

# ART, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY PRACTICE (MA)

Department Website (<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/art/>)

NYSED: 35964 HEGIS: 1002.00 CIP: 50.0799

## Program Description

This interdisciplinary MA program in Art, Education, and Community Practice combines coursework in contemporary artistic practice, radical educational theory, and social activism. In this program students assume major roles in changing the social, cultural, political, and economic landscape through their artistic practice. It prepares artists, educators, designers, community organizers, and other publicly situated activists to work within community-based settings, museums, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), or broader public and civic contexts to initiate social change through the arts.

Students take foundational courses in the three core program modules: Contemporary Artistic Practice, Educational Theory, and Social Activism. In addition, students can choose elective courses from across the university to customize their degree focus and experiences.

Grounded in the work of critical educational theorists, including Paulo Freire and bell hooks and several artistic activist thinkers, this program supports artists and other publicly situated activists to connect visual strategies and tactics with the needs of a community. Students learn from artists who do socially engaged work, activists who use creative organizing approaches, and educators who use collective methods to engage people in institutions and public spaces. Drawing on community organizing strategies and tactics, students examine how arts/design can open dialogue about a community's history, culture, and social needs as well as envisioning creative direct action events that involve putting ideas generated in classes into practice. This hands-on approach leads to the capstone project, which provides an opportunity to design and implement a community-based or public art project that allows for social transformation.

## Career Opportunities

Graduates of the program work outside of and in collaboration with traditional avenues (museums, gallery arenas, classrooms, non-government organizations (NGOs). Graduates also serve as artists and organizers working as educators; curators; and artists in museums, community-based organizations, and NGOs or in broader public and civic contexts to initiate social change through the arts.

## Accreditation (NASAD)

NYU is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (<https://nasad.arts-accredit.org/>) (NASAD).

National Association of Schools of Art and Design  
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21  
Reston, VA 20190-5248  
(703) 437-0700

## Admissions

This program is not accepting applications. Prospective students may consider the Teaching Art, All Grades (MA) (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/>)

[graduate/culture-education-human-development/programs/teaching-art-all-grades-ma/](https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/culture-education-human-development/programs/teaching-art-all-grades-ma/)) program.

## Program Requirements

The program requires the completion of 30 credits, comprised of the following:

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
ARTCR-GE 2459	Art & Ideas: What is Social Practice Art?	3
ARTED-GE 2070	Critical Pedagogy, Artists, and the Public Sphere	3
ART-GE 2102	Artistic Activism as Radical Research	2
ARTCR-GE 2461	Art & Ideas: Art as a Practice of Freedom	3
ARTED-GE 2301	Final Project in Art Education	1
<b>Guided Electives</b>		<b>18</b>
Students take one required foundational course in each program module and then choose electives from across the university each module to customize their degree focus and experiences.		
Module 1: Socially Engaged Art		
Module 2: Critical Pedagogy		
Module 3: Social Activism		
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

## Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
<b>1st Semester/Term</b>		
ARTCR-GE 2459	Art & Ideas: What is Social Practice Art?	3
ARTED-GE 2070	Critical Pedagogy, Artists, and the Public Sphere	3
Guided Electives		6
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>2nd Semester/Term</b>		
ARTCR-GE 2461	Art & Ideas: Art as a Practice of Freedom	3
ART-GE 2102	Artistic Activism as Radical Research	2
Guided Electives		8
<b>Credits</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>3rd Semester/Term</b>		
ARTED-GE 2301	Final Project in Art Education	1
Guided Electives		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will:

1. Examine the relationship between art and politics across time and space with a focus on social change.
2. Amplify the voices, perspectives, and work of marginalized communities and regions in the arena of artistic activism through making invisible histories and socio-political issues visible.
3. Design, implement, and evaluate an art intervention that creates awareness of existing socio-political issues or organize a direct action event to create social change in our communities and society.
4. Build clear, innovative, and coherent art-based educational experiences that are based on historical and socio-political context, multidisciplinary research, dialogic, experiential, and grounded in an understanding of how power informs our ways of knowing and being

in communities, institutions, and public spaces in order to initiate social change.

5. Generate new knowledge about how art activism adds value to the processes of democracy, social justice, and representation.

## **Policies**

### **NYU Policies**

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

### **Steinhardt Academic Policies**

Additional academic policies can be found the Steinhardt academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/culture-education-human-development/academic-policies/>).