Visual Art

Chair
Leslie A. Bostrom

A Visual Art education at Brown is a rich experience of conceptual challenge, skill-building, and self-discovery. Our students acquire the intellectual and practical tools to make art, as well as to interpret and critique the world of images. We offer a range of courses: drawing, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture, digital media, and video. Our students also have opportunities to take courses at the neighboring Rhode Island School of Design.

For additional information, please visit the department's website: https://www.brown.edu/art

Visual Art Concentration Requirements

The Visual Art concentration engages in artistic practice across a wide range of media: painting, sculpture, printmaking, drawing, photography, and digital imaging. Courses in art history combine with these to frame the direction of the concentrator’s work and to develop his or her critical thinking skills. Students are encouraged to cultivate an informed and thoughtful individual perspective. Students in the Visual Arts department enjoy cutting-edge facilities and a knowledgeable faculty. These two resources inspire creativity and pleasure in our concentrators while they explore the discipline. Students acquire the intellectual and practical tools to make art as well as to interpret and critique the world of images. Students also have the opportunity to take courses at the neighboring Rhode Island School of Design. All Visual Art (VISA) courses are graded S/NC (https://www.brown.edu/academics/college/degree/policies/grade-options).

Concentration Program Requirements

Concentration Requirements:
VISA 0100 Studio Foundation (Prerequisite for all upper-level studio courses) 1
2 of the following 5 discipline-based foundation courses are required. 2
VISA 0120 Foundation Media (This course is a prerequisite for upper-level Media courses such as New Genre and Video Art) 1
VISA 0130 3-D Foundation 1
VISA 0140 Photography Foundation 1
VISA 0150 Digital 2D Foundation 1
VISA 0160 Painting Foundation 1
5 additional upper level studio courses are required. A minimum of three elective studio courses must be taken in the Brown Visual Art Department 5

3 HIAA courses are required:
HIAA 0010 A Global History of Art and Architecture 1
1 course covering Modern or Contemporary Art History such as those listed below 1
HIAA 0801 Art After ‘68
or HIAA 0810 20th Century Sculpture
or HIAA 0870 20th Century British Art: Edwardian to Contemporary 1

One additional History of Art and Architecture course. 1

Senior Thesis Exhibition: which does not carry academic credit, is required for graduation (usually presented during the seventh or eighth semester). 1

Total Credits 11

Honors

The project is a two-semester enterprise and counts as two courses taken for graduation credit VISA 1800C (Sem I) and VISA 1990 (Sem II) but will not count as two of the eleven courses needed for the visual art concentration. Students that are planning to complete their degree requirements in December must apply for honors by December 5 of the previous year.

Courses

Drawing on-site and in the studio from nature, still life and the imagination in a variety of media. Great emphasis is placed on creative work and classroom participation. Weekend field trips are required. Course taught in Comillas, Spain.

VISA 0062. Printmaking Workshop.
No description available.

This high immersion studio class will investigate painting based on information collected from the surrounding environment and within the town of Comillas, Spain. Assignments will relate to the ocean, mountains, animals and Northern Spanish culture with an emphasis on color. Assignments will stem from direct observation and selected visual findings within the landscape, field trips and local architecture. The class will accommodate both beginning and advanced level students through individual and group critiques.

VISA 0064. Sculpture/Installation/Site Work.
No description available.

VISA 0070. From Beginning to End: Process and Creation.
This course, collaboratively offered by the Visual Art Department and Brown Arts Initiative, will be based in Los Angeles and focus on the intersection of visual art, film and the music industry while addressing artistic practice throughout the creation process. Each week will follow a three-part analytical framework based on the notions of idea, creation, and public presentation. Discussions with artists, musicians, curators, filmmakers, writers and actors will provide professional perspectives to students who have an interest in one or more areas within the arts.
Meetings with artists will be supported by studio and museum visits, screenings and concerts.

VISA 0100. Studio Foundation.
Required for all VA and RISD courses (with the exception of VISA0120, VISA0130, VISA0140, VISA0150 and VISA0160). Covers the basics of drawing and 2D design while cultivating the capacity for visual thinking. The Registrar’s Office manages an online lottery for registration for this popular course. Students not enrolled through the lottery should attend the first class meeting.

