

## Seattle Central College Transfer Major Planning Guide

# ART (Painting & Drawing, Ceramics, Photography, Sculpture)

### What can I do with a major in art?

Students who major in art go on to follow many paths after graduation with a bachelor's degree. Some will find work using their art training, either through teaching, art therapy, or non-profit work, or through commercial applications in advertising or design. Some will be self-employed. Others will work in other fields while still pursuing art. Some students may return to school to continue studying art and possibly teach at the university level.

There are many possible concentrations for students who plan to study art, including:

- Ceramics
- Interdisciplinary Arts
- Jewelry/Metal
- Painting & Drawing
- Photography
- Sculpture

Students can also pursue specific majors that would train them to teach art at the elementary and/or high school level or work as art therapists.

### How can I prepare at Seattle Central for a major in art?

Students planning to major in art at a baccalaureate institution can start at Seattle Central taking **general education requirements** and courses in the area of art they plan to study to prepare to transfer. Because art programs can have large numbers of required studio classes and may or may not accept Seattle Central courses as equivalent, it may be best to transfer after completing just a few quarters instead of completing an associate degree. Specific transfer credit policies and minimum credit requirements vary according to the transfer university, so it is **STRONGLY** recommended that students begin talking with admissions and transfer advisors at their potential transfer universities in their first quarters at Seattle Central. Students can then work with an advisor at Seattle Central to ensure they take the most appropriate classes before they transfer.

Students planning to major in art should consider working toward the Associate of Arts – DTA. Advisors can help students look at prerequisite requirements and choose the degree that will work best for them.

Consider an emphasis to your associate degree before you transfer, such as Equity & Social Justice or Global Studies. This can enhance your resume, personal experience and be something you put into your personal statement. You may even already have completed it without knowing it! For questions on how to plan your emphasis, please contact your advisor.

### Where can I earn a bachelor's degree in art in Washington?

Most universities in Washington offer a degree in art, and Washington also has several art schools, or universities that focus exclusively on the arts. Research your possible transfer universities to make sure

they offer the specialization that interests you and are a good fit for you in terms of location, cost, campus environment, general education, and extracurricular activities.

## What do I need to consider when I look for a transfer university?

**Art school vs. university:** Art students need to decide if they plan to attend an art school or a comprehensive university that offers majors in art. Students at an art school will usually spend more of their time in art classes and less time in general education classes. They will be surrounded by other students studying art, and their programs may be more focused on professional training and job placement. Students looking for a more traditional college experience, exposure to a wider variety of students and academic areas, or the opportunity to double-major or minor in a field other than art may be better served by a comprehensive university or a liberal arts college.

**Degree - BA vs. BFA:** Another thing aspiring art students should consider is whether they would prefer to earn a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in their chosen specialty. The BFA is more commonly offered at art schools, but can be earned at comprehensive universities as well. It usually requires that a larger percentage of the total credits a student earns be in studio art. A BA requires fewer credits of studio art which may allow a student to double-major or earn a minor in another field.

## Tips for Success as an Art Major

- Many university art programs will require a portfolio of previous work as part of the admissions process. Check university requirements and take classes at Seattle Central that can help to develop your portfolio.
- Check prerequisites, admission requirements, and GPA requirements at your intended transfer university early so you can be well-prepared to transfer.
- Most universities offer an art major, but the concentrations they offer vary. If you want to study printmaking, for instance, make sure your intended transfer university offers that focus.
- Check both university *admission* and *graduation* requirements at your preferred transfer university as a guide to choosing your classes. Some universities, for example, may require a year of foreign language as a graduation requirement. It may be much easier (and cheaper!) to meet that requirement at Seattle Central rather than waiting until later.

## Next Steps:

- Contact the universities you are interested in attending early in your time at Seattle Central to find out what their admission requirements are, what studio art classes offered at Seattle Central they will accept, and when they recommend that you apply to transfer.
- Meet with an advisor to choose a transfer degree, discuss prerequisites, and plan what classes you need to take in the next quarter or two.
- Explore the professional organizations in your area of interest for more information about education and career options.