.edu/advising/

SJSU Catalog

<https://bit.ly/3KxngBP>

SJSU Community College Articulation

transfer.sjsu.edu

SJSU Policies & Procedures

catalog.sjsu.edu/content.php?catoid=13&navoid=4975

SJSU Academic Senate Policies

sjsu.edu/senate/university-policies

(Includes policies about office hours, plagiarism, greensheet accessibility, etc.)

SJSU Accessible Education Center

www.sjsu.edu/aec/

Art Dept. Major Forms

sjsu.edu/art/resources/forms.php

Art Dept. Advising List

sjsu.edu/art/resources/advising.php

(This document can also be found at the bottom of this webpage titled “Transfer Advising Handout”)

Art Dept. Website

sjsu.edu/art/