Fall VISA0100 S01 16794 MW 1:00-2:50(05) (L. Correa-Carlo)
Fall VISA0100 S02 16795 MW 4:00-5:50(05) (L. Correa-Carlo)
Fall VISA0100 S03 16796 TTh 1:00-2:50(05) (A. Evans)
Fall VISA0100 S04 16797 TTh 4:00-5:50(05) (A. Evans)
Fall VISA0100 S05 16798 MW 10:00-11:50(05) (A. McNeary)
Fall VISA0100 S06 16799 MW 1:00-2:50(05) (A. McNeary)
Fall VISA0100 S07 16800 T 9:00-12:50(05) (D. Hoffman)
Spr VISA0100 S01 25977 MW 1:00-2:50(12) (L. Correa-Carlo)
Spr VISA0100 S02 25978 MW 4:00-5:50(12) (L. Correa-Carlo)
Spr VISA0100 S03 25979 TTh 1:00-2:50(12) (A. Evans)
Spr VISA0100 S04 25980 TTh 4:00-5:50(12) (A. Evans)
Spr VISA0100 S05 25981 W 9:00-12:50(12) ’To Be Arranged’
Spr VISA0100 S06 25982 Th 9:00-12:50(12) ’To Be Arranged’
Spr VISA0100 S07 25983 M 9:00-12:50(12) (A. McNeary)

VISA 0110. Advanced Studio Foundation.
Some students arrive at Brown with a greater understanding of visual art principles than most, yet need an introduction to other aspects before taking more advanced courses. Figure drawing is practiced throughout the semester, utilizing a variety of media. Weekly outside assignments explore diverse themes and become the subject of comprehensive class discussions. Portfolio review required for admission submitted one week prior to the start of classes. See morning mail & department website for details. Students will be notified by the end of the first week of classes.
Visual Art

VISA 0120. Foundation Media.
Foundation media focuses on the production and theory of time-based digital media and introduces the computer as a medium and a tool for art. Students will experiment with the production of video, sound, and interactive media. Students will examine and produce work that is multidisciplinary in nature, combining aspects of critical discourse, art, and technology.

Fall VISA0120 S01 16801 TTh 10:00-11:50(13) (E. Osborn)
Spr VISA0120 S01 25985 TTh 10:00-11:50(09) (E. Osborn)

VISA 0130. 3-D Foundation.
This is an extensive study in form and structure. It is designed to develop spatial understanding and the fundamentals of 3-dimensional design and construction. Students will explore the structural, compositional and conceptual implications of common materials, such as wood, metal, plaster and found objects. Projects are designed as a means for investigating a variety of sculptural processes. Students will learn safe usage of power and hand tools, casting techniques, wood and metal work. In addition, special emphasis will be placed on creativity, critical thinking and the ability to successfully articulate ideas visually.

VISA 0140. Photography Foundation.
This class is a wide ranging technical and conceptual introduction to photography. Through weekly projects, students will be exposed to 19th-21st century photo processes. Topics covered include cameras, lenses, software, darkroom overview, scanning, natural and artificial lighting, alternative processes as well as concepts such as selective focus, color temperature, composition. Short readings and in-class slide presentations on a diverse range of photographers will introduce students to the history of photography. This course will prepare students for upper level Photography classes at Brown and RISD.

Fall VISA0140 S02 16804 T 1:00-4:50(08) (R. Ross)
Spr VISA0140 S01 25987 T 9:00-12:50(09) (R. Ross)

VISA 0150. Digital 2D Foundation.
This foundation studio course introduces the basic practices and concepts of two-dimensional digital media production including image acquisition, editing and manipulation, vector illustration, and preparation for online and offline viewing. Through studio exercises, readings, and assignments we will experiment with the production of electronic images. We will be looking at and producing work that is conscious and critical in nature, and which combines aspects of contemporary art, media, and technology. Collaboration and group work will be encouraged to share learning techniques and skill resources.

Fall VISA0150 S01 16899 M 9:00-12:50(01) (V. Charlesworth)
Fall VISA0150 S02 16800 T 1:00-4:50(08) (V. Charlesworth)
Spr VISA0150 S01 25988 Th 4:00-7:50(17) (L. Beeferman)
Spr VISA0150 S02 25989 F 9:00-12:50(02) (L. Beeferman)

VISA 0160. Foundation Painting.
Painting in acrylics for a variety of interests and aptitudes - basic instruction in media and painting procedure, emphasis on development of the image as a visual statement. Will cover basic color principles, painting techniques and concepts. Assignments cover a wide range of approaches including painting from observation, the model, individual research, and imagination. Images, related books, and articles are discussed. Individual criticism is given; participation in group discussions is required. Students not admitted during pre-registration should attend the first class.

