Welcome to VCU’s Art Foundation Program and Congratulations! You are about to embark on an exciting year of new experiences, new people and new ways of thinking and making. The Art Foundation year is a crucial and formative one. It sets the stage for your Art and Design education at VCU. In addition to academics, your schedule will include Drawing, Time, Surface and Space, core studio classes that will expand your understanding of what you can accomplish and what interests you. By the end of the Program, half of our students change their minds about the major they will pursue; a testament to how life-changing this year will be!

The Art Foundation experience promises to be both rich and demanding. You will be asked to try new things and step outside what is comfortable and familiar. Expect to be challenged, expect to work hard and you will be amazed by what you will learn and what you are able to accomplish. The best advice I can offer is to take advantage of every opportunity being a part of the School of the Arts and the University provides, whether it be discussions, assignments, visiting artists, lectures, competitions, the library, the Richmond art scene, your knowledgeable faculty, etc, etc. Squeeze everything out of the experience you can.

As a new member of the School of the Arts you are joining a strong community of students, faculty and alumni. Your classmates will be exceptional students like yourself. You will raise the bar for one another, befriend one another and challenge one another. Relationships forged here are valuable and long-lasting ones, continuing throughout your career in the arts.

Your education is in your hands. We'll offer the tools: the faculty, the classmates, the facilities and the environment, in which you can prosper. Bring your curiosity, eagerness and energy. We look forward to sharing in your accomplishments. It will be a wonderful year.

Welcome.

Elissa Armstrong
Art Foundation Director

2017-2018
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WHO’S WHO

Elissa Armstrong
Director, Assistant Professor

Chris Costello
Administrative Coordinator

Hope Ginsburg
Associate Professor

Morgan Herrin
Woodshop Coordinator

Ryan Lauterio
Instructor & Admissions

Anthony Meloro
Academic Advisor

Sarah Mizer
Administrative Director, Assistant Professor

Valerie Molnar
Instructor & Admissions

Chris Norris
Student Coordinator, Transfer Advisor
### CURRICULUM & ART FOUNDATION
**PROGRAM CORE COURSES**

#### FALL SEMESTER

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<tr>
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#### SPRING SEMESTER

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*Please note that there is no sequential order to the Art Foundation Studio/Research classes: ARTF 131, ARTF 132, ARTF 133, and ARTF 134.*
ARTF 131 - DRAWING STUDIO
3 credits, offered Fall and Spring Semester

Drawing is a fundamental tool of Fine Art and Design. It is a means of focusing one's powers of observation and generating ideas. Drawing cultivates an ability to envision and anticipate projects across all disciplines. This three-credit, semester-long course cultivates drawing skills that are essential to all artistic practice.

Drawing from A to Z. Drawing Studio is an intensive drawing course covering the historic principles of drawing and their place in contemporary Art and Design. The course provides an in-depth investigation of line, perspective, the figure, gesture, space, atmosphere, erasure, etc. Through the repeated physical activity of drawing, students will refine their dexterity and intellectual powers of observation and visualization.

ARTF 132 - SURFACE RESEARCH
3 credits, offered Fall and Spring Semester

Two-dimensional design skills are essential to the success of students in Fine Art and Design. Understanding two-dimensional imagery is essential to all majors in the School of the Arts. This three-credit, semester-long immersion into two-dimensional imagery and design establishes a foundation for all artistic practice.

Surface is the two-dimensional locus of points. ‘Surface Research’ uses this definition both literally and metaphorically to explore methods of generating, organizing and editing planar imagery. This class will include basic principles of two-dimensional design, color and visual organization in traditional, digital and lens-based media. Course content will explore the context of imagery in the larger culture and the potential of art and design.
ARTF 133 - SPACE RESEARCH
3 credits, offered Fall and Spring Semester

Three-dimensional skills are essential to the success of all students in Fine Art and Design. Envisioning space and thinking in three dimensions is crucial to all studio majors in the School of the Arts. This three-credit, semester-long immersion into material and space cultivates the skills necessary for all artistic practice.

Space Research is a semester-long course that explores the fundamental principals of three-dimensional art and design practices. Hands-on projects introduce students to methods, tools, and materials ranging from time-honored building techniques to experimental studio processes. Students acquire a broad set of construction skills while they hone their ability to understand, envision, and communicate effectively about space, objects, scale, and the relationship of the body to the built environment.

