



Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography

Fall 2025/Spring 2026 Major
4 year plan - 132 units required

UNOFFICIAL: Refer to University Catalog for current regulations and policies
Courses in bold must be completed with a C or higher to meet major specific admission criteria

www.csulb.edu/catalog
2.5 overall GPA; 2.5 in bold art/art history courses required for admission to major.

4 Year Plan
Recommended sequence of Major requirements only ***Does not include General Education or Elective units*
Bold courses MUST be completed by end of 3rd semester
15-16 units recommended per semester (include GE requirements each semester in order to reach the desired amount of units per term)

Semester 1	Units	Semester 2	Units
Art 130 Foundation Two Dimensional	3	Art 181 Foundation Drawing	3
Art 131 Foundation Three Dimensional	3	Art 241 Intro Studio: Photography - Digital	3
Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History	3	Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History	3
Art 121 Safety & Sustainability for Studio Artists	1	Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words	1
Semester 3		Semester 4	
Art 184 Found. Life Drawing or Art 261 Intro Studio: Sculpture - Life	3	Art 448 Advanced Studio: Photography - Moving-image	3
Art 340 Core Studio: Photography - Darkroom	3	Art 449 Experimental Practices in Photography	3
Art 342A Core Studio: Photography - Color	3	Art History 400 19th Century in Photography or Art History 411 20th Century Photography	3
Art History 111C, 111D, 111E, 111F, or 111G	3		3
** Take GWAR Exam **			
Semester 5		Semester 6	
Art 414 Advanced Studio: Photography - Documentary	3	Art 473 Seminar in Photography Based Art	3
Art 447A Core Studio: Photography - Lighting	3	Art 499V Special Studies in Photography	3
Art 465 Advanced Studio: Photography Image-Strategies	3	Art 477 Sequential Photographic Strategies	3
		Art History 438, 439, or 441	3
Semester 7		Semester 8	
Art 444 Advanced Black & White Photography	3	Art 491C Senior Project (BFA Exhibition)	1
Art 465 Advanced Studio: Photography Image-Strategies	3	Art 499C Special Studies in Photography: Culminating	3
Art Upper Division (Outside of Specialization)	3		
Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words	1		
Art 311 Writing about Visual Art or Art 333 Global Art Scenes	3		

If interested in applying to BFA in Photography *See attachment for all eligibility requirements
Recommended to have Art 340 or Art 342A completed before submission of portfolio.**

GWAR Exam should be taken once a student achieves a minimum of 30 cumulative units



Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography

Fall 2025/Spring 2026 Major
5 year plan - 132 units required

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Courses in bold must be completed with a C or higher to meet major specific admission criteria

2.5 overall GPA; 2.5 in bold art/art history courses required for admission to major.

Recommended sequence of Major requirements only ****Does not include General Education or Elective units**

132 Unit Degree (Includes GE, Major, and Elective units) ****Elective units can be up to 16 units depending on what is transferred in (AP, IB, Military, College credit)**

Bold courses MUST be completed by end of 3rd semester

15-16 units recommended per semester (include GE requirements each semester in order to reach the desired amount of units per term)

Semester 1		Units	Semester 2		Units
Art 130 Foundation Two Dimensional		3	Art 181 Foundation Drawing		3
Art 131 Foundation Three Dimensional		3	Art 241 Intro Studio: Photography - Digital		3
Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History		3	Art History 111A or 111B Foundation Art History		3
Semester 3			Semester 4		
Art 340 Core Studio: Photography - Darkroom		3	Art 184 Found. Life Drawing or Art 261 Intro Studio: Sculpture - Life		3
Art 342A Core Studio: Photography - Color		3	Art 449 Experimental Practices in Photography		3
Art History 111C, 111D, 111E, 111F, or 111G		3	Art History 400 19th Century in Photography or Art History 411 20th Century Photography		3
Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words		1	Art 121 Safety & Sustainability for Studio Artists		1
**Take GVAR Exam **					
Semester 5			Semester 6		
Art 447A Core Studio: Photography - Lighting		3	Art 448 Advanced Studio: Photography - Moving-image		3
Art 444 Advanced Black & White Photography		3	Art 473 Seminar in Photography Based Art		3
Art 465 Advanced Studio: Photography Image-Strategies		3	Art 311 Writing about Visual Art or Art 333 Global Art Scenes (GE/UD-C)		3
Semester 7			Semester 8		
Art 414 Advanced Studio: Photography - Documentary		3	Art 499V Special Studies in Photography		3
Art 465 Advanced Studio: Photography Image-Strategies		3	Art 477 Sequential Photography Strategies		3
			Art 101 Artists in Their Own Words (GE/E)		1
Semester 9			Semester 10		
Art Upper Division (Outside of Specialization)		3	Art 499C. Special Studies in Photography: Culminating		3
Art History 438, 439, or 441		3	Art 491C Senior Project (BFA Exhibition)		1

If interested in applying to BFA in Photography *See attachment for all eligibility requirements**
Recommended to have Art 340 or Art 342A completed before submission of portfolio.