Fall VISA0160 S01 16808 M 9:00-12:50(01) (L. Tarentino)

VISA 0710. Introduction to Filmmaking: Time and Form (MCM 0710).
Interested students must register for MCM 0710.

VISA 0730. Introduction to Video Production: Critical Strategies and Histories (MCM 0730).
Interested students must register for MCM 0730.

VISA 0750. Digital Art (MCM 0750).
Interested students must register for MCM 0750.

VISA 0800H. TV/Not TV: Theory and Production (MCM 0800H).
Interested students must register for MCM 0800H.

VISA 1000. The Arts Workshop for Practice and Practice-Oriented Research (LITR 1000).
Interested students must register for LITR 1000.

Fall VISA1000 S01 17686 Arranged 'To Be Arranged'

VISA 1080. The School of Arte Útil.
Arte Útil was conceived by artist Tania Bruguera in 2013 to address art’s use as a tool for social & political change. Whether through self-organized groups, individual initiatives, or rise of user-generated content, people are developing new methods and social formations to deal with issues that were once the domain of the state. These initiatives are not isolated incidents, but also part of an art history that has been neglected, yet shapes our contemporary world. Interested students must complete this form (https://tinyurl.com/ybttl2r4), and must attend all scheduled classes during shopping period for consideration. Questions? Contact: TA, zohar_frank@brown.edu

VISA 1110. Drawing.
This course focuses on drawing from models, observation, and imagination in a variety of media with an emphasis on creative work and classroom participation. A continuing series of outside assignments will be considerable. Visits to galleries and museums, and pertinent exhibitions and projects may be undertaken. The later part of this course will introduce ideas of conceptual and political art into the drawing process. Prerequisite: VISA 0100. Enrollment restricted to 20 students. 18 seats available during pre-registration. Students not admitted during pre-registration should attend the first meeting. Overrides for this course are available upon request after the first class.

Spr VISA1110 S01 25980 TTh 9:00-10:50(01) (P. Myoda)

VISA 1120. Drawing II
Drawing from the imagination, the model, and landscapes in a variety of media. Great emphasis is placed on creative work and on classroom participation. Prerequisite: VISA 0100 or 0110. This course restricted to 20 students. 18 seats will be available during pre-registration. This class will satisfy VA concentration requirement for drawing. Students who are not admitted during pre-registration or were unable to pre-register should attend the first meeting.

VISA 1130. Drawing for Projection.
A studio course which will address the issues and techniques of drawing for motion, animation and/or projection. We will undertake one semester-long project undertaken with several short parallel works.

VISA 1140. Monumental Drawing.
Monumental Drawing is an immersive studio art course exploring expansive, experimental approaches to drawing. Large-scale, ambitious projects will engage risk-taking and developing meaning through intensive studio work. Contemporary drawing has become a powerful medium in its own right. From process and experiential beginnings to site-specific and conceptual directions, artists have pushed the medium with ideas and projects that challenge any restrictive definition of the medium. Through innovations in concept, materials, form and location, there are limitless ways of approaching the making of and defining what a drawing can be. Studio projects assigned will explore and expand upon these ideas.

VISA 1160. Drawing with Watercolor.
This course will be a rigorous examination of the possibilities of drawing with watercolor, with an emphasis on unorthodox use of the watercolor medium. Because the basis of watercolor is sound drawing, there will be considerable emphasis on understanding and practicing fundamental concepts and skills as perspective, value, composition, scale, rendering, etc. Required prerequisite: VISA 0100 or by permission.

Spr VISA1160 S01 26024 MW 1:00-3:50(06) (L. Tarentino)

Nature of Interpretation is a studio art course with a seminar component. We will consider science and scientific images as conceptual frameworks for making and looking at art images. Students will learn the basics of digital image acquisition and production, and develop a series of digital and/or digital-photographic artworks that respond to the themes and methodologies of the course. Art, History of Art, and Science background desired– Not required.
VISA 1210A. Big Woodcut. This class will work both in black and white, as well as in color, using a reduction process. The emphasis will be on printing on a large scale, using various types of paper. Much independent work will be required, along with participation in classroom discussions and critiques. Lottery for spaces reserved for nonconcentrators. Prerequisite: VISA 0100.

VISA 1210B. Etching. Covers all aspects of black and white etching, using zinc plates. Combines an emphasis on traditional skills and craft with a critical and theoretical approach to images. Extensive outside work required. Prerequisite: VISA 0100 or VISA 0110.

