Art Department

Portrait of the Major
An art major at Thiel College encompasses fine art theory and practice as well as the history of art with a curriculum based on a set of core foundation courses in drawing, painting, sculpture and art history. You will build on this foundation with upper-level electives in an area of concentration of your choosing that will allow you to build a basic portfolio for application to post-baccalaureate study or employment in the art world.

Curriculum Highlights
The Art Department offers two majors—fine art and commercial art. Foundation courses are completed during the first two years of the fine art major with concentration-area courses filling the final two years, allowing for an intensive, challenging and creative environment in which to create. Your course of study will culminate in an exhibition of original art work in the campus gallery. Commercial art majors also complete foundation courses in their first two years, but spend their third year at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, where they study in the field of their choice (such as graphic design, interior design, game art and theory, and many others). They then return in the final year to finish their degree at Thiel.

Special Features
By studying art at Thiel College, you’ll be able to:

• Receive personal attention and hands-on experience—many sections of our popular introductory studio and art history courses are offered each semester, ensuring space for art majors in required courses while keeping class sizes to 10 to 15 students. Upper-level courses are even smaller, between five and 10 students, and are more intensive and taught seminar-style.

• Enjoy exceptional facilities—two spacious studios provide natural light for drawing and oil painting. The print studio has two presses for aquatint and line etching. Two sculpture studios provide ample space for intro and upper-level study in clay, mixed media and cast metals. Art history classrooms are equipped with the latest in SMART classroom technology. The flexible Weyers-Sampson Gallery hosts four to five professional exhibits along with student exhibitions each year.

• Study with talented professors who are practicing artists—the art faculty at Thiel are highly accomplished artists and scholars who regularly exhibit and lecture about their work as well as present at professional conferences.

Career and Graduate School Outlook
Many Thiel students have gone on to study at The Pratt Institute, the Pennsylvania Academy of Art, the University of the Arts, the Art Academy of San Francisco, Kent State University and many others. Our graduates are teaching, curating and creating as professional artists.

Contact Information
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"I didn’t just study art at Thiel College—I studied English, philosophy, religion, mathematics, etc.—and my undergraduate college experience at Thiel helped to prepare me for my graduate school career as well as life in the working world. The Art Department is small, close-knit, challenging and supportive. The art program offers students the opportunity to shape their own art-making experience. This freedom is something special that I think Thiel College offers art students. After graduating, I continued my studies at Sotheby’s Institute of Art in London, England, where I earned a post-bachelor’s certificate in art history. In 2008, I completed my M.A. in museum communication from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pa. I had a well-rounded collegiate education and in turn, I am a well-rounded professional currently working in the museum field. I am proud to be a graduate of Thiel College.”

Jordy Farrell ’08,
Major: Fine Art (Illustration and Printmaking)
Clubs and Activities: Sigma Phi Epsilon, Art Gallery, Theatre, Admissions Office Tour Guide

Go to www.thiel.edu/visit
and schedule your individual academic visit today!