ARTF 134 - TIME STUDIO
3 credits, offered Fall and Spring Semester

Time-based work is an important element of contemporary Fine Art and Design and is fundamental to all studio majors in the School of the Arts. The fields of Fine Art and Design have been redefined by the advent of technology capable of recording moving images. Additionally, notions of ephemerality, duration, performance, and documentation have become integrated into traditional media in Fine Art and Design. Time Studio is a three-credit, semester-long immersion into the possibilities of time-based work including film, video, animation, sound and performance.

Time Studio brings together tenets of contemporary practice that have extended the fields of Fine Art and Design. Time-based media such as film, video, animation and sound are included in this mix. The historically under-represented impulses of theatricality and performance will be explored in this course. Time studio will use video as a primary tool, but will address larger issues of ephemerality, duration and the possibilities of the moving image.
ARTF 139 - PROJECT
1 credit, five weeks, offered Fall and Spring Semester

Project courses are one credit classes designed to allow students a direct experience with the Fine Art and Design departments in their foundation year. These modules allow students access to the school’s individual programs and give students more information from which to choose their major. ‘Project’ topics will be chosen by the sponsoring Fine Art and Design departments. ‘Project’ is taught in each department’s facility and frequently encompasses a single project from start to finish.

“...The most valuable thing I have learned over my time in AFO is that you can make nearly anything happen if you want it badly enough...” » Ellie Doughty
HONORS COLLEGE

Students in the Honors College are part of a large university and an intimate community of dedicated scholars. Honors college students have at their disposal the resources of a major urban research university and world-class professional schools while attending small classes with diverse topics that emphasize participation in dynamic discussions alongside 20 or fewer energetic honors students. Other benefits include:

Enroll in classes open only to honors students, where class size is limited to encourage student participation and interaction

Live in honors-only residence halls

Apply for scholarships only available to honors students

Register early for classes

For more information about the Honors College please visit their web site at: honors.vcu.edu

AFO HONORS COURSE
ARTF 191 - Art Worlds
3 credits, offered Fall 2017, open to Art Foundation Honors Students only or by permission of the instructor

This course will engage the art world in thoughtful discussion and inquiry through the lens of research based practice. Field trips to both national and local venues, including the Library of Congress, National Gallery of Art, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and new VCU Institute for Contemporary Art, will illuminate a wide range of artistic approaches and real world outcomes. Additional visits to commercial galleries, artist’s studios, and private collections will broaden understanding of how individual’s shape artistic fields. These conversations with a wide range of curators, conservators, gallerists, and artists will explore how focused research can stimulate ideas and generate new content. Methods of distribution and publishing will be a primary and ongoing component as well, culminating in the production of a group publication that will then be integrated into these systems.
“...I’ve realized that there’s almost no limit to what I can do or make with enough time (or even no time at all). Any material you can name can be bent or cut or glued or carved into usefulness...I would say I’ve pushed myself to my limits, but I think I’ve discovered that my limits extend much further than I had imagined.” » Emily Herr
“The best advice I can give to anyone entering AFO comes down to this: 1) Do not be afraid to let loose and have fun. The work is important, but doing well in school is not limited to the academics. 2) Make good use of your time. Use all the time you have to do something productive. Every minute, every blurry sketch, and every idea counts.” » Lili Un
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE VCU
CORE CURRICULUM
art and design general education requirements*

The VCU Core Education Program includes 21 credit hours that all undergraduate
students at VCU will complete across all programs of study.

TIER I: 6 credit hours - Focused Inquiry I and II, a two-semester sequence
required of all first-year students, provides the foundation for the program.

TIER II: As a complement to Tier I, Tier II courses reinforce the learning objectives
introduced in the Focused Inquiry sequence. Courses in the second tier are drawn
from across the university and include:

3-4 credit hours – a quantitative literacy course from the following approved list:

MATH 121, 122, 123 Perspective Geometry, Tessellations, Visualization
MATH 131 Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics
MATH 141 Algebra with Applications
MATH 151 Precalculus Mathematics
MATH 200 Calculus with Analytic Geometry or any 200-level (or greater) MATH
course
SCMA 171 Mathematical Applications for Business
SCMA 212 Differential Calculus and Optimization for Business
SCMA 301 Business Statistics I
STAT 208 Statistical Thinking or any 200-level (or greater) STAT course
Option for Honors College only: MATH 230 Mathematics in Civilization

3 credit hours – a research and academic writing course that emphasizes
academic argument, information retrieval, analysis and documentation.

