

III. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

This section contains information specific to students enrolled in any one of CVPA's undergraduate degree programs. This is meant as a quick reference for you. If you cannot find the information you need in this section, do not hesitate to contact the Assistant Dean's Office for further direction.

Academic Degrees

Users of this Student Manual are referred to the current University of Massachusetts Undergraduate General Catalogue for detailed information pertaining to each degree program and courses within each program or, visit CVPA's Website at www.umassd.edu/cvpa/.

BA Art History

BFA Art Education

BFA Visual Design with options in:

Electronic Imaging

Graphic Design

Illustration

Photography

BFA Artisanry with options in:

Ceramics

Jewelry / Metals

BFA Textile Design / Fiber Arts

BFA Painting / 2D Studies

BFA Sculpture / 3D Studies

BA Music with areas of study in:

Western Music

World Music/African American Music

Music Education

Music Technology

Minors are available in:

Minor in Art History

Minor in Music

Minor in Music Therapy

Certificate in Artisanry

Certificate in Fine Arts

Admissions Overview

Chances are, if you are reading this CVPA Student Manual for Undergraduate Students you have already been accepted into the College. If not, we refer you to the current UMass Dartmouth General Catalog for specific requirements for admission to the University. Information contained in this Student Manual reviews admission information relevant only to the College of Visual and Performing Arts. The Admissions Office request line can be reached at 508 999-8605.

There are two types of applicants: **Freshmen** and **Transfer**.

Freshman

All incoming freshmen into the visual arts programs (BFA candidates) are automatically enrolled in the Freshman Foundation Studio Art Program (see below). Freshmen are encouraged to seek admission as "Studio Art Unspecified." During your Foundation Year, you will have an opportunity to select a specific area of study in consultation with your advisor (see page 25 on "Faculty Advisors").

Transfer Students

Transfer students from other colleges and universities, and from within UMass Dartmouth, are admitted into specific majors only. Your Art Portfolio (see below) will be used as an aid in the evaluation of your previous work if submitted for transfer credit at UMass Dartmouth. CVPA offers extensive programming options within its areas of study (see page 10). Transfer students selecting a major with program options, such as Visual Design, will be required to select an option when accepted. Transfer students who wish to be admitted into courses above the sophomore level must bring a portfolio to Transfer Orientation. Acceptance into advanced courses is not automatic.

Freshman Foundation

The Freshman Foundation Studio Arts Program is a rigorous program designed to promote creativity and assist young artists to develop an understanding of the language of the visual arts. Emphasis is placed on developing drawing skills, refining abilities to work with two- and three-dimensional design problems, and identifying professional interests. Initially, Professor Bruce Maddocks, Director of the Program, acts as advisor to all students enrolled in the Program (See Page 25 on "Faculty Advisors").

All students entering their Freshman Year are pre-registered in a very specific set of courses regardless of discipline or individual direction. The curriculum includes two art history courses, two drawing courses, two two dimensional design courses, two three dimensional design courses, General English 101 and 102, and two Social Science courses of their choice.

(See current [UMass Dartmouth Undergraduate General Catalogue](#) for course descriptions.)

Additionally, as a freshman, you will attend a two-semester Freshmen Colloquium

designed to help you define your goals. The Graduate Assistant will conduct two interviews each semester with you in order to answer your questions and to explain the process by which you select a major.

Freshmen Advising

All Freshmen students are considered "undeclared" regardless of their interest; all Freshmen must select a major course of study in the spring around mid-semester. You will be directed by Professor Maddocks to indicate your field of interest. Professor Maddocks will then pass this information along to the appropriate Department Chair together with your transcript.

Finally, in the spring of your freshman year, representatives from each Department within the College will meet with students individually to help solidify each individual's goals. At this time, depending on the procedure within each Department, your official advisor will be assigned or chosen.