



May 1, 2023

Associate Professor Brad Steinmetz  
Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

RE: Revision to the BFA in Art

Dear Brad and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee,

At its meeting on April 28, 2023, the Arts and Humanities 2 Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed and unanimously approved the proposal for a new focus area in Film/Video of the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art.

Currently, BFA Art majors must select a focus in one of the existing areas (Art & Technology, Ceramics, Glass, Painting & Drawing, Photography, Printmaking, and Sculpture), and as part of their overall program of study, students must take 18 CH in their selected area. Students who select the new focus area in Film/Video will be required to take the following courses: ART 3009: Film/Video 1, ART 4009: Film/Video 2, ART 5009: Film/Video 3, ART 5019: Film/Video 4, ART 4101: Moving-Image Art, and ART 4401: Computer Animation which may be counted for area requirement with advisor approval. (Note: Art 5009, 5019, 4101, and 4401 are all repeatable courses up to 6 or 9 CH). The Film/Video area also includes 21 credits of Studio Electives, which may include up to 15 credits in the elected emphasis area. The remaining 38 credits (out of the major's 77 CH) come from other required courses such as foundation studies, professional practice courses, and electives from a selected menu of studio courses from across the Department of Art.

The new focus area will contribute to the Department of Art's commitment to the creation and study of contemporary and vanguard art practices. Currently, students wanting to pursue film and video as the focus of their artistic practice must choose Art & Technology, which is perceived as the closest adjacent field although it focuses mostly on art technologies (animation, robotics, Internet art, VR). Therefore, this new focus area will create a path more aligned with film and video making in the larger context of art, potentially attracting new students. This will also produce greater demand for upper-division courses, allowing for more regular offerings on these classes which will also increase enrollments for the Department overall. Considering that currently the largest area of the major (Art & Technology) counts with only one full-time faculty member, the Department believes the new Film/Video area will take some of the pressure from that faculty.

We believe that the new focus area in Film/Video will work with and support the Department's program goals and the BFA expected learning outcomes; therefore, we advance the proposal with a motion to approve.

Regards,

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Vice-Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies  
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