UNIV 200 Inquiry and the Craft of Argument
Option for Honors College only: HONR 200 Rhetoric

(continued on pg 14-15)
CORE CURRICULUM (continued)

3 credit hours – a **humanities/fine arts** course from the following approved list:

AFAM 111 Introduction to Africana Studies
ENGL 215 Textual Analysis
ENGL 250 Reading Film
HIST 201 The Art of Historical Detection: _____
MASC/INTL 151 Global Communications
PHIL 201 Critical Thinking About Moral Problems
PHIL 250 Thinking About Thinking
RELS 108 Human Spirituality
UNIV 213 The Truth About Lying
UNIV 217 Finding Your Voice in Contemporary Society
UNIV 299 What’s the Big Idea?
WRLD/INTL 203 Cultural Texts and Contexts: _____
WRLD 230 Introduction to World Cinema
Option for Honors College only: PHIL 230 Reason, Science and the Self

3-4 credit hours – a **social/behavioral sciences** course from the following approved list:

ANTH/INTL 103 Introduction to Anthropology
ECON 101/INTL 102 Introduction to Political Economy
GSWS 201 Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies
HUMS 300 Great Questions of the Social Sciences
INTL 101 Human Societies and Globalization
POLI 103 U.S. Government
POLI/INTL 105 International Relations
PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychology
SCTS 200 Science in Society: Values, Ethics and Politics
SLWK 200 Building a Just Society
SOCY 101 Introduction to Sociology
UNIV 211 Food for Thought
UNIV 222 Pseudoscience
Option for Honors College only: INTL/POLI 365 International Political Economy (honors section)
CORE CURRICULUM (continued)

3-4 credit hours – a natural/physical sciences course from the following approved list:

BIOL 101 Biological Concepts  
BIOL/ENVS 103 Environmental Science  
CHEM 110 Chemistry and Society  
ENVS 201 Earth System Science  
FRSC 202 Crime and Science  
INSC 201 Energy!  
PHYS 103 Elementary Astronomy  
Option for Honors College only: PHYS 215 Science, Technology and Society

TIER III: The third tier culminates in a capstone experience integrating the Core Education Program with the student’s major. This requirement, as determined by the major, may be fulfilled through a service-learning project, a research project with a faculty member, a study-abroad program, a senior thesis paper, a practical internship or a major-specific capstone course. This requirement ties learned experience in the Core Education Program with a practical application in the major.

* Updated April 2017. This information may be subject to changes. Check your bulletin for the most up to date information.

“AF0 is a roller coaster. It is intense and worth it...” » Jasmine Calvert
ADVISORS ARE HERE TO

Help students define and develop realistic goals
Identify special needs
Match students to available resources
Help students plan course schedules, clarify prerequisites and select majors
Monitor progress toward academic success and career goals
Teach students to maneuver within VCUarts and the academic system

All students are responsible for meeting with their academic advisor no less than twice a semester. Students may schedule an appointment with their academic advisor through the myVCU Portal.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

In order for Art Foundation to consider all your college credits for transfer, please arrange to have your most up-to-date official transcripts sent to the Art Foundation office from all previously attended institutions. Courses with a final grade of C or higher are eligible for transfer.

One hundred-level studio classes are considered for transfer into VCU’s Art Foundation program on a case-by-case basis. Remaining Art & Design courses will transfer as art elective credit until a student enters a major department and credits are re-evaluated.
“You are definitely immersed in a variety of concepts and mediums that you might not be familiar or comfortable with, but the benefits are pretty enormous.”

» Riley Duncan
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES

Materials in the Art Foundation Program are the equivalent of textbooks for academic classes. You should expect each class and every teacher to require specific supplies totaling around $300 per studio class. The Art Foundation Program is unable to provide art supplies to students for studio work.

Please anticipate at least $1200 in art supply expenses during your first year at VCUarts. It is often convenient or advantageous for Art Foundation students to set up an account with a local vendor near the VCU campus.

REQUIRED TOOLS

Each student must be equipped with a basic set of tools for use in their classes. The tools do not need to be new, or state of the art, but everyone is required to have a basic toolkit (listed below) without exception. Teachers provide their individual supply lists at the beginning of class.