GVAR Exam should be taken once a student achieves a minimum of 30 cumulative units



Bachelor of Fine Arts: Photography

Fall 2025/Spring 2026

Major Checklist

UNOFFICIAL: Refer to University Catalog for current regulations and policies

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Note: This checklist is not intended to replace advising from the major department. Students should consult with the major advisor to determine the appropriate sequence of courses. This checklist is to inform students of major requirements and course prerequisites only. CSULB Enrollment Services prepares the Academic Requirements Report, which is the official graduation verification.

✓	Course	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Notes
LOWER DIVISION REQUIREMENTS (27 units)			
Complete the following courses (12 units total):			
	Art History 111A. Found. Art History: Prehistory-c. 1500, Middle East, North Africa, Europe	Pre/Coreq: One GE Foundation course	MSR Course
	Art History 111B. Found. Art History: c.1300-present, Europe and the US	Pre/Coreq: One GE Foundation course	MSR Course
	Art 130. Foundation Two-Dimensional		MSR Course
	Art 131. Foundation Three Dimensional		MSR Course
Complete the following courses (3 units total):			
	Art 101. Artists in Their Own Words		
	Art 101. Artists in Their Own Words		
	Art 121. Safety & Sustainable Practices for Studio Artists	One GE Foundation course	
Complete the following courses (9 units total):			
	Art 181. Foundation Drawing		Recommended to apply to BFA
	Art 184. Foundation Life Drawing or Art 261. Intro Studio: Sculpture - Life (Choose 1)	Art 184: Art 181. Art 261: 1 GE Found.	Recommended to apply to BFA
	Art 241. Intro Studio: Photography - Digital	One GE Foundation course	Recommended to apply to BFA (Offered in Fall & Spring Semester)
Complete 1 of the following courses (3 units total):			
	Art History 111C, 111D, 111E, 111F, or 111G (Choose 1)	Pre/Coreq: One GE Foundation course	
UPPER DIVISION REQUIREMENTS (52 units)			
Complete the following courses (46 units total):			
	Art 311. Writing About Visual Arts or Art 333. Global Art Scenes (Choose 1)	Refer to college catalog	(Photo section offered in Fall semester)
	Art 340. Core Studio: Photography - Darkroom	Art 130, Art 241, and AH 111A or AH 111B; Pre/Coreq: Art 181	Recommended to apply to BFA (Offered in Fall & Spring Semester)
	Art 342A. Core Studio: Photography - Color	Majors: Pre/Coreq: Art 340; Minors: Art 241	Recommended to apply to BFA (Offered in Fall & Spring Semester)
	Art 414. Advanced Studio: Photography - Documentary	ART 342A	(Offered in Fall Semester)
	Art 444. Advanced Black & White Photography	Art 340	(Offered in Fall Semester)
	Art 447A. Core Studio: Photography - Lighting	Art 342A	(Offered in Fall Semester)
	Art 448. Advanced Studio: Photography - Moving-image	ART 342A	(Offered in Spring Semester)
	Art 449. Experimental Practices in Photography	Art 340	(Offered in Spring Semester)
	Art 465. Advanced Studio: Photography Image-Strategies	ART 342A	(Offered in Fall Semester)
	Art 465. Advanced Studio: Photography Image-Strategies (must be taken twice)	ART 342A	(Offered in Fall Semester)
	Art 473. Seminar in Photo-Based Art	Art 342A	(Offered in Spring Semester)
	Art 477. Sequential Photography Strategies	Art 342A	(Offered in Fall & Spring Semester)
	Art 499V. Special Studies in Photography	Art 448. Art majors and Photo minors	(Offered in Fall & Spring Semester)
	Art 499C. Special Studies in Photography: Culminating	Prereq: Art 499V. Last semester of BFA.; Coreq: Art 491C	Taken Last semester. (Offered in Fall & Spring Semester)
	Art 491C. Senior Project (BFA Exhibition)	Photography major	Taken Last semester
Complete 1 of the following courses (3 units total):			
	Art History 400 or Art History 411 (Choose 1)	Refer to college catalog	
Complete 1 of the following courses (3 units total):			
	Art History 438, 439, or 441 (Choose 1)	Refer to college catalog	
Complete the following course (3 units total):			
	Art or Art History Outside of Photography (100-499 level)	Refer to college catalog	