The Department of Art offers the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree with majors in Fine Arts, Graphic Design, and Digital Arts, and the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree with majors in Art Education and Art History. In addition, students may minor in Art History, or Fine Arts, or Digital Arts. Courses in art foundation studies and liberal learning are integral parts of the curriculum. The Art Department is committed to providing programs of study which develop a high level of conceptual and technical ability, resources beyond the studio for a broader education in the arts, exposure to and understanding of electronic media and methods of communication, and a balance between a demanding course of professional study and a liberal arts education.

The art facility features traditional studios as well as state-of-the-art computing and electronic media labs. The faculty of the Department of Art consists of scholars, exhibiting artists, and active professionals, and it is augmented by guest lecturers and adjunct professors who are practicing professionals in the New York-Philadelphia corridor. The department enjoys an enviable placement record in terms of graduate study and employment, and graduates of the program have attained positions of leadership in their respective fields. The College of New Jersey is located near the major art and design centers of New York and Philadelphia and students are encouraged and often required to visit museums, galleries, design studios, production houses, and other art facilities in these areas.

Admission Requirements

Acceptance to the studio majors (Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Digital Arts, and Art Education) offered by the Department of Art requires a successful portfolio review as well as admission by the College. After the department has received a copy of the student’s application from the Office of Admissions, it will review slide or digital portfolios. January admission candidates and early-decision candidates are reviewed in November. Regular September admission candidates are reviewed from December through March.

The portfolio should consist of:

a) Slides or a CD,

b) A numbered slide list indicating the title, materials and dimensions of the work, and

c) A one-page personal essay.

Slides or CD

Include 12 slides or images on a CD of original works demonstrating the applicant’s drawing and technical skills, creativity, and aesthetic ability. A substantial part of the portfolio should feature drawings (still life, figure, self-portrait, and assorted sketches). All work must be original. Copies of other artists’ work should not be included in the portfolio. In addition, the slides may document work in other media (painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography, mixed-media, digital media, and video). If possible, please also include at least one slide from a sketchbook. Professional presentation of the work is important. Please present documentation that is in-focus, well lit and shows your best work. Send numbered slides in a 8.5" x 11" clear slide sheet, indicating the front of the slide. A large dot should be placed in the lower left corner of the slide indicating which direction is up.
If images are saved on a CD, please follow these guidelines.

1. Format CD as MAC or cross platform.
2. Save all images as .tiff, .jpeg or .gif files.
3. Save each file with a name, lowercase and with no spaces. Do not begin a name with a number. An example of an appropriate name is: image_01 (no spaces, use underscore to denote space).

Slide List
Include a numbered slide list along with your submitted work. Indicate your name, date of completion, materials, and dimensions of the individual pieces.

Personal Essay
Please include a one-page, single-spaced statement that includes a brief description of who you are, and your experience in art and life. Your essay should include your major artistic and academic goals, and your reasons for wanting to specialize in the visual arts.

Enrollment in Department of Art Courses
Except for art courses which have specific non-art major sections and Art History courses, all art courses are restricted to art majors and minors. A non-major student who wishes to enroll in major courses must obtain permission from the chair of the department.

Art minors must report to the department chair for advisement and registration for art courses.

Studio Art Major General Requirements
All studio art majors are required to take AAH 105 and/or 106, AAH 115, AAH 116 or AAH 117, and AAH 250; AFA 111, 112, 113, 130; and ADA 180.

While the department supplies many materials, students are required to purchase materials in most studio courses. Art History and studio courses may require field trips at students’ expense.

Students who receive a grade of C- or lower in a major required course must repeat the course.

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards
Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for art programs. Minimum grades are noted in parentheses:

- Retention in the art studio majors (Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Digital Arts, and Art Education) is based on the following performance standards in these “critical content courses”: AFA 111 (B), AFA 112 (B), and AFA 113 (B).
- Transfer into the art studio majors from another program within the College is based upon the following performance standards in this “foundation course”: AFA 111 (Drawing) (B).
- Graduation requires a GPA of 2.0 in courses for the program and earning a minimum grade of C– in the following courses: all major courses.

Attendance Requirements
Participation is considered essential to the learning process. Therefore, more than two unexcused absences per course may be detrimental to the student’s final grade.
Transfer Students
Transfer students into studio art majors are required to take a minimum of 12 course units in TCNJ’s Department of Art. The 12 course-unit minimum cannot include credit by examination, student teaching, or internships. Portfolio admission requirements are explained under the admission requirements section above. Transfer students should include a copy of their transcript(s) with their portfolio.

The College Art Gallery
The Department of Art offers a program of diversified exhibitions throughout the academic year which includes national juried drawing and printmaking exhibitions. Additionally, there is an annual student exhibition with numerous awards. Students are encouraged to participate in the gallery program as gallery assistants.

Art Students’ Organizations
The Department of Art sponsors the student organization, the Art Students Association (ASA). Students are invited to join and become active members.

Art Education Major (ARTT) – BA Degree
Taylor, Coordinator

The conceptual framework for Art Education, as for all programs in professional education at The College of New Jersey, is creating exemplary professionals. Themes and outcomes associated with that framework are described in the School of Education section of the bulletin.

The Art Education major offers a Bachelor of Arts degree and qualifies an individual for New Jersey State Art Teacher Certification, kindergarten through twelfth grade. The required curriculum includes a full range of art studio, art history, and art therapy courses. Students are given opportunities to experience actual classroom environments and situations through observations and teaching practicum in both the junior and senior years. This program is designed to prepare the student as both artist and teacher.

