

**Minneapolis College of Art and Design  
Teaching Artist Minor  
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Sheet**

1. What is a Teaching Artist?

A teaching artist is a practicing professional artist/designer with the complementary skills of an educator, who can effectively engage a wide range of people in learning experiences in and through the arts. MCAD offers undergraduate art and design students the opportunity to develop and hone professional skills of the teaching artist through the Teaching Artist Minor.

2. Who is eligible to declare the Teaching Artist minor?

The Teaching Artist minor is open to all undergraduate students who are pursuing the undergraduate degree at MCAD after completing Foundation level courses. The Teaching Artist minor can be completed as part of the undergraduate degree's required 120 credit hours. Bachelor of Science (BSc) Entrepreneurial Studies (ES) students may also earn a Teaching Artist minor, although it may require additional studio credits required beyond those required for the BSc ES degree.

3. Why would I declare a Teaching Artist minor?

The Teaching Artist minor provides students with the opportunity to develop a meaningful connection between their studio art / design practice and teaching artist work in a wide variety of community settings. Students who earn a Teaching Artist minor are prepared to work as teaching artists in various school and community arts settings, after school programs, museum education, arts organizations, and special populations. Not a licensure program, the Teaching Artist minor provides a basis for application to arts education licensure and graduate education programs.

4. How I declare the Teaching Artist minor?

Students declare a Teaching Artist minor by completing the Teaching Artist minor declaration form, obtaining your department chair's signature, and submitting the completed form to the MCAD Student Affairs Office. The form is available in the MCAD Student Affairs office, and online on the MCAD intranet under Departments and Services: Academic Advising.

5. Do I need to schedule an advising appointment to declare the Teaching Artist minor?

No. Students are encouraged, however, to discuss their interest in the Teaching Artist minor, and to monitor their progress toward completing the requirements, in their Advising Day meeting with their advisers and the Teaching Artist advisor.

6. When is the best time to declare interest in completing the Teaching Artist minor? Can seniors declare a Teaching Artist minor?

Students are advised to declare a Teaching Artist minor after the completion of foundation courses and before registering for the Teaching Artist Practicum. Students are strongly encouraged to declare the minor early in their MCAD career to help schedule the minor's requirements in relation to their degree requirements. Students who declare late in their undergraduate careers may need to take more than the recommended courses per semester, or complete the minor by enrolling in summer courses or additional semesters.

7. Is there a minimum grade point average required to declare the minor?

The minimum grade point average to declare the Teaching Artist minor is 2.8.

8. Can MCAD courses I have taken be substituted for