PROPOSAL FOR AN AREA OF EMPHASIS

Date: September 18, 2026

School/College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department/Division: Lamar Dodd School of Art

Program (Major and Degree): Interdisciplinary Art (A.B.)

Area of Emphasis Title: Printmaking

CIP: 500710

Which campus(es) will offer this program? Athens

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2027

Area of Emphasis Description:

The Bachelor of Arts (A.B.) in Interdisciplinary Art with an Area of Emphasis in Printmaking provides students with a rigorous introduction to print-based studio practice within the context of a broad liberal arts education. The program is designed to develop students' understanding of printmaking processes, materials, and techniques while fostering visual literacy, conceptual thinking, and critical engagement with art and visual culture. Students are taught to use the tools and methods associated with traditional and contemporary printmaking; to understand the nonverbal language of art through principles of design, composition, repetition, layering, matrix-based image production, and material processes as they apply to printmaking; and to organize visual elements both intuitively and analytically in response to artistic intent. Coursework also emphasizes familiarity with significant historical and contemporary developments in printmaking, graphic arts, and related artistic traditions.

The program's intended contribution to the field lies in its interdisciplinary approach to printmaking, positioning print not only as a means of image reproduction but also as a site of artistic, cultural, and intellectual inquiry. By integrating studio practice with coursework across the humanities and social sciences, the emphasis encourages students to consider printmaking in relation to history, communication, activism, identity, technology, and the circulation of images and ideas. This approach supports contemporary forms of print practice that intersect with fine art, social engagement, community-based projects, publishing, design, and research-driven creative work.

The target audience for the program includes students who seek focused study in printmaking within a more academically flexible degree structure than that offered by the B.F.A. in Art with an Area of Emphasis in Printmaking. This includes students pursuing printmaking as a second major, transfer students managing time-to-degree constraints, and students whose interests are best served by combining print-based studio practice with coursework in other disciplines. The A.B. framework allows these students to tailor their studies to individual academic and professional goals while maintaining a coherent and substantial studio experience.

The program includes 24 hours of studio coursework beyond the 22 hours of studio courses in the Studio Art core curriculum, for a total of 46 hours of studio instruction. This structure ensures sustained engagement with printmaking materials, techniques, and conceptual approaches while preserving the breadth and elective freedom characteristic of the Bachelor of Arts degree. Graduates of the program are prepared for a range of post-graduate pathways, including interdisciplinary creative careers, roles in education, arts and nonprofit organizations, publishing and print studios, museums and cultural

institutions, and graduate study in art, printmaking, design, or related fields.

The program aspires to graduate students who demonstrate technical competence, material awareness, and conceptual clarity; who can think critically about printmaking as both an artistic medium and a cultural form; and who can integrate print-based practices into broader intellectual, creative, and professional contexts. Through this area of emphasis, the School of Art expands access to printmaking education while supporting diverse models of student achievement, interdisciplinary exploration, and lifelong creative engagement.

Area of Emphasis Requirements:

A grade of "C" (2.0) or better in all Area VI and major courses is required for graduation.

Area VI
ARST 1040, Proseminar in Studio Art (1 hour)
ARST 1050, Drawing I: Observation and Visual Language (3 hours)
ARST 1060, Color/Composition (3 hours)
ARST 1080, Three-Dimensional Design (3 hours)
ARST 2020, Ideation and Methodologies (3 hours)
ARST 2000-level course (3 hours)
Choose 3 hours from the following:
ARST 2305, Paper, Ink & People: Printmaking and Book Arts (3 hours)
ARST 2315, Artist's Books and Zines (3 hours)
ARST 2350, Introduction to Printmaking (3 hours)

Area of Emphasis in Printmaking (12 hours)
Select 9 hours from the following:
ARST 3305, Printmaking: Relief (3 hours)
ARST 3315, Printmaking: Etching (3 hours)
ARST 3325, Printmaking: Lithography (3 hours)
ARST 3335, Printmaking: Screen Printing (3 hours)
ARST 3345, Digital Printmaking (3 hours)
ARST 4315, Introduction to Book Arts (3 hours)
ARST 4350, Letterpress (3 hours)

Select 3 hours from the following:
ARST 4345, Advanced Print Studio (3 hours)
ARST 4900, Technical Problems (3 hours)

Total Hours for Area of Emphasis = 12 hours