

Fine Arts

Artists have produced forms of human expression throughout history that embody cultural identities and values in unique ways. In order to understand how such forms may contribute to the constitutions of cultures, it is important to understand their historical context and how they express meaning. Each artistic discipline uses particular materials with distinct expressive qualities. The artist learns what the significant qualities of the materials are and how they may be manipulated to create and express meaning. Likewise, the receiver of the work must also possess a certain familiarity with the significant qualities of the material in order to actively find meaning, analyze, and appreciate the art form.

In keeping with the goals of a liberal education, Fine Arts aims to develop aesthetic literacy, to cultivate a critical awareness of the aesthetic dimensions of everyday life and culture, and to encourage an exploration of individual creative expression. Because students arrive at St. Thomas with different degrees of experience of the Fine Arts, the courses eligible for the Fine Arts requirement have been selected for their accessibility to people with a wide variety of experience in the particular disciplines.

Students in the BA Programme will be required to select 12 credit hours in Fine Arts, and may choose some of them from the following cross-listed courses:

Fine Art Cross Listings

ANTH 2633	Issues in Ethnomusicology
ANTH 3313	Anthropology of Art and Communication
ANTH 3673	World Music
IRSH 2003	Art of the Golden Age: the Book of Kells
JOUR 2043	Photojournalism
NATI 2206	Traditional and Contemporary Native Arts of the Atlantic Region
PHIL 2523	Introduction to Aesthetics
RELG 2283	Religion and Art
SOCI 3563	Sociology of Music
SOCI 3573	Sociology of Art and Culture

In addition to these courses, there will be a list of FNAR (Fine Arts) courses offered regularly in the FNAR Programme. However, this list is not yet available at the time of printing the paper calendar for 2005-2006.

2133. Musical Theatre History and Performance (Special Topics for 2004-2005)

This course will explore the development of musical theatre from the late 19th century to the present. Emphasis will be on 20th century repertoire from book musicals, musical comedies, revues, film musicals, vaudeville, Broadway, Off-Broadway and West End productions. Students will also learn techniques in voice, singing, acting, and movement, and will perform scenes, solos, duets, and ensemble selections from modern and contemporary musicals. The course will culminate in a cabaret-style performance in the Black Box theatre for a public audience. 3 credit hours.

2233. Art of the Middle Ages (Special Topics for 2004-2005)

This course will examine many genres of medieval art, including manuscript illumination, architecture, painting, stained glass, and sculpture, using examples from Western Europe, the Islamic World (especially Spain), and Byzantium. 3 credit hours.