- safety glasses or goggles
- metal measuring tape (at least 10’)
- matte knife
- combination or keyed lock (to lock your tools in a locker)
- fabric drop cloth
- Adobe Creative Cloud- Student Edition
- 8 GB flash drive
- 1 TB Portable External Hard Drive with optional case
- Digital camera with video capability

Suggested: Artist’s Complete Health & Safety Guide
Monona Rossol, Allworth Press, 2001
ISBN – 9781581152043

Not having the required computer hardware, software or materials is not an excuse for late and/or incomplete assignments.
AFO OFFICE STUDENT RENTALS

Available M-F  8:30am - 4:45pm
Canon Rebel Digital SLR Cameras  Light kits
Canon Powershots  Green Screen
Zoom Sound Recorders  Wacom Tablets
Zoom Q4 Video Recorders  Sewing Machines
GoPro Helmet Cam  Pedestals
Polaroid Cube Action Cameras  Dressforms
LED Projectors  Amps, microphones, and audio mixers
Tripods  Flip Video Cameras (1 week rental)

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

Every student is required to have a computer that meets or exceeds University standards, which can be found at www.vcu.edu/sci. Additionally, Art Foundation students are required to have a 1TB Portable External Harddrive.

Because many students entering the Art Foundation Program are uncertain which major they wish to enter, and because placement in any particular department is not guaranteed, we recommend that students bring a computer from home for use during the first year of college.

The Art Foundation computer labs are equipped with Apple computers. However, it is not necessary for a student to purchase an Apple if they already own a PC or an Apple computer that meets the University’s minimum requirements. You will find Apple computers most compatible with the assignments given in Time Studio classes, though assignments can be completed in the school lab.

If you choose to purchase a new computer, please keep in mind that the computer you purchase may not meet the technical requirements of the department that you enter.
Students are not permitted to use University or School equipment, facilities, or licensed material (including software) on or off campus for professional projects of their own, for example, engaging in work for hire with a company or individual. This will be considered a criminal offense and could result in legal action and/or suspension from the University. The only exception to this policy is for projects formally sanctioned by a VCUarts department or program and supervised by a faculty member associated with that department or program. VCUarts students are only permitted to use University or School equipment, facilities, and licensed material (including software) off campus if such use is for a formal class assignment supervised by a VCUarts faculty member.

“...I can make anything out of anything...”
» Chance Godwin
AREA RESOURCES

Art Supply
Barnes & Noble @ VCU Bookstore
1111 West Broad Street
804 828 1678

Plaza Art
927 West Grace Street
804 359 5900

Digital Resources
RamTech
930 West Grace Street
804 828 TECH

Lynda
Online Learning Resource, Software Tutorials
lynda.vcu.edu

Art Foundation Computer Lab
Bowe Street Parking Deck, Room 526
804 828 1129 or 804 828 9247 (evenings only)

VCUarts GO Lab
325 N. Harrison Street, Pollak Building Room 219
804 828 1710

VCUarts Depot
814 W Broad Street
804 828 6506

VCU Cabell Library Innovative Media Department
901 Park Avenue
804 827 3594
Resources (continued...)

Shop and Material
Art Foundation Woodshop
Bowe Street Parking Deck, Room 540

Lowe’s (National Chain)
1640 West Broad Street
804 219 0640

Photo Resources
Action Photo Company
3535 Ellwood Ave
804 355 7103

Richmond Camera
213 W Broad Street
804 648 0515

B&H Photo Video and Pro Audio
www.bhphotovideo.com

University Resources
Records and Registration
Harris Hall - 1015 Floyd Ave - 1st Fl
804 828 1349

Financial Aid
Harris Hall - 1015 Floyd Ave - 1st Fl
804 828 6669

Student Accounting
Harris Hall - 1015 Floyd Ave - 1st Fl
804 828 2228

University Counseling Services
Student Commons
907 Floyd Ave - Rm 238
804 828 6200

Disability Support Services
Student Commons
907 Floyd Ave - Rm 102
804 828 2253

Student Health Services
1300 W Broad Street-Suite 2200
804 828 8828

Visual Arts Resources
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (the largest collection in VA)
200 N Boulevard
804 340 1400

Visual Arts Center
1812 West Main Street
804 353 0094
“From guest workshops to movie nights, there’s many activities to participate in on top of your classes. The saying ‘you get out what you put in’ really applies to AFO. If you make an effort to participate in the extra activities that are offered and if you dedicate yourself to your work, you’ll grow a lot during your first year.”
» Ellie Doughty
Attendance Policy
Attending all class sessions is mandatory. The following attendance policy applies to all courses in the Art Foundation Program (ARTF). Class time plays a significant role in your education and this policy is strictly upheld. In-class experiences cannot be substituted or replicated. All absences count equally regardless of cause (including illness). Please note, some courses meet on Friday for two separate sessions in one day.

