Art

Overview

As an art major, you embark on a journey of visual investigation to develop your technical expertise and visual communication skills. The journey starts with courses in design and foundation-level drawing and culminates in the ideas and concepts you express in the Senior Thesis Exhibition. Our faculty are dedicated teachers and active artists. They expose you to a variety of artistic philosophies and professional practices. You can experiment or concentrate in a broad range of studio disciplines including ceramics, graphic design, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture.

Facilities

Cummings Arts Center has generous studios, darkrooms, computer laboratories and galleries supporting diverse disciplines. We also have newly renovated studios in sculpture, ceramics and printmaking and a new white-box gallery for student exhibitions and special projects. As a senior, you have a studio that is yours 24 hours a day, seven days a week for your thesis project.

Special Opportunities

Opportunities for collaboration abound. For example, professors Pamela Marks (art) and Marc Zimmer (chemistry) collaborated with art major Julia McGinley ’14 to develop illustrations for a children’s book on bioluminescence. And art professors Andrea Wollensak and Denise Pelletier collaborated with the computer science and botany departments to create courses investigating common themes and concepts. The Arboretum, greenhouse and Caroline Black Garden were the locus for the investigations.

Visiting Artists

The Dayton Artist-in-Residence and Weissman Visiting Artist programs make it possible for you to work on campus with leading national and international artists in workshops, studio classes and exhibitions. Visitors have included Maya Lin, Faith Ringgold, Sol LeWitt, Elena Sisto, John Cohen and Henry Horenstein. You also will have access to internships, retreats and trips to major art centers.

Q: Why Connecticut College?
A: The existence of the Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology assured me that Connecticut College supported the arts in all its forms, and that my work would evolve over time, even coming in experienced only in painting and drawing.

Q: Why did you decide to study art?
A: I came in knowing I wanted to major in art, and the amazing art department faculty gave me no doubts that I would be taken care of. With the variety of teaching styles, and the fluency in each of their mediums, I knew I had much to learn. That made me very excited with each class I took.

Q: What was your most challenging or rewarding class?
A: The most challenging and rewarding class was Nadav Assor’s “Video Installation” class. While it was understood that I was new to the medium, I had to adapt to learn new programs, find new sorts of objects and collaborate with people from different majors. Improvisation became a technique that I began to hone, and working with others was essential. It allowed me to be okay with not having complete control, and to be okay when things went wrong. It was truly rewarding to have others you worked with there to appreciate the final result with you.

Q: Did you study abroad?
A: I studied in Berlin, Germany. Instead of focusing on creating, I decided to focus more on the subject matter of my work by diving deep into a field I was interested in: the Berlin Wall and its history, as well as its effect today. So I did a Metropolitan Studies program, studying Berlin’s unique urban art scene, and took classes in sociology, urban studies, and gender and women’s studies. It truly helped me develop the ideas for my senior art thesis.

Juan Flores
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Faculty

**Nadav Assor, Assistant Professor of Art**
B.F.A., The Midrasha School of Arts, Beit Berl College, Israel; M.F.A., School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Expanded media; art and technology; interdisciplinary fine arts; arts education

**Pamela J. Marks, Associate Professor of Art**
B.F.A., University of Illinois; M.F.A., University of Arizona
Painting; drawing; color studies: theory and applications

**Gregory Bailey, Associate Professor of Art**
B.A., Sonoma State University; M.F.A., University of Hartford
Sculpture; mold making and casting; ceramic shell foundry process; welding and fabrication; wood construction; installation art

**Andrea Wollensak, Professor of Art**
B.F.A., University of Michigan; M.F.A., Yale University
Social design and collaborative community ventures; Mapping and visualizing data; Digital poetics; Site-specific installation works

**Timothy McDowell, Professor of Art**
B.F.A., Midwestern State University; M.F.A., The University of Arizona
Lithography; woodcut; monotype; etching, engraving and collograph; cyanotype; photomechanical image making

**Chris Barnard, Assistant Professor of Art**
B.A., Yale University; M.F.A., University of Southern California
Painting; drawing; two-dimensional art; art history; U.S. militarization and imperialism; critical discourse in contemporary art

**Denise Pelletier, Professor of Art; Chair of the Art Department**
B.F.A., University of Connecticut; M.F.A., Alfred University
Ceramics; sculpture, site-specific art

**Ted Hendrickson, Associate Professor of Art**
B.A., M.F.A., University of Connecticut; M.A.T., Rhode Island School of Design
Photography

Selected Courses

Concepts in Two Dimensions; Concepts in Three Dimensions; Concepts in Digital Process; Sculpture Workshop: Beyond the Object; Design Studies; Ceramic Sculpture: Moldmaking and Casting; Drawing: Methods; Printmaking: Exploration of Imagery Through Process; Color Studies: Theory and Applications; Large Format Painting; Sound Art; Experimental 3D; Science of Art: Rendering Through Optics

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College educates students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens in a global society. A leader in the liberal arts since 1911, the College is home to nationally ranked programs for internships, community action, arts and technology, environmental studies and international studies. Our beautiful 750-acre arboretum campus is located in the historic New England seaport community of New London, Conn.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A MAJOR IN ART?**

Animator, Pixar Studios
Exhibition Specialist, Bronx Zoo
Modeler, Dreamworks
Antique Motor Bike Builder, Eastern Fabrications
Art Teacher, Bangor School District
Visual Collections Archivist, Pixar Studios
Senior Creative Director, Crate and Barrel
Fine Arts Conservator, Philadelphia Museum of Art
Photostylist, Home Shopping Network
Web Designer, The Hartford
Art Director, The New York Times
Associate Professor of Art, Furman University
Character Artist, Riot Games
Design Director, Web MD
Interior Design Consultant, Honeywell
Visual Merchandiser, Reebok

**EXAMPLES OF STUDENT RESEARCH IN ART**

Hannah Plishtin ’13  
A merging of an art honors thesis with an Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology senior project consisting of watercolor paintings and video installation, exemplifying how analog and digital mediums can unite to more deeply understand a subject. Won the first place Leo & Ann Higdon Art Award.

Colin Forsyth ’15  
Modeling a 3D Historical Rendition: Process & Product

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