VISA 1210C. Investigating Collage. This course will be an artistic and intellectual investigation of 2-dimensional collage, which is the juxtaposition or arrangement of multiple images or parts of images to create fresh meanings and narratives. We will be working mostly with scissors, paper, painting, painting, and glue, supplemented with slides and reading. Use of the computer to complete some assignments will be optional. Prerequisite: VISA 0100 or VISA 0110.

VISA 1210D. Lithography I & II. Lithography is the most versatile printmaking process. Working on limestone and aluminum plates, students will learn to produce, process and print their work. Class participation is vital, as students will be adding each other in this complicated process. This course requires considerable time outside of class. Lithography can be repeated, with experienced students learning multi-plate color processes.

VISA 1210E. Printmaking. This course covers a range of traditional and digital printmaking processes. The course will explore how traditional and digital techniques can be used together and how they may interact with and influence one another. Work will be in both black and white and color. Prerequisite: VISA 0100 or VISA 0110.

VISA 1210F. Relief Printing. No description available. Prerequisite: VISA 0100 or VISA 0110.

VISA 1210G. Silkscreen. This course will provide students with a thorough knowledge of both water-based screen printing techniques and digital imaging. The intersection of digital printing processes and screen printing within the context of contemporary works on paper will be explored through a series of experimental mixed-media projects. Work will be in both black and white and color. Prerequisite: VISA 0100 or VISA 0110. This course restricted to 17 students. Students who are not admitted during pre-registration or were unable to pre-register should attend the first class.

VISA 1210I. Woodcut. Woodcut, the simplest printmaking method, has been used as a communication device for more than a thousand years. Students will work in both black and white and color to address contemporary issues. The history and aesthetics of the political poster will provide the foundational knowledge for the class. Prerequisite: VISA 0100 or VISA 0110. Enrollment limited to 17. Students who are not admitted during pre-registration or who were unable to pre-register should attend the first class.

VISA 1210J. Making Monotypes: Ideas Through Printed Variation. The aim of the course is to understand the variability, sequencing potential and the inherent luminosity of the monotype medium and to use these attributes to discover and advance one’s own visual ideas. Monotype refers to the making of a single unique print through press and non-press means. Several rapid projects with themes will precede a longer series culminating in a final epic portfolio of independent content. Individual, peer, and small and large group critiques will occur weekly for feedback. Students who are not admitted during pre-registration or were unable to pre-register should attend the first meeting.

VISA 1210K. Digital Printmaking. This studio art course investigates possibilities for using the computer along with traditional painting and printmaking processes to produce image-based intermedial work. We will explore how computers and computer networks have changed the creation, content, form, distribution, and exhibition of artwork through a series of assignments, readings, discussions, and slide lectures, and how computers and digital media can intersect with a traditional studio practice. Students will produce a portfolio of mixed-media work. Photoshop, Illustrator, the internet, and digital printers, along with traditional painting, drawing, and printing mediums will be used as tools for art-making.

VISA 1240. Art of the Book. Will examine the book, structurally and conceptually, as artist's medium. Students will learn the materials, tools and techniques of making books, as they explore the expressive and narrative possibilities of the book form. Topics and projects may include digital imaging, combining text and image, traditional binding or digital publishing. Students who are not admitted during pre-registration or were unable to pre-register should attend the first meeting.

VISA 1300. Words in Painting. Words in painting introduce sound into what is usually a silent experience; they force the viewer to both look and read. Writing is a form of drawing. Words can be poetry, advertising, or labeling. Words can be admired abstractly for their form. For much of history, words and pictures have been used to tell important stories, deliver political content, or sell consumer goods. This course will examine the use of words in contemporary painting through readings, slides, and discussion. A series of painting assignments will address the artistic problems of using words.

VISA 1310. Beginning Painting. This painting course explores ideas and concepts in contemporary painting and emphasizes individual projects based on prompts. Students will experiment with materials, color and scale strengthening ideas through individual investigations into content and context. Critiques, readings, writing assignments and final projects will be supplemented by research into artists and movements that have developed within the last several decades. Enrollment limited to 14. Prerequisites: VISA 0100.

VISA 1320. Advanced Painting. This course is an in-depth investigation of contemporary painting practices and concepts, with a strong emphasis placed on critique. Experimentation and exploration of individual themes is emphasized. Affords an opportunity for in-depth investigations of painting techniques and ideas and the development of a series of works reflecting an individual creative vision.