Research and Studio Classes (ARTF 131, 132, 133, 134)
Each missed session counts as one absence and each absence will affect your final grade. Missing more than 20 minutes per class session will result in an absence. A student’s final grade will automatically be lowered when absent for three sessions. A fourth absence constitutes a failing grade for the course.

Additionally, four instances of late arrival (and/or early departure, missing materials, or any other circumstance preventing a student from fully participating in all class activities) equals one absence.

Critique
Handing in work on time and active participation in critique is a minimum standard for successful completion of an assignment. Work that is handed in after the deadline will result in an automatic lowering of the grade for the assignment. Missing a critique will adversely affect the student’s grade for the assignment and will also be counted as per the attendance standards.

Project courses (ARTF 139)
Attendance is especially important for Project courses that meet for only five weeks. All faculty will clearly state their attendance policy in their syllabus. Students can not miss more than 20% of the course in order to receive a passing grade.

Withdrawing From Classes
Students may withdraw from a class at any time prior to the published withdrawal date without penalty. After that date, students cannot withdraw from a class and will receive a grade for the semester. Project classes will not have a published withdrawal date. Students seeking to withdraw from a Project class must do so within the first half of the five-week course. (See Registration)
Registration
The last day to add or drop from a full-semester class for a full refund is: Wednesday, August 30, 2017.

The last day to withdraw from a full-semester class is: Friday, November 3, 2017.

A grade of W will be assigned as a grade if a student withdraws prior to this date. After this date, a final grade for the semester will be assigned.

5-week ARTF 139 Project courses have a separate add, drop and withdraw schedule:

Project courses can be added up until the start date of the course.

The day after the first class of a Project course is the last day that it can be dropped.

The withdrawal dates for Project courses differ by each section and are approximately two weeks after the first day of the class. Please check with Records and Registration for the official date.

Students can make changes to their schedules using eServices which is located at www.vcu.edu through the myVCU portal. Only students can make changes to their schedules. Faculty and staff are unable to make schedule changes. Consult your academic advisor before making changes to your schedule.

Retroactive Drops or Retroactive Withdrawals
These are issued only in the most critical or severe circumstances. Official and detailed documentation for the basis of the appeal is necessary to request an appeal. See your academic advisor for more information.

Incomplete Grades
An incomplete grade is issued only in cases of emergency or severe health-related circumstances. A student must request and gain the instructor’s approval in order to be issued an incomplete. Once granted an incomplete, a student may have up to 30 days into the next semester to complete, or make up, the missed work.
Honor Code
The VCU Honor System is available online through the Division of Student Affairs: https://students.vcu.edu/studentconduct/vcu-honor-system/academic-misconduct-/honor-pledge/. The VCU Honor System applies to the entire University as well as all areas of the School of the Arts.

Honor violations in Art and Design are sometimes less black and white than in other disciplines. Beyond the obvious violations like theft and vandalism, Visual Arts violations include the submission of work completed for one class and presented for credit in another class.

Questions about authorship and originality have been at the forefront of theories about Art and Design. These issues are distinct from the honor code. Understanding and questioning the appropriation of imagery, and the propriety of an artist’s work or ideas, is an integral part of your experience as a student in Art and Design.

Community Responsibility
The Art Foundation Program is one of the largest academic units in the University. Each year, the facility, tools and equipment are shared by more than 500 students. This demands that everyone work with consideration, respect and good humor. Part of this responsibility is making clean-up integral to your everyday practice. You are expected to leave your work area in better condition than when you found it.

As student artists and designers, you create the physical environment in which you work. While the act of creation is rarely clean or orderly, working in someone else’s chaos is a drag! Here is a promise: you will make better art if cleanup is part of your routine.

