

All Bachelor of Fine Arts or Bachelor of Science degree courses may be taken at ArtCenter, or some credits may be transferred from another accredited college. There are two categories of credit that can transfer to ArtCenter—studio art and general education—and at the time of admission we will inform you of your placement in the program and transfer credits offered. Generally, qualifying courses weighted 3+ units are transferred equivalent to a 3-unit course at ArtCenter. A maximum of 60 units of academic and studio credit may be transferred. ArtCenter does not require specific courses to be completed prior to applying/transferring. This information is subject to change without notice.

Portfolio Requirements

The portfolio is the single most important part of the admissions process at ArtCenter College of Design. Please refer to the ArtCenter catalog or website for the portfolio requirements for your proposed major, and meet with an ArtCenter admissions counselor prior to applying for valuable feedback on your portfolio. To schedule an appointment, please call 626-396-2373.

1. Studio Art Credit

Studio credit is based on your portfolio as well as evaluation of your transcripts. For that reason, there are no classes that will automatically transfer. Your portfolio is evaluated at the time of admission for any possible studio credit. We do not provide studio credit based solely on your transcript. Refer to ArtCenter’s website for portfolio requirements for each major. We will determine whether your portfolio demonstrates the same type of content and level as our own required classes. You must have a grade of “B” or better to transfer a studio class. Our goal is to place you at the right level so that you will be properly challenged, but not overly challenged, by our program. Receipt of studio transfer credit is the only means by which to shorten the actual time required to complete the degree. If you need help deciding what studio classes to take to prepare your portfolio, an admissions counselor can suggest those based on reviewing your portfolio. To schedule an appointment, call 626-396-2373.

2. General Education Credit

For the Bachelor of Fine Arts or Bachelor of Science degree, ArtCenter requires 45 units in general education. However each major/program has limitations on the number and type of general education transfer credits that must be completed. Transfer credits fall within four categories or “distribution requirements” as listed in the table below. General education credits do not shorten the total number of terms needed to complete your degree but do lighten your course load within a term or provide room for electives. Pasadena City College classes numbered 001-099 that are UC/CSU transferable are typically considered for transfer to ArtCenter. ESL courses are not transferable.

Within the general education area, classes considered “Electives,” can be transferred with a “C” or better or “Pass,” and more specialized classes called “Program” classes require a “B” or better. Some general education classes can be taken prior to entering ArtCenter; most specialized “Program” or required courses can only be taken at ArtCenter. A class completed for Program credit cannot be double counted for Elective credit. For a full explanation of Elective and Program classes by major, visit the Transfer Credit page at ArtCenter.edu/admissions

GENERAL EDUCATION ELECTIVE DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS BY MAJOR (in units/credits)						
UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR	BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE	HUMANITIES	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	SOCIAL SCIENCE	+ ANY QUALIFYING CATEGORY	TOTAL
ADVERTISING	3	3	3	3	15	27
ENTERTAINMENT-ANIMATION	3	0	3	3	3	12
ENTERTAINMENT-CONCEPT	3	3	3	3	9	21
ENTERTAINMENT-GAME	3	3	3	3	9	21
ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN	3	3	3	3	6	18
FILM	3	3	3	3	21	33
FINE ART	3	3	3	3	9	21
GRAPHIC DESIGN	3	3	3	3	15	27
ILLUSTRATION	3	3	3	3	21	33
INTERACTION DESIGN	3	3	3	3	6	18
PHOTOGRAPHY & IMAGING	3	3	3	3	15	27
PRODUCT DESIGN	3	3	3	3	6	18
TRANSPORTATION DESIGN	3	3	3	3	6	18

Grade Policy: All required general education or studio art program courses must be completed with a grade of “B” or better. General education elective units may be completed with a grade of “C” or better.

Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Policy: ArtCenter accepts general education AP exam results of 4 or 5, and IB Higher Level Exam results of 5, 6 or 7. Official reports must be sent directly from College Board or the IB qualified institution in order to receive credit. ArtCenter does not accept AP/IB studio art credit or IB standard level courses.

All transfer credit must be finalized by the end of the student’s first term at ArtCenter. No transfer credit will be accepted for course work done after the student has enrolled in a degree program. It is the student’s responsibility to declare and provide final official transcripts from all colleges attended. Unofficial transcripts will not be considered.

If you have questions regarding our application or portfolio requirements, visit artcenter.edu/admissions. Call 626-396-2373 to schedule an appointment with one of our admissions counselors or to tour the College.

PROGRAM/REQUIRED COURSES and PCC EQUIVALENCIES	
REQUIRED COURSES FOR ALL ARTCENTER MAJORS	
COURSE NAME	PCC COURSE OFFERING
WRITING STUDIO One writing course with a grade of “B” or better fulfills the course requirement and waives the writing placement test. <i>Course cannot double-count as a Humanities elective.</i>	ENGL 001A, 001AH, 001B, 001BH, 001C, or 001CH
INTRODUCTION TO MODERNISM One course on the Modernist period (1900-1950) with a grade of “B” or better. <i>Courses cannot double-count as Humanities electives.</i>	ART 004D
REQUIRED COURSES FOR FINE ART AND ILLUSTRATION MAJORS ONLY	
COURSE NAME	PCC COURSE OFFERING
HISTORY OF ART 1 or 2 One Art History course with a grade of “B” or better. <i>Course cannot double-count as a Humanities elective.</i>	ART 001A or 001B

These courses are listed in bold below.

