

# KANSAS CITY ART INSTITUTE

A four-year college of art and design

## **Spring Schedule 2012: Fiber**

The Fiber curriculum combines traditional and experimental practices to provide students with a broad technical foundation as well as a conceptual focus. Fiber as a medium crosses boundaries and interfaces with art, design, craft and technology. Inherently multi-disciplinary the field of fiber encompasses among others, painting, printing, dyeing, pattern design, sewing, quilting, experimental fashion and costume, weaving, knitting, crochet, basketry techniques, felting, spinning and papermaking. Interest in more sustainable practices, a resurgence of craft as well as technological advances, expand the field to include such areas as social practice, architectural textiles, interactive textiles, electronic textiles and smart textiles. Emphasis in this medium is on skill development and the generation of ideas through a materials-based process of making.

Core curriculum: Sophomore year gives students a broad foundation in Surface Design (Painting and Printing on cloth, Dye Chemistry) and Weaving. The junior year includes instruction in advanced processes with emphasis on broadening the skill base and the development of content and visual language. Research and documentation will be required for each project. The use of sketches, diagrams and 3-D studies as a means of creatively developing and presenting ideas will be emphasized. In the Junior year students choose a design-based track, a Fine Art direction or a combination of the two. Choices include: Hand-constructed textiles (includes paper making), Experimental Fashion/Costume or Advanced Woven Form. Senior level work pursues goals geared to the individual direction of the student with in-depth investigation of advanced processes and concepts as they relate to each student's focus of study. Work includes research of contemporary art and design, student presentations, discussion of professional practices and the preparation of a final portfolio and exhibition. An extensive offering of elective courses allow students to focus on advanced level work in their chosen area or to extend their skill base in an area not covered as part of major studio.

Electives include: Hand- and Machine knitting, Basic Sewn Construction, Quilting, Papermaking, Screen printing, Advanced Surface Design, Costume Design for Performance, Craft and Social Practice, Collaborative Art Practice, Natural Dyeing, Entrepreneurial Textiles.

## Fiber Curriculum

<b>Sophomore Year</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Surface Design or Textile Construction: Weaving	6	0
Textile Construction: Weaving or Surface Design	0	6
Studio Elective	3	6
Liberal Arts	6	6
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	15	18
<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Advanced Weaving or Experimental Fashion	5	0
Sculptural Approaches to Experimental Fashion or Textile Techniques for Sculpture	0	5
Professional Practice	1	1
Studio Elective	6	6
Liberal Arts	6	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	18	18
<b>Senior Year</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Senior Fiber/Textiles	5	0
Senior Thesis Seminar	0	6
Professional Practice	1	0
Studio Elective	3	3
Open Electives	0	3
Liberal Arts	6	3
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	15	15

## **Fiber Major required classes:**

### **SOPHOMORE PROGRAM**

#### **FIBR200-01 Introduction to Surface Design**

**6.0 credit hours**

This course is an introduction to dyeing, painting, hand and screen-printing onto natural and synthetic fabrics. Basic dye chemistry will be covered to ensure that students have a thorough understanding of the steps involved in the uses of dyes and pigments as well as discharge and resist processes. Students will be guided towards the development of a personal visual language using the expressive potential of direct and indirect mark making on cloth. Projects will address both fine art as well as design applications of the medium.

Eichler-Messmer      FIBER –Print Studio and Dye lab      MW 8:00 am – 2:20 pm

#### **FIBR220-01 Textile Construction: Weaving**

**6.0 credit hours**

This component of the sophomore program is a comprehensive overview of floor-loom weaving and its relevance and significance in both Fine Art as well as Applied Design. Emphasis is on problem solving and developing increased awareness through observation of cause and effect. Importance is placed on the creative exploration and inventive approach to the development of a personal visual language in constructed cloth and structured surfaces.

Hanson      Irving 101 and 102      MW 8:00 am -2:20 pm

### **JUNIOR PROGRAM**

#### **FIBR322-01 Textile Techniques for Sculpture**

**5.0 credit hours**

Enrollment capacity: 12

Prerequisite: FIBR200 and FIBR220.

3-D textile construction techniques, organized relationally and for comparisons sake into units of study, like coiling, twining, and plating; knotting and interlacing; knitting and crochet structures; and Eastern and Western styles of papermaking. Developing sculptural forms and textile structures involves the exploration of the inherent properties of materials integrated with technique in relationship to dimensional space. Getting students to think through the process of making and to use their hands as the primary tool of the creative project is a major goal. The work created will be conceptual, functional, sculptural, site-specific or installation based.