Required studio courses include digital arts, drawing, design, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography, and the crafts. These courses and the required Sophomore Professional Experience, Art Education/Elementary and Secondary and Principles and Practices in Art Education lead to student teaching. A full semester of student teaching offers experiences at both elementary and secondary levels.

Candidates for a teacher-education certificate must have a 2.75 cumulative grade point average to successfully complete their teacher education program. They must also meet the state hygiene/physiology requirement and pass the appropriate Praxis examination before the New Jersey State Department of Education will issue the appropriate certificate. Teacher-education candidates will receive a ‘certificate of eligibility with advanced standing’ which requires a candidate to be provisionally certified for his or her first year of teaching. After one year of successful teaching, the candidate is eligible for a permanent certificate.

Students may take art therapy courses as an art option/elective. Art therapy certification may be obtained through completion of a graduate program in art therapy.
Course Requirements

Major Core:
AAH 105/Art History I
AAH 106/Art History II
AFA 111/Drawing I
AFA 112/Conceptual Art Studio
AFA 113/Color Theory/2D Design
AFA 130/Sculpture I

Major Options/Concentrations:
AAH 115/Arts of South Asia, or AAH 116/Arts of East Asia, or AAH 117/Arts of the Islamic World
ADA 180/Digital Arts: Imaging I
AFA 201/Figure Drawing
AFA 202/Printmaking
AFA 211/Painting
AAH 250/Contemporary Art
AFA 280/Photography I
Art Crafts Course

Professional Education Sequence
AAE 273/Sophomore Professional Experience
AAE 350/Orientation to Art Therapy
AAE 373/Art Techniques for Art Education: Elementary
AAE 374/Art Techniques for Art Education: Secondary
AAE 375/Principles, Practices, and Materials in Art Education
AAE 490/Student Teaching (2 course units)

Recommended First Year Program of Study

First Semester
FSP  First Seminar 1 course unit
AFA  111/Drawing 1 course unit
AFA  112/Conceptual Art Studio 1 course unit
AFA  113/Color Theory/2D Design 1 course unit

Second Semester
AFA  130/Sculpture 1 course unit
AFA  201/Figure Drawing 1 course unit
AAH  105/Art History I 1 course unit
WRI  102/Academic Writing (if not exempted)* 1 course unit

*It is recommended that students exempted from this course take another liberal learning course.

Total for Year 8 course units

Recommended Second Year Program of Study

First Semester
AAE  273/Sophomore Professional Experience 1 course unit
AAH  106/Art History II 1 course unit
AFA  202/Printmaking 1 course unit
Liberal Learning 1 course unit
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Second Semester
AAE 373/Art Techniques/Elementary 1 course unit
ADA 180/DA: Imaging I
AFA 211/Painting 1 course unit
Liberal Learning 1 course unit
Sophomore Review

Total for Year 8 course units

ART EDUCATION COURSES

AAE 273/Art Education Sophomore Professional Experience 1 course unit
(annually—fall)
An introductory course for art education students, integrating field experiences and analysis of grades K–12 in the contemporary school. Field observations in schools and other educational environments will be required.

AAE 350/Orientation to Art Therapy 1 course unit
(annually—fall)
An introduction to the field of art therapy, its relationship to psychotherapy, the role and function of the art therapist and professional standards.

AAE 355/Methods and Techniques in Art Therapy 1 course unit
(annually—spring)
Explores art psychotherapeutic procedures for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness and rehabilitation of the patient with a focus on the use of appropriate art materials and methods.

AAE 370/Topics in Art Education 1 course unit
(occasionally)
Advanced topics in art education and art therapy. May be repeated as topic changes.

AAE 373/Art Techniques for Art Education/Elementary 1 course unit
(annually—spring)
Prerequisite: AAE 273
An introduction for prospective art educators to philosophies and methods of teaching art at the elementary level. The emphasis will be on structuring substantive art learning experiences for elementary age school children. Course will help students develop teaching strategies for aesthetic education, art history, critical judgment, creative production and writing lesson plans. Hands-on studio component and field experiences will be required.

AAE 374/Art Techniques for Art Education/Secondary 1 course unit
(annually—fall)
Prerequisites: AAE 273, 373
Exploration of skills, knowledge and techniques necessary for planning and teaching art classes on the secondary level. Students will study the development of art education curricula and units of study for middle, junior and senior high school programs. Hands-on studio component and field experience will be required.
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AAE 375/Principles, Practices and Materials in Art Education 1 course unit
(annually—spring)
Prerequisites: AAE 273, 373, 374
Study and studio activities to develop knowledge and skills applicable to the elementary and secondary classroom. Field observations and participation will be required. Relationship of child growth to art, individual readiness, processes and materials, literature of the field, lesson, unit and curriculum planning in art. Participation in college-community program. Must be completed with at least a B grade before admission to student teaching.

AAE 391/Independent Study 1-2 course units
(every semester)
(May not be taken as a substitute for any other course.)
Prerequisites: Enrollment as an upper-division art education major; student must have taken a minimum of three courses in the major area. Preregistration with signed approval of an art education faculty sponsor and department chair.
For advanced work only. Individual, self-guided course of work under supervision of faculty advisor. Opportunity to develop personal interests within the major field. May be repeated.

AAE 490/Student Teaching in Art 2 course units
(every semester)
Prerequisites: AAE 273, 373, 374, including at least a B in AAE 375 and a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75
Semester of full-time student teaching participation at elementary and secondary grade levels during senior year. Observation, participation and responsible teaching under direct supervision of college supervisors.

Also see: Art-Art History; Art-Digital Arts; Art-Fine Arts; Art-Graphic Design