



Department of Art & Art History
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Dear 42 Credit Studio Art Majors,

The BFA Review will be conducted remotely via Zoom this spring.

Please find attached the application forms and course of study information for the BFA Program. Please contact Staesi Davis with any questions about the forms, at ada0002@hunter.cuny.edu. Anyone with questions about the program should email me, Prof. Tom Weaver, at thomas.h.weaver@gmail.com, or Prof. Reiner Leist at rleist@hunter.cuny.edu as soon as possible. For questions about your transcript and credits, contact the undergraduate advisor, Hannah Schutzengel at hs1192@hunter.cuny.edu.

The **deadline** for emailing your application materials is **Monday, May 2**. Please send your application directly to me at the above email address (Subject: BFA Application) and copy Staesi Davis of the art office at ada0002@hunter.cuny.edu. Committee members will review your application materials prior to interviews.

The **BFA Applicant Review** will take place on **Wednesday, May 18**, beginning at 1:30 pm. All eligible candidates will be emailed a Zoom link and conference time slot and will meet with the committee **individually** for 20 – 30 minutes. When you submit your application, please advise Staesi Davis and I about any schedule conflicts for the afternoon on May 18.

The basic criteria for eligibility to apply are:

1) Completion this spring or during the coming summer of all courses required for the 42 credit BA major. As long as you have taken three art histories, any of them can be applied to your BFA credits. While the catalogue specifies certain studio courses (ARTCR & ARTLA), all can be applicable to your eligibility as long as you have completed four courses in your area of concentration. You need not apply with work from your area.

2) Completion of a minimum of 90 credits toward the 120 credit BA degree as per Hunter requirements, such that courses in other areas such as Common Core Requirements, science and language have been satisfied before fall, 2022 semester. Once accepted into the BFA, your BFA credits can be applied to the 120-degree major (categories of courses to satisfy BA requirements generally still apply). During your time in the BFA program outside coursework will hamper your art activity and is strongly discouraged.

Let me discuss some immediate concerns you may have about the application information attached and about the review process this spring.

The BFA committee is aware that students have not had access to department facilities as consistently as usual. We will do our best to make allowances for these circumstances.

1) The committee will review the two letters of recommendation in your application from faculty who know you. Added letters are welcome, and letters from part-time instructors are welcome.

2) The committee will rely on your statement to understand your goals as artists and knowledge of your preferred area(s) of practice. Make sure your statement is as substantive as possible. Discuss the sources and causes of your artwork, how you work, artists whose work has been important to you, and the theories and writers whose texts have resonated with you. Your writing skills are not a concern to the committee; any way that you can communicate your creative identity, knowledge, abilities, and commitment will be valuable for our deliberations.

3) You are advised to send whatever documentation of work that you have available for the committee to consider in advance, along with your other application materials. For the actual review, we will ask you to share your screen on Zoom with the committee to look at work, via a slide presentation. While work sent in advance will help the committee, it will be the work you show in the Zoom review that will count as your official presentation. Please include information about the work in your Zoom presentation: date, title and medium. Let us know if you want to present time-based work and we will allow up to 10 additional minutes during the review to see the work. Not sending work in advance will not count against you in the review but keep in mind that time-based work sent in advance will be able to receive more deliberate consideration. It is also possible to hang or assemble work in any space you have available that the committee can review via a video walk through, but a slide presentation will allow you to show the work most clearly.

4) Due to circumstances, it is important to strategize and consider your options. Please be aware that you are entitled to apply again, *as long as you do not apply to graduate*.

5) Broadly speaking, the BFA committee will consider three levels of achievement in your work:

A) Engagement with substantive concerns, whether “formal” (art languages), referential (the world), or both.

B) Ability to work generatively with your chosen form(s) of mediation.

C) A developing understanding of the ideas and practices that have established consequential work in your area.

D) Our understanding of your ability to self-motivate and self-direct your own creative goals and methods.

Once in the program you will be primarily presenting finished work without the usual assignments, so growth in the program is only possible through your preparedness to make self-directed work. While all four qualities listed above may not yet be visible in work you show, continued effort can be expected to yield growth in all areas. For this reason, we encourage your perseverance regardless of the outcome of the review, with the expectation that it may well yield positive results for you over time. We are still living in a tough moment, so the committee encourages you to be generous with yourself and give yourself a chance to develop as needed in the future.

With Best Wishes,

Professor Tom Weaver