Krumm      FIBER/ textile lab      W 8:00 am – 1:20 pm  
F 8:00 am – 2:20 pm

#### **FIBR320-02 Sculptural Approaches to Experimental Fashion**

**5.0 credit hours**

Enrollment capacity: 12

Prerequisite: FIBR200 and FIBR220

This course looks at fashion and sewn construction as a sculpture where emphasis is placed on the body as a foundation for dimensional exploration. The course will investigate the various materials, methods, and meaning behind the manipulation of the human form. Areas of investigation include: Construction techniques for hats/headgear, masks, boned garments and armatures, and accessory items. Techniques for manipulating unconventional materials into one-of-a-kind wearable items. Historical and contemporary approaches for enhancing and distorting

the human form. Designing and implementing original designs - from sketch, to draped form, to muslin mockup, to finished product.

This is an in depth look at sculptural fashion/costume techniques where we explore alternative materials and create our own "fabrics". Students should come away with the skills and confidence to be able to create sculptural forms using the human body as the foundation.

Heryer FIBER-Sewing Studio M 8:00 am – 2:20 pm  
W 8:00 am – 1:20 pm

**FIPP385-40 Junior Fiber Professional Practice II**

**1.0 credit hour**

Juniors are required to attend all KCAI professional practice lectures/sessions. Juniors in this class will begin to discuss and develop artist statements, resumes, and will be required to visually document their work.

Krumm FIBER W 1:30 am – 2:20 pm  
EA R 5:45 am – 6:45 pm

**FIPP385-41 Junior Fiber Professional Practice II**

**1.0 credit hour**

Juniors are required to attend all KCAI professional practice lectures/sessions. Juniors in this class will begin to discuss and develop artist statements, resumes, and will be required to visually document their work.

Heryer FIBER W 1:30 am – 2:20 pm  
EA R 5:45 am – 6:45 pm

**SENIOR PROGRAM**

**FIBR420-01 Senior Thesis Seminar**

**6.0 credit hours**

Prerequisite: 5.0 credit hours of FIBR 400-01

The focus of second semester senior year is the further development of a body of work which to be presented in an off campus exhibition, fashion performance or presentation appropriate to the nature of the work. With faculty supervision, the majority of class time will be dedicated to working independently in studio. Faculty and students will meet as a group to discuss professional issues and participate in weekly critiques. Students are required to take part in organized class activities including artist studio visits, discussions and related exhibitions.

Verbeek-Cowart FIBER WF 8:00 am – 2:20 pm

**ELECTIVES**

**FIBR 340-01 (for majors) The Mask: Protection, Ritual, and Disguise**

**3.0 credit hours**

**FIBRE 340-01 (all majors)**

Since ancient times, masks have been used for practical and ceremonial purposes. This course looks at the relationship between the mask and the body in costume, fashion, and fine art. Students will research the function and meaning of masks and headdresses in historic and contemporary contexts. Coursework will cover both traditional and non-traditional materials and techniques for dressing the head and face. Specific techniques and processes in mask making,

wigs, and millinery will be covered.

Heryer

FIBER-Sewing Studio

Thursday 8:00 am – 2:20 pm

**FIBR 360-01 (majors only) Fiber History and Properties**

**3.0 credit hours**

This class is designed to teach the elements, characteristics, and history of the most important natural textile fibers. We will closely examine the molecular arrangement, chemical composition and physical structure of fibers with an animal or plant origin. Textile techniques such as felting, yarn construction (spinning), and knitting are taught at the introductory level, while simultaneously studying the rich historical context of the cultivation, processing (including dyeing) and use of these fibers. Whenever possible, fiber samples will be available for inspection and emphasis will be on extensive hands-on experimentation to increase understanding and stimulate ideas. Fieldtrips have been scheduled to compliment the theory discussed in class and to establish a connection between theory and practice.

Dahl

FIBER-textile lab and dye lab

TTH 8:00 - 11:50 am

**FIBR 343-80 Image on Cloth (for majors only)**

**3 credit hours**

**FIBRE 343-80 (for non-majors)**

In this course students will generate a personal library of imagery and explore ways to translate these images onto cloth. Students are introduced to various printing techniques on fabric including block, stencil, transfer, silkscreen, and photo-silkscreen. Dyes and textile pigments will be used in combination with discharge and resist. An emphasis will be placed on conceptual development of a personal visual language and projects may take a variety of forms.

Eichler-Messmer

FIBER-print studio and dye lab

MW 6:00-8:50 pm

**FIBRE 372-80 Craft and Social Practice**

**3.0 credit hours**

**CASLE 372-80**

Throughout history, craft has played an important role in the social structure of communities--communities bound by culture, tribe, region, gender, caste, religion and economics. This course examines some of these communities and their relationship to craft in a number of spheres, including the domestic, education, and social activist. Craft, in the western world, has shifted from its relationship with design in the Arts and Crafts Movement to its current inclusion as a vital component and player in the contemporary art world. How has shift taken place and how is craft different now that it was even just a generation ago? Meanings for this new “Craftivism” will be explored in terms of craft’s position in contemporary art theory and creative practice. Community-based and collaborative projects will be undertaken in the production/realization of studio work and practice, along with seminar-style discussions in response to related readings and guest lectures on the subject.

Krumm

FIBER-Textile lab

WF 3:00-5:50 pm