ELECTIVE COURSES and PCC EQUIVALENCIES	
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES ELECTIVES: Refer to table on page 1 for specific major requirements.	
COURSE TYPE	PCC COURSE OFFERING
Accounting	ACCT 001A, 001B, 010
Business/Management	BUS 002, 009, 010, 011A, 012A, 012B, 016
Computer Programming	CIS 001, 010, 030, 031, 038, 062, 066; CS 003A, 003B, 066
Communications	COMM 001
Economics	ECON 001A, 001AH, 001B, 001BH
Marketing	MRKT 020
Speech	SPCH 001, 001H, 002, 003, 004, 006, 009-013

HUMANITIES ELECTIVES: Refer to table on page 1 for specific major requirements.	
COURSE TYPE	PCC COURSE OFFERING
Art History	ARCH 011, 024A, 024B; ART 001A, 001B , 001C, 002, 003A, 003B, 004A, 004B, 004C, 004D, 005, 007, 008, 009; CINE 025; PHOT 010; THRT 005A, 005B
Creative Writing	ENGL 005A, 005B, 006, 008, 009; TVR 017A, 017B; THRT 006
English	ENGL 001A, 001AH, 001B, 001BH, 001C, 001CH , 003, 014, 015, 026
Film History	FRC 050; CINE 007A, 007B; THRT 7A, 7B

Foreign Language	ASL 001, 002, 010A-D; ARBC 001, 002; ARMN 001, 002; CHIN 001-005, 008A-009C; FRNC 001-004, 008A-009B, 014-016, 050; GRMN 001-004, 008A-009C; ITAL 001-004, 009A-C, 014-016; JAPN 001-005, 008A-009B; LATN 001, 002; PORT 001-004; RUSS 001-004; SPAN 001-004, 008A-009C, 025, 031
History	HIST 001A-019, 025B, 025D, 025F, 025I, 027-041
Humanities	HUM 001-004
Linguistics	ENGL 010, 011, 012; LING 010, 011
Literature	CHIN 012; ENGL 024, 025A-J, 026, 030A-C, 044-082C; FRNC 006, 012; GRMN 005, 012; ITAL 012, 050; JAPN 005, 012; SPAN 005, 006A, 006B, 012, 050
Music History	MUSC 007A, 007B, 021-023, 024A, 024B, 025, 027, 028
Philosophy	PHIL 001, 001H, 003, 007, 008, 020A, 020B, 025, 025H, 031-037
Religion	RELG 001-003

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES (Science Lab not required): Refer to table on page 1 for specific major requirements.

COURSE TYPE	PCC COURSE OFFERING
Anatomy	ANAT 025
Astronomy	ASTR 001, 012
Biology	BIOL 002, 003, 004, 010A-C, 011, 011H, 014, 016, 038, 039; MICR 002
Chemistry	CHEM 001A, 001B, 002A, 002B, 008A, 008B, 022
Computer Programming	CIS 012, 014, 016, 036, 038, 040, 066; CS 002, 003A, 003B, 006, 008, 018, 038-66
Engineering	ENGR 014, 015A, 015B, 017
Environmental Science	ENVS 001, 002, 003
Geology	GEOG 001, 002, 003, 004, 006, 012, 021, 022
Physical Geography	GEOG 001, 004
Math	BUS 014A, 014B, 015; MATH 003, 005A-005C, 005AH-005CH, 007A-010, 015, 022, 055, 055H
Physical Anthropology	ANTH 001, 001H
Physical Science	PHSC 002, 003, 071A
Physics	PHYS 001A-001D, 002A, 002B, 010, 031A, 031B
Physiology	PYSO 001
Statistics	STAT 015, 018, 050, 050H

SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES: Refer to table on page 1 for specific major requirements.

COURSE TYPE	PCC COURSE OFFERING
Cultural Anthropology	ANTH 002, 002H, 003, 004, 005, 006, 009, 012, 031
Cultural Geography	GEOG 002, 003
Culture Studies	CHIN 010, 022; FRNC 010, 016; GRMN 010; ITAL 010; JAPN 010; RUSS 011; SPAN 042A, 042B, 044A, 044B
Global Studies	GLOB 001, 002
Political Science	POLS 001, 002, 006, 007, 021, 022
Psychology	PSYC 001, 001H, 002, 003, 005, 021, 021H, 022, 023, 024, 025, 029, 031, 033, 041
Sociology	SOCI 001, 002, 014, 015, 016, 017, 022, 024, 029, 030, 031, 041

Humanities & Sciences (General Education) Elective Distribution Categories

Business and Professional Practices

Accounting	Economics
Business	Management
Communications	Marketing
Computer Programming	Speech

Humanities

Art History	History
Creative Writing	Humanities
Critical Theory	Literature
Design History	Music History
English	Photography History
Film History	Philosophy
Foreign Languages	Religion

Science and Technology

Anatomy	Geology
Astronomy	Marine Biology
Biochemistry	Math (College Level)
Biopsychology	Oceanography
Biology	Physics
Chemistry	Physical Anthropology
Cognitive Psychology	Physical Geography
Computer Programming	Sustainability
Ecology	Zoology
Engineering	

Social Science

Cultural Anthropology	Political Science
Cultural Geography	Psychology
Culture Studies	Sociology
Gender Studies	