WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN...

ART / ART HISTORY

Many opportunities exist for professional practice in visual art (studio, art history, and art education).

Mastering the 21st century skills required to study art at the college level can be a highly rewarding and enjoyable learning experience. Individuals who study art find exciting opportunities to creatively investigate and communicate ideas that influence ways of thinking and impact the world in which we live.

SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS

Commercial & Fine Art
- Graphic Designer
- Illustrator/Concept Artist
- Animator
- Desktop Publisher
- Photojournalist
- Web Designer/Developer
- Freelance Artist
- Jeweler/Designer
- Painter
- Photographer
- Sculptor
- 3-D Modeler/Fabricator

Art Administration
- Curator

Applied Arts
- Merchandise Display
- Interior Designer
- Floral Designer
- Fashion Designer

Other
- Art Critic
- Art Educator
- Art Therapist

TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

Art Museums
Design Firms
Advertising Agencies
Marketing/PR Firms
TV Stations, Film Companies

Corporations
Industrial Design Firms
Nonprofit Organizations
Libraries, Museums, Galleries
Schools, Colleges, Universities

PREPARING FOR YOUR CAREER IN

Commercial Art: Develop expertise in graphic and design software, maintain a physical and digital portfolio of your work, obtaining an internship is essential in highly competitive fields like advertising or publishing

Fine Arts: Develop an online portfolio and network to develop a referral base for freelance business, take electives on marketing and promotions, participate in juried shows and exhibitions, secure guild membership, decide if you want to pursue art as full time job or an avocational interest since opportunities are limited for full time work

Art Administration: Learn about fundraising for nonprofit organizations, take elective courses related to marketing, management or finance, develop strong interpersonal skills, volunteer or intern with a museum or gallery to learn about administrative practices, build a strong foundation in art history, anthropology, classical civilizations, and a foreign language as this is important for certain positions, study abroad, most art historians will specialize in a period or region

Applied Arts: Develop proficiency using industry-specific computer software, most designers have formalized education in their specific field (fashion, interior), expect to work with overseas suppliers, be able to communicate effectively with different types of people, do internships with design firms, obtain a master’s degree for art therapy

RELATED WEBSITES

Vision Nation: Careers in Art
www.visualnation.com

Arts & Science Council
www.artsandscience.org

College Art Association
www.collegeart.org

American Institute of Graphic Arts
www.aiga.org

North Carolina Arts Council
www.ncarts.org

HOW DO I KNOW IF IT’S RIGHT FOR ME?

ASSESS: Take a career assessment, such as the Strong Interest Inventory or MBTI, to see how your interests, values, and personality fit with majors and careers.

RESEARCH: Research the careers on this WCIDWAMI and thousands of other careers using these top career websites:


EXPLORE: Learn more about a career field of interest by job shadowing, attending a career panel, or participating in a Company Trek. Further your exploration while gaining valuable skills by completing an internship, co-op, volunteer, or research experience.

For the expanded version of this WCIDWAMI, visit career.uncc.edu/majors/art