VISA 1320A. Advanced Painting: The Mediated Image. In this advanced course we will explore how painting might serve as a lens through which to view and respond to the digital world. An emphasis will be placed on exploration of individual interests; students will choose a subject to research (i.e. digital aesthetics, computer graphics, photography, video, gaming, automation, social media, digital culture, privacy, identity, online shopping, etc) and will work on painting projects related to their chosen topics. The course introduces photo-silkscreen, digital painting and printing, and image transfer techniques into experimental painting-based studio practices. Course is restricted to Visual Art concentrations or by permission of the instructor.
Interested students must register for MCM 1700D.

This studio course will examine the crossover between decorative arts and painting. Drawing upon sources such as fashion, textiles, adornments, jewelry, furniture, hair and architecture we will study how design aesthetics demonstrate class, position, lineage or a particular period in the history of painting and embellishment. Students will be encouraged to experiment with a wide variety of media and work on projects based on their selected researched subject areas. Enrollment limited to 14.

Fall VISA1410 S01 16839 TTh 12:00-3:50(08) (P. Myoda)
Spr VISA1420 S01 25993 TTh 12:00-3:50(08) (P. Myoda)

VISA 1430. Elm Tree Project.
This is an intensive studio course requiring a considerable out of class time commitment.

VISA 1510. Black and White Photography.
This course offers introduction to traditional black and white 35mm darkroom techniques, including processing film, silver gelatin printing and related techniques. While the class is primarily a studio course, it will be supplemented by weekly slide presentations and discussions of assigned readings. Slide presentations will focus on individual photographers in the history of the medium. Topics of discussion will include photographic genres, the photo essay, editing and sequencing a body of work, personal visions, social and political context, documentary versus art photography. Students may check out 35 mm film camera from the Dept.

Fall VISA1510 S01 16832 TTh 9:00-12:50(02) (T. Ganz)
Spr VISA1510 S01 25994 MW 1:00-3:50(06) (T. Ganz)

VISA 1520. Digital Photography.
Over 1.8 billion photographs are uploaded to the Internet each day. Since everyone's a 'photographer', what type are you? While we constantly produce images for ourselves and others in private and public, this course will ask students to critically rethink this tool. Image-making, from "capture" to "color-correction" and beyond will be consciously addressed, as we approach photography from the perspective of contemporary art practice and produce a final portfolio of prints. Class will be discussion, slideshow, studio and critique. Prior experience in photography preferred not required. A digital SLR type camera may be checked out from the Department.

Fall VISA1520 S01 16837 MW 1:00-4:50(06) (R. Ross)
Spr VISA1520 S01 25965 MW 9:00-1:50(02) (T. Ganz)

VISA 1700D. Reframing Documentary Production: Concepts and Questions (MCM 1700D).
Interested students must register for MCM 1700D.

VISA 1700N. Open Source Culture (MCM 1700N).
Interested students must register for MCM 1700N.

VISA 1700P. Radical Media (MCM 1700P).
Interested students must register for MCM 1700P.

VISA 1700R. The Art of Curating (MCM 1700R).
Interested students must register for MCM 1700R.

VISA 1700S. Narrative and Immersion (MCM 1700S).
Interested students must register for MCM 1700S.

VISA 1710. Site and Sound.
This studio course provides an overview of contemporary sound art, facilitates the development of site-based sonic artwork, and encourages a critical approach to sound and audio practice. Work to be developed for and from specific sites with special emphasis placed on modes of listening and the physical characteristics of sound itself. Examples of site-specific sound work in a variety of formats including performance, installation, sculpture, literature, and radio are presented and analyzed.

VISA 1720. Physical Computing.
This studio course provides an overview of contemporary video art and video installation practices, facilitates the development of video work in expanded space, and encourages a critical approach to interactive moving image practice. Students will develop a set of video installation pieces for particular spaces and situations beyond the standard single-screen video format. Basic video production and post-production techniques will be covered and complimented by readings and screenings.

VISA 1740. Time Deformation.
This studio course explores modes of electronic media by focusing on time as a primary material. Students will develop projects for specific sites and situations in response to assigned topics individually and in groups. Selected works in video, sound, performance, and online media that make innovative use of temporal strategies will be examined. Production work will be complimented by technical lectures, readings and discussions, and screenings.

