

Painting



Northern Illinois University's painting program provides you with a thorough understanding of the theory and practice of painting. Artistic independence is achieved through an understanding of the constantly shifting balance between form, content and subject matter in the pluralistic realm of painting.

Our Program

Our purpose is to give you a combined emphasis on the mastery of formal/visual language, knowledge of past and current painting issues, social and cultural awareness, and a deep attention to the role of creativity and imagination in art. We'll help you to integrate theory with practice and unify your artistic vision with varied professional goals.

Clubs, Groups, Events

An active visiting artist and scholar program enhances our illustration program at the School of Art and Design. Visiting artists and scholars are scheduled throughout the academic year, giving you the opportunity to meet like-minded people working in their field.

Faculty and Opportunities

Painting studio facilities include a spacious studio dedicated to oil painting, a watercolor studio and individual undergraduate studios available to junior and senior studio artists.

Faculty

Nina Rizzo — nrizzo@niu.edu

Frank Trankina — ftrankina@niu.edu

Geoffrey Todd Smith — gtsmith@niu.edu



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

School of Art and Design

College of Visual and Performing Arts

PAINTING AT NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Degree Requirements

NIU's painting program provides you with a thorough understanding of the theory and practice of painting. Our program asks that you approach this process with an open mind, a sense of inquiry, experimentation across media and the willingness to take creative risks in the pursuit of originality and artistic freedom. Artistic independence is achieved through an understanding of the constantly shifting balance between form, content and subject matter in painting.



Basic Requirements (9 credit hours)

- ART 100 Drawing Foundation I (3)
- ART 102 2D Foundation (3)
- ART 103 3D Foundation (3)

Art History Requirements (12 credit hours)

- ARTH 282 Intro to World Art (3)
- ARTH 292 Intro to Modern Arts & Design (3)
- ARTH Elective 300/400 level (3)
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Core Studio Requirements (24 credit hours)

- ARTS 200 Beginning Life Drawing (3)
- ARTS 321 Water-based or ARTS 323 Painting I (3)
- ARTS 327 Beginning Illustration (3)
- ARTS 330 Introduction to Printmaking (3)
- ARTS 341 Beginning Ceramics (3)
- ARTS 351 Beginning Metalwork & Jewelry (3)
- ARTS 361 Beginning Sculpture I (3)
- ARTS 368 Intro to Fiber: Papermaking (3) OR
- ARTS 371 2D/3D Woven Construction (3) OR
- ARTS 372 Intro to Fiber: Print Dye (3) OR
- ARTS 374 Installation and Fiber Sculpture (3)

PAINTING REQUIREMENTS (33 credit hours)

- ARTS 322 Painting Methods & Materials (3)
- ARTS 324 Painting II: The Figure (3)
- ARTS 421 Advanced Painting (9)
- ARTS 425 Special Topics in Painting (3)
- ARTS 405 Interdisciplinary Seminar (3)
- ARTS 406 Senior Project (3)
- Three 300/400 level studio electives (9)

TOTAL ART HOURS: 78

PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Review of your artwork, after completing two to three studio courses in painting, is required to continue with future coursework.

Minimum Graduation Requirements for NIU:

- Minimum 120 semester hours earned for degree.
- Forty of the 120 hours must be upper-level (300 and/or 400 level) courses.
- Fulfill university general education requirements (minimum of 33 semester hours).



Northern Illinois
University

Contact Information

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go.niu.edu/painting



Career Information

With your B.F.A. degree in painting, you may be able to pursue careers such as a studio artist, special effects artist, muralist, community art educator or art restorer.

Career outcomes obtained from the Department of Labor Occupational Outlook Handbook.

