Art and Design

Freie Kunst

Public Art and New Artistic Strategies (M.F.A.)

Lehramt an Gymnasien: Kunsterziehung im Zweifach und Doppelfach (1. Staatsexamen)

Medienkunst/Mediengestaltung (Bachelor of Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts)

Produktdesign (Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts)

Visuelle Kommunikation (Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts)

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

Architecture and Urbanism, Civil Engineering, Art and Design, and Media – the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar’s four faculties give it a profile that is unique in Germany. We shape the future, transcending the boundaries of individual disciplines. The term ‘Bauhaus’ stands for openness, creativity and a drive to experiment. This self-image shines through in research, art and teaching as well as in 200 collaborations with partner universities all over the world. Its story began in 1860 as the Grand Ducal Art School.

Studying at the place where Bauhaus was born

In 1919, what is now the university’s Main Building was the birthplace of the Staatliches Bauhaus, the most influential design school of the 20th century. Prominent figures from a variety of disciplines and countries revolutionised education together with their students.

The Bauhaus-Universität Weimar has been building on this history in its name since 1996. It is an international university, very at home in the cultural city of Weimar. Inspired by this great role model, more than 4,000 students across 40 degree programmes and courses of study use modern methods to find answers to the central questions of society, technology, science, and art and culture.
Welcome to the Faculty of Art and Design

The Faculty of Art and Design serves as an art college for the state of Thuringia within the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. The Faculty’s concept is reflected in the ›Weimar model‹ teaching format used here. Teaching is project-based and supported with extremely well-equipped workshops and interdisciplinary collaboration with other subject areas.

› 5 Fundamental degree programmes
› 2 English-taught Master’s programmes
› 4 Master’s degree programmes
› 1 Doctoral degree programme in Art and Design
› 5 Academic subject areas
› 12 Central workshops and Labs
› 900 Students
› 25 percent International students

The permeation of practical art and design work and of outstanding scholarship is considered particularly important in Weimar. This is also clear from the Art and Design Ph. D. programme, which is the third pillar of university education at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

Project-based course of study using the ›Weimar model‹

At the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar’s Faculty of Art and Design, students study via projects in line with the ›Weimar model‹. Every semester, you will take an intensive look at a particular topic or question. A standard study day includes regular discussion and collaboration with fellow students and intense discussions with teachers. There are also individual consultations where professors focus on each individual student’s personal projects.

Students spend the majority of their time in a workspace or workshop, experimenting in studios and labs, or conferring with fellow students.

The academic modules provide the necessary theoretical background. The teachers of the academic subject areas offer courses in arts and research, the theory and history of design, the history and theory of art, visual communication, and art and its didactics. Students gain practical experience from specialist modules, the majority of which are completed in workshops and studios.

The ›Weimar model‹ places a high value on interdisciplinarity: the degree programme curricula are so open that you can complete courses not only from other programmes, but also from the other three Faculties–Architecture and Urbanism, Civil Engineering, and Media.

All you need to bring with you for the ›Weimar model‹ is independence, motivation and creativity.

Overview of courses and study programmes

With its degree programmes, the Faculty of Art and Design offers a wide range of art and design fields covering the first and second qualification phases of a three-level educational structure.

Freie Kunst > Diplom
Public Art and New Artistic Strategie > Master of Fine Arts
Lehramt an Gymnasien: Doppelfach Kunsterziehung > First state examination
Lehramt an Gymnasien: Kunsterziehung im Zweifachstudium > First state examination
Medienkunst/Mediengestaltung > Bachelor of Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts
Teaching in the Freie Kunst degree programme aims to develop and promote an authentic and professional artistic personality. It is based on examining contemporary themes and discourses, covering relevant artistic media and strategies, and intense personal discussions between teachers and students.

The focal point of the programme is independent work in the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar’s workshops and studios. Projects are presented at regular plenary sessions and discussed within the group. There are also individual consultations. In specialist courses and workshops, students learn technical and craft skills as well as the fundamentals of artistic work.