VISA 1800A. Accessorizing Painting: The Exalted Surface.
This studio course will examine the crossover between decorative arts and painting. Drawing upon sources such as fashion, textiles, adornments, jewelry, furniture, hair and architecture we will study how design aesthetics demonstrate class, position, lineage or a particular period in the history of painting and embellishment. Students will be encouraged to experiment with a wide variety of media and work on projects based on their selected researched subject areas. Enrollment limited to 14 Visual Art concentrators. Prerequisite: VISA 1310.

VISA 1800B. Elm Tree Project: Site and Material.
No description available.

VISA 1800C. Honors Seminar.
Required for students who have been accepted as candidates for honors. The seminar meets weekly to discuss readings and for group critiques. Includes group trips to New York and Boston, to visit galleries, museums, and artists' studios. Instructor permission required. Must be accepted into Honors Program.

Fall VISA1800C S01 16840 TTh 1:00-3:50(08) (E. Osborn)

An exploration of "queer" work explored through readings, slides, videos, and studio projects. Discussion of foundational texts of queer theory and how they have influenced art of the last decade. Requires serious commitment to both intellectual work and studio practice.

VISA 1800E. Installation of Mixed Media.
No description available.
VISA 1800F. Interactivity and the Intersections of Virtual and Physical Space.
A multidisciplinary study of interactivity and production and installation of interactive sculpture. Students revisit methods in drawing, painting, sculpture; consult research studies in the psychology of interactive tasks; and survey theoretical discussion in New Media. These principles are directly applied to produce artwork that merges, or hybridizes, virtual and physical space. Applications required.

Contemporary artists are makers, researchers, writers, curators. This is a hybrid seminar/ studio course on the global practice of contemporary art and how we can apply those lessons to our own artmaking. We will focus on questions such as “How do artists run their studios”, “What is the place of history and identity?” and “How does art function as a commodity?” Class projects will include short writings and making objects. We will visit artists studios and have artists come to talk to us. Department trips to New York will be a part of the curriculum.

VISA 1800H. Negotiating the Everyday.
This seminar contains three chapters: maps, public art and the art of everyday. Through these three lenses we will investigate the ways in which art has tried to negotiate and respond to the everyday world. Each section will involve both reading/discussion production and critiques.

VISA 1800I. Painting III.
No description available.

VISA 1800K. Microscopy in the Visual Arts.

VISA 1800L. Hybrid Art: Bricolage.
The theme of the course is bricolage; a process which develops novel solutions to problems by making use of previously unrelated knowledge, ideas and objects.

Visual artists don’t have agents or managers—you have to do it all yourself. This class covers business basics including tracking inventory and preparing invoices; taking legal precautions like registering a copyright and drafting consignment forms; using promotional tools; and making decisions such as choosing the right venue for your work. Grants, residencies, and relationships with galleries & nonprofit institutions will be discussed in depth. Work will emphasize community the practical, skills to thrive as a visual artist. Enrollment limited to 20 juniors and seniors in Visual Art.

Will explore experimental musical instrument design, and by extension, experimental musical composition and performance. Students will develop an understanding of the science and art of instrument design through readings, listening exercises, and workshops. Concurrently, students will learn how to conceptualize, design, and fabricate their own experimental instruments using a variety of hand and machine tools. Percussive, stringed, and wind instruments will all be considered. Additionally, a select number of electronic devices and digital processing techniques will also be introduced. Individual and group musical compositions will be developed over the course of the semester, and performed in midterm and final concerts. Enrollment limited to 20. Instructor permission required.

VISA 1800R. Sonic Psychogeography (MUSC 1240A).
Interested students must register for MUSC 1240A.

This course will explore the connections between the science of visual perception and art and design. A variety of visual systems will be studied, including those beyond human perception. Pivotal visual issues in nature and design such as coloration, contrast, patterning, and the role of edges in nature and design will be central to our work. Through a combination of lectures, visiting artists and scientists, hands-on design assignments and scientific experiments, the class will explore connections between camouflage and signaling communication in the animal world and their adaptive use as shared principles in art, advertising, logos and symbols. The class will pay particular attention to the physics of light, and its effect on visual perception and visual illusion. Enrollment limited to 12.

Work on an approved project leading to the presentation of a portfolio, under supervision of an individual member of the staff. Project proposals must be filed with the department no later than the first week of the semester. Section numbers vary by instructor.

Section numbers vary by instructor.

VISA 2450. Exchange Scholar Program.

VISA XLIST. Courses of Interest to Visual Arts Concentrators.
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Helvetica was used instead of Arial.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.