Additionally, students will participate in a mandatory end-of-the-semester clean up during which all classrooms, unlocked lockers, abandoned materials and projects will be purged. Students will be notified via e-mail when the final clean up is scheduled.
Figure Models and Photography

Figure models are a valuable resource for VCUArts students. All students are required to demonstrate respect and sensitivity to the privacy and anonymity of figure models both inside and outside of the classroom.

Cell phone use and photography during modeling sessions is PROHIBITED and will result in removal from class and may result in the permanent loss of figure drawing privileges.

The Code of Virginia clearly states that it is unlawful for a person to photograph or videotape another person in any form of undress without their consent. Violation of this law will result in a minimum of a class 1 misdemeanor.

Grading Standards

University courses and VCUArts courses are taught with high expectations. Many students are unaccustomed to the high standards by which they are evaluated and graded. Perfect attendance, meeting all deadlines, and working at your peak ability are universal expectations. Art Foundation standards are high, and only the most rigorous and consistently exceptional students earn high grades. Expect your grades to be lowered if you do not meet the standards and deadlines set by your instructor.

Classroom conduct has an impact on course grades. You are expected to actively participate in class activities and be a considerate member of the ‘community’ within the classroom. Students who are disruptive to class may be removed from the class and their grades lowered accordingly. Please refer to the ‘Student Code of Conduct’ in the VCU Policy Library for University policies relating to conduct. Not having supplies, for any reason, does not excuse participation in required activities or missed deadlines.

- **A** Outstanding: Consistently exceptional work that raises the standards for one’s entire peer group
- **B** Above Average: Exceeding the requirements/expectations of the class
- **C** Average: Meeting all class requirements
- **D** Below Average: Completion of most, but not all, course requirements
- **F** Fail: Failure to meet the requirements of the course
“If I were to give somebody advice about coming to VCUarts or AFO more specifically, I would just say to be really open minded because there are so many opportunities and things to learn, and that experience, both academic and just in general - is the most important aspect of being an artist.” » Riley Duncan
Student Accessibility and Educational Opportunity
http://saeo.vcu.edu/
(804) 828-2253

The mission of the VCU Student Accessibility and Educational Opportunity (SAEO) Office is to assist Virginia Commonwealth University in creating a learning environment where all students have equal access to every aspect of the University’s programs, services, and activities. This is accomplished through partnerships with students, faculty, and staff to promote students’ independence and to ensure the recognition of students’ abilities, not disabilities. Student Accessibility and Educational Opportunity determines appropriate academic adjustments such as program and exam modifications, classroom accommodations, and auxiliary aids once students have self-identified themselves and completed the eligibility process.

Students are strongly encouraged to provide a copy of the official accommodation form to each of their instructors at the beginning of each course. Reasonable notification is necessary to plan and coordinate accommodations. Retroactive accommodations cannot be made.

Please note that the attendance policy remains in effect for those with disabilities. A disability does not excuse anyone from completing an assignment or meeting a deadline. Please understand that while we are here to help facilitate and enhance your education, students are responsible for their attendance and completion of all required work.

Studio Walls / Installing Work
It is never acceptable to paint on, draw on or damage the walls of the Art Foundation studios. Students are responsible for repairing any damage/alterations to the walls and keeping their condition intact. Any work that has been left around too long will receive a “tow tag” prior to being “towed” (which means it will be thrown out).

Nothing may be hung from the ceiling in any part of the 5th floor space of Bowe Street Deck. Installations are prohibited within stairwells, elevators, and restrooms. Please do not attempt to install anything in any other areas of the deck. Parking and Transportation is not a part of the School of the Arts and unfortunately views installations as vandalism and will prosecute.

Students who wish to present a 3-D installation in the Art Foundation facility must complete a “Special Installation Request Form”, available at the Art Foundation office front desk.
Prohibited Materials
Use of prohibited materials on campus will result in academic repercussions. The following materials may not be used in the Bowe Street facility or adjacent parking deck and lot for ethical and health reasons:

- spray paint
- open flames or volatile material (including candles)
- cement
- plaster
- toxic or fume-generating materials (resins, fixative, etc.)
- animals (including fish-dead or alive)
- bodily fluids
- fiberglass insulation
- extension cords

Graffiti
Graffiti and tagging is a criminal offense that is taken very seriously by the City of Richmond police, judicial system, the VCU police and University officials. Several former Art Foundation students have completed prison terms for this offense.

