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## Studio art major to be offered in fall

By **Jeff Samoray**, *OU Web Writer*

Following Oakland University's central mission to provide a top-quality and challenging undergraduate education, a new Bachelor of Arts degree in studio art will be offered beginning in the fall 2003 semester.

The major builds upon the strengths of OU's **Department of Art and Art History** and the university's longstanding commitment to the creative arts. The **OU Board of Trustees** approved the degree at its June 4 meeting.

"The opportunity for Oakland University students to pursue a degree in a creative field is really important for the entire university," said Special Instructor in Art History Andrea Eis, who also is the studio art coordinator. "Quite a few of our current studio art minors have been primed and ready to become majors. They wanted to have more advanced and concentrated classes. Oakland is already strong in its art offerings. This program is yet another enhancement."

Oakland's program will be like no others in the immediate area, said Professor of Art History and Department Chair Susan Wood.

"Community colleges in our area offer studio art courses, but not bachelor degrees," Wood said. "Wayne State and the College for Creative Studies offer Bachelor of Fine Art degrees, but our program is more liberal arts oriented because our students will also be expected to learn art theory and criticism."

Majors in studio art may specialize in drawing, painting or photography. The program is intended for students who are considering careers as professional artists, or in one of many fields with ties to the arts, such as curatorial, research, and archival positions in museums and galleries, art history, critical writing, art education, and positions in the corporate world that require creative approaches to problem solving. The program also is excellent preparation for further post-graduate study in the visual arts.

All studio art majors are required to complete a core group of studio art (12 credits) and art history courses (16 credits) as well as a specialization (32 credits) in studio art, drawing, painting or photography.

For more information on the studio art program, visit the **Department of Art and Art History** Web site or contact Susan Wood at (248) 370-3375 or [wood@oakland.edu](mailto:wood@oakland.edu).

### SUMMARY

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