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THE FYI PROGRAM
The First Year Introduction to Art Foundation Program

The FYI Program serves as a one-year preparatory program to the Art Foundation/BFA program. FYI develops students' artistic talents through two semesters of studio coursework, and supports the development of creative fluency through concurrent courses covering topics including digital art tools, leadership, and design language. As a precursor to the Art Foundation program, FYI focuses on composition, visual perception, two- and three-dimensional design work, design principles, and more. Successful completion of the FYI program qualifies students for entry into the Art Foundation program, and prepares them to perform with a competitive edge in studio courses. Following the completion of the Art Foundation program, students then enter the BFA program with the selection of an area of specialization - Interior Design, Graphic Design, Fashion Design, and Painting and Printmaking. Students generally complete the FYI/Art Foundation/BFA in 5 years.

The FYI Program is designed for incoming freshmen who demonstrate academic promise, but show a need for additional studio preparation prior to their entrance into the Art Foundation program. FYI's purpose is to accelerate the development of creativity, technical skill, professional awareness, and confidence. Indeed, past graduates of the FYI program have proven to be amongst the most talented and well-prepared VCU students.

- **FYI Program Courses**

Department and Number	Course Title	Credits
FALL Semester		
ARTF 160	Pre-Art Foundation Drawing	4
KINE 291	Introduction to Digital Strategies	3
UNIV 291	University Special Topics	2
MATH 001	Elementary Algebra	0^1
or MATH 131	Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics (placement test)	or 3
SPRING Semester		
ARTF 150	Pre-Art Foundation Studio (Multidisciplinary)	4
UNIV 299	What's the Big Idea?	3
And at least 2 of the following:		
• ARTF 115	Art History Survey	3
• CHEM 110	Chemistry and Society	3
• INSC 201	Energy!	3
• MATH 131	Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics	3

- **Progression to the Art Foundation Program**
  - Progression to the Art Foundation Program requires successful completion of all courses listed above; a cumulative grade point average of 2.00/4.00 or higher, including a grade of C or higher on ARTF 150 and ARTF 160.
  - The FYI Program is a one-year preparatory program to the Art Foundation/BFA program. Students who do not meet stated completion requirements of the FYI program as outlined above are not permitted to progress to the Art Foundation Program/BFA program. Further, the FYI program is not repeatable.

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[1] Counts as 0 Academic Credit and counts as 3 Lecture/Tutorial Credits for enrollment status and financial aid/scholarship support.