The first offense has a mandatory sentence of 90 days. A recent sentence for a student found guilty of property damage was 15 months. In addition to jail time, graffiti and tagging violations can result in being expelled from the university.

Departmental Portfolio Reviews
In the Spring semester, following Spring Break, Art Foundation students with a GPA of 2.0 or greater are eligible to apply for admission into one of the following Art and Design departments: Art Education, Communication Arts, Craft / Material Studies, Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Kinetic Imaging, Painting and Printmaking, Photography and Film, or Sculpture + Extended Media.

During this portfolio review, departments review students’ artwork and their academic performance. Most dedicated students are accepted into their preferred major. However, successful completion of the Art Foundation Program does not guarantee acceptance into your preferred department. Students not accepted into their first choice may reapply to their preferred department the following year.
Departmental Portfolio Reviews (continued...)
Detailed portfolio review guidelines will be emailed during the month of February to students’ VCU email accounts. There will be information sessions, workshops, and advising available to facilitate all students through this process.

Off-Cycle Department Portfolio Review
If you are a transfer or continuing student, you may finish Art Foundation in December. Please note: most departments only review portfolios during the Spring portfolio review for fall admittance. Space in departments may be limited due to enrollment. If you have questions about this process contact Chris Norris: acnorris@vcu.edu. Any override decisions are made by the department Chair and are based on availability.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Art Foundation Dean’s Awards
During the Spring Portfolio Review, each Art and Design department nominates an outstanding student to be considered for the Dean’s award. Following the review, Art Foundation awards two nominees with a scholarship of $2000. All Art Foundation students who participate in the Portfolio Review are considered for these awards during the spring semester. No application is required.

Art Foundation Outstanding Achievement Awards
Outstanding Achievement Awards are presented to exceptional students who made significant contributions to the classroom and created an ambitious body of work. At the end of the spring semester of the Art Foundation year, these students are nominated by their faculty and selected by an Art Foundation committee and awarded a gift for their accomplishments. No application is required.

James Kieran Foley Memorial Scholarship
Available to all AFO students who have filled out a FAFSA form. The award is based on artistic ability and financial need. No application is required.
Scholarships (continued...)
Scholarships available to all VCUarts undergraduate students can be found at: arts.vcu.edu/opportunities/scholarships/. Additional opportunities will be announced throughout the year through students’ VCU email.

Student Accounting
Information about tuition and bills can be found at: enrollment.vcu.edu/accounting or through the eServices tab in myVCU.

Financial Aid
Information about Financial Aid can be found at: finaid.vcu.edu

Inside VCUarts
A highly informative site with links to various resources ranging from student services such as financial aid and registration to local shops providing art related services: arts.vcu.edu/current-students/

FUN FACTS & HELPFUL LINKS @ arts.vcu.edu/artfoundation

Also you can like our Facebook Page (VCUarts Art Foundation Program) and follow us on Instagram (@vcuartsafo) where happenings and events are highlighted and many “shout outs” are heard calling attention to extraordinary works!

CHECK YOUR VCU EMAIL

Information about your classes, course updates, opportunities, visiting artist lecture series, etc., are all distributed through your VCU email account. VCU email is the primary way that you’ll be contacted by your professors, the University and staff. It is your responsibility to check your VCU email account regularly. If you don’t, then you will miss out on something important!
“AFO was difficult and very time consuming. But I learned some pretty awesome things. Advice I would give to incoming students?...Work harder than anyone you know. Talk to people. Ask your professors questions about everything - not just art. ...Take your learning out of the classroom and into your life and community.” » Rachel Schneider
“(Talking + Art = Awesome)”

» Chance Godwin
AFO, AN ACRONYM FOR:

Anonymous Flying Object
Acronym For Officials
Anarchists For Order
Antichrists Feel Obvious
A Funny Odor
Alien Fungus Observatory
Autistic Fries Octopi
Angry Frowning Octopus
A Freshman Order
Art Full On
Almond Filled Oreos
Alien Fighting Organization
Artistic Formalists
Artistic Ferrets Oscillate
Ant Farms Only
Art Frees Ourselves
Anonymous Ferrets Organize
Against Formal Oranges
A Flagrant Obsession
Aggravating Ferret Obsession
Artificial Fish Ova
Angular Facial Openings
Another Forged Original