FAQ | Department of Art

What courses are recommended if I am curious about art and want an introduction to the practice?
ART 199 courses are studio offerings intended for non-majors; examples include Ceramics, Digital Photography, Watercolor and Book Arts.
ART 101 Understanding Contemporary Media (fall) and ART 111 Artists Experience (winter) are great surveys of contemporary practice with many guest lectures by Art faculty.
ART 115 Surface, Space and Time and ART 233 Drawing I are CORE studios introducing students to potentials of artmaking. They are also apply to the major requirements. ARTD 250, 251 and 252 are the introductory courses in Digital Arts open to all; they focus on Print Media, Time-based Media and Interactivity respectively.

What are the options for majors and minors?
There are two BA/BS major options in the Art Department: Art or Digital Arts.
Minors are available in Art, Digital Arts and Multimedia Design.

What are the advantages of becoming a major?
Priority enrollment for studio classes.
Access to the Department Undergraduate Advisor, who can help you with individualized advising and course planning.

How do I become a major?
For either of our majors, you must apply to the department, including a basic portfolio of past work.
Art: a rolling deadline, you can apply at any time if you are already a UO student.
Digital Arts: two application times a year – October 31 and February 1

What is the portfolio like?
It includes images of past work, anything that shows your creativity and point of view; for example, it could be work from classes or drawings and photographs you’ve done on your own. Don’t be intimidated; it is more straightforward than you think.

If I don’t get in can I apply again?
Absolutely. We encourage you to apply again.
You can go ahead and enroll in required courses. Work made in studio classes will enable you to build a portfolio. When you become a major, you will still be on track and on the same timeline to graduate.

Can I take classes if I am not a major?
Absolutely.
All Art courses are open to non-majors as long as you have the pre-requisites.
Lower division Digital Arts courses are open to non-majors.