Students can study in the following fields:

- Experimental painting and drawing
- Sculpture, object, installation
- Art and social space

Via specialist courses and other classes, students can choose from a wide range of topic areas including video, media art, new media, performance, photography, new artistic strategies, curation, the fundamentals of the art business, and much more.

Another specific feature of the degree programme is its professional and artistic positioning in the art sector. Teaching is supplemented by presentations, discussions and guest lectures from international experts. The Freie Kunst teaching staff help students to design and implement their own projects and exhibitions.

The Freie Kunst programme ends with a ›diploma‹ in a standard duration of nine semesters.
Public Art and New Artistic Strategies (M.F.A.)

The English-taught Master’s degree programme in ›Public Art and New Artistic Strategies‹ prepares students for the particular situation of fine art in dealings with the public, and trains them to provide effective artistic intervention.

Students from all over the world come to learn in this internationally oriented course. International students spend four semesters in Weimar, whilst their German counterparts compete at least one semester of study abroad. There are around 30 places in the degree programme.

The study semesters cover three focal points that are vital for work in the public sphere:

- Art, architecture, and history
- Art, society, and the public sphere
- Situation, Intervention, and New Artistic Strategies

The academic degree of ›Master of Fine Arts‹ is awarded after a standard duration of four semesters. The Master’s course lays the foundations for a further academic career, as well as providing preparation for academic qualifications via doctoral programmes.

Lehramt an Gymnasien: Kunsterziehung im Zweifach und Doppelfach
(Teaching Qualification in Art Education)
1st State Exam

The study structure of the modular degree programmes ›Lehramt an Gymnasien: Kunsterziehung im Zweifachstudium‹ and ›Doppelfach Kunsterziehung‹ is particularly visible in their project orientation, which promotes self-organisation skills, the capacity to reflect, a cooperative mindset and research-oriented work.

Teacher training students are integrated into fine art, product design and visual communication projects on an equal standing. Throughout the course of study, links are drawn between curricular and extra-curricular art-related contexts that are expressed in ongoing collaborations with external institutions and in particular with the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

Early intensive contact with schools is provided by the mandatory work placement semester using the Jena model. As well as education in two subjects (art education and another subject, e.g. German), the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar also offers a double degree programme (art education only). In addition, it is possible to study a teaching qualification in art and music in Thuringia. The second subject and educational sciences are studied at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena or at the University of Music FRANZ LISZT Weimar.

The programme ends with the first state examination after a standard duration of ten semesters.

Medienkunst/Mediengestaltung (Media Art and Design)
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts

Studies in Media Art and Design provide training in art and design professions in the media, and also serve as a think tank and laboratory, creating new media forms and formats and finding answers to pressing issues in a globally active world. Auditory, visual, momentous, conceptual, interactive: these fields interact with an endless number of potential combinations.

Theory and practice go hand in hand: The artistic design of everyday media life is paired with scholarly reflection and the technical fundamentals of computer science in the media. These are joined by a convenient Medienhaus (fitted with its own TV studio), the audio production studio, and the ›Digital Bauhaus Lab‹, the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar’s research and laboratory structure.
The degree programme includes teaching in the following subject areas:

- Electroacoustic Composition and Sound Design
- Experimental Radio
- Media Environments
- Interface Design
- Media Events

The programme is available as an eight-semester Bachelor’s degree and a two-semester Master’s degree. One or two bridge semesters can also provide a further transition into a Master’s degree programme. A two-semester English-taught programme in Media Art and Design (MAD) is also available.

**Produktdesign (Product Design)**
*Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts*

The Produktdesign degree programme is about a pragmatic approach: searching, thinking, experimenting, discussing and collaborating.

The design criteria for product design are aesthetic, semantic, symbolic, fashionable, technical and material-based. Design work is generally based on research involving conceptual considerations, free sensory investigations, sketches, experiments, material analyses, digital design tools, presentation layouts, models and samples.

As well as a product’s aesthetics, comprehensibility, clarity and attractiveness, we also examine questions relating to prudent production, energy requirements and conservation of resources and try to answer them as far as possible.

The degree programme’s four professorships do not represent individual subject areas in the traditional sense. They formulate and supervise projects in:

- Industrial design
- Interaction design
- Design and management
- Material and the environment

It is also possible to focus on artisanal product design, scene design, exhibition design or mobility topics.

The Produktdesign degree programme is offered as an eight-semester Bachelor’s or as a Master’s (two semesters). One to two bridge semesters can also provide a further transition into a Master’s degree programme.

**Visuelle Kommunikation (Visual Communication)**
*Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts*

The creative production of communicative images, graphics and text for use in PR activities plays a key role in visual communication. However, the spectrum of the formative exchange of information ranges goes beyond the traditional graphic means of expression. The Visuelle Kommunikation course therefore covers the entire environment designed by humans and the communicative relationships it uses.

This field of activity can also include planning campaigns and events, as well as dramaturgically staging complex sensory impressions or communicating with audiovisual, electric media and in digital networks.
Students can study in the following fields:

› Graphic design
› Image-text design
› Typography and typeface design
› Photography
› Cross-media moving image

The ability to think methodically and independently, critical skills (including about yourself) and an understanding of communicative medial processes and their aesthetic, social and environmental function are all prerequisites. The teaching method of an ›interdisciplinary project-based course of study‹ enables and promotes this way of thinking.

The ›Visuelle Kommunikation‹ degree programme is available as an eight-semester Bachelor’s and a Master’s (two semesters). One or two bridge semesters can also provide a further transition into a Master’s degree programme.

International studies

The Faculty of Art and Design also offers three English-language Master’s degree programmes. As well as Public Art and New Artistic Strategies (M.F.A.) and Media Art and Design (M.F.A.), the Master’s in MediaArchitecture (M.Sc.) links the Faculty of Art and Design with the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism in interdisciplinary form. Students from abroad take advantage of the opportunities offered by English-language studies in Weimar.

For students on Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programmes at the Faculty of Art and Design, there are opportunities to complete a semester or an internship abroad. More than 70 international partnerships with universities and art colleges offer ways to discover the world from Weimar.

Degree programme Ph. D.

Art and Design, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.)

The aim of this doctoral degree programme is to offer scientific training to artists and designers who have already completed a Master’s, diploma or teacher training degree at an art or design higher education institution. This three-year course of study ends with a Ph. D. thesis that consists of equally weighted academic and art or design sections.

The Faculty of Art and Design offers a dual qualification that is unique in Germany with a practical, scientific education. Both qualifications can be put to use in teaching and research, exhibitions, organising cultural events, or culturally active institutions.

During the entire course of study, students receive personal support from two university lecturers, one of which is an academic mentor and the other of which represents art or design. One of these teachers must be from the Faculty of Art and Design at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

The programme has a standard duration of six semesters and ends with a ›Doctor of Philosophy‹ degree.

Academic subject areas

Designers and artists today are expected to be able to relate their design skills to cultural practices and relevant discourses. The profile that students gain at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar includes analytical and critical skills, as well as the ability to articulate and present their thoughts.

The Faculty of Art and Design’s academic subject areas teach the necessary fundamentals of thinking and writing in the humanities and cultural sciences, and of developing theories for art and design processes.
The theoretical part of the studies is anything but abstract: fascinating historical materials, modern methods, interdisciplinary research, unconventional theories and current debates. Advanced courses and particularly the Ph.D. in Art and Design investigate and take a deeper look at the methodological approaches to artistic research.

Training at the Faculty of Art and Design therefore meets university requirements and also provides exemplary networking between theory and practice in a federal higher art education landscape via interdisciplinary projects between the individual degree programmes.

Academic modules are offered in the following subject areas:

- Arts and Research
- History and Theory of Art
- History and Theory of Visual Communication
- Art and its Didactics
- Theory and History of Design

What is an artistic aptitude test?

Students must complete an artistic aptitude test for all degree programmes. This multi-stage process has huge benefits: it allows both teachers and applicants to get to know each other better, thus enabling a relatively precise assessment of whether studying at the Faculty using the ›Weimar model‹ is the right choice. The extremely low rate of students who do not complete their studies confirms that this selection process works well.

The aptitude test for fundamental degree programmes is made up of the following three stages:

- Register to complete the aptitude test by 31 March of the relevant year
- Prepare and submit an assignment/concept sketch
- Practical examination: aptitude interview and presentation of own work (portfolio)

For the ›Freie Kunst‹ degree programme, you begin by submitting a portfolio of your own work. You are then invited for the practical examination on the basis of an evaluation of this portfolio.

Detailed information about aptitude tests and application methods for our Master’s degree programmes and the Ph.D. course can be found on our website at [www.uni-weimar.de/kunst-und-gestaltung/bewerbung](http://www.uni-weimar.de/kunst-und-gestaltung/bewerbung)
Workshops and Labs

Ideas, designs and concepts from practically-oriented projects are transformed into functional models and prototypes via workshops. Students spend the majority of their course time here. Work is undertaken independently with the support of experienced specialists.

Central workshops

- CAD, CAM
- Printing
- Photos
- Plaster and mould construction
- Wood
- Plastic
- Mac pool & C.I.P. pool
- Media.Point
- Metal
- Model making
- Video
- MAIA (materials archive)

Local workshops and labs

- Bauhaus Form + Function Lab (BFFL)
- Digital Bauhaus Lab Platform
- DIY BioLab
- DIY Electronics Studio
- Interface Design Electronics Lab
- Interface Design Prototype Lab
- RADIO:Studio
- Studio for electro-acoustic music (SeaM)
- Open Process Lab (OPL)
- Textile workshop (as a student initiative)

University Town of Weimar

Despite its small size and story book charm, Weimar is not just a sleepy provincial nest. Whether you are looking for art and culture, a thriving food scene, or exciting night life – Weimar has more to offer than just Goethe, Schiller, and the Bauhaus. All this and more can be found in Weimar’s city centre, where nothing is more than a ten-minute walk away. The more than 20 museums, four cinemas, the German National Theatre, numerous cabaret stages, in addition to students clubs and concert venues speak for themselves.
**EINBLICK.Bauhaus**

**Orientation evening for prospective students and their parents**
Learn all about course offerings, housing and financial options, and other important factors right on site.
uni-weimar.de/orientierungsabend

**Hochschulinformationstag (Open Campus Day) for Bachelor and Master study programmes**
Learn about our university, its workshops, lecture halls, and labs. Get answers to your questions about individual study programmes, study organization, and the social aspects of studying here.
Early March: uni-weimar.de/hit

**summaery – The annual exhibition at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar**
Our annual exhibition shows off student projects and transforms the city of Weimar into a living stage for four days.
Second weekend in July: uni-weimar.de/summaery

**Schnupperstudium (Course Sampler) – Test out studying**
How do things work at the university? What can I study? How much does it cost? Where can I live? There are so many questions at the beginning. Our recommendation? Come and sample it! uni-weimar.de/schnupperstudium

**In.Sight Master**
Try out the Master’s programme. Experience our »In.Sight Master« programme and see what student and campus life are really like. Discover the topics hidden behind course titles.
Mid May: uni-weimar.de/insightmaster

**Bauhaus.Botschafter**
Students from various disciplines provide answers to questions about their own study programmes, offer guided tours, workshops, and publish news about studying in Weimar via Facebook and blogspot.
bauhausbotschafter.com
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Information and Office Hours
www.uni-weimar.de/studienberatung

Students present their work
www.uni-weimar.de/experiment-bauhaus

Student Advising Overview
www.uni-weimar.de/kug-studiengaenge

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Editors: Romy Weinhold, Annett Habisreuther
Concept, Layout and Typesetting: University Communications
Photos: Jens Hauspurg (Cover), Carolin Klemm, Tobias Adam, Jens Hauspurg, Thomas Müller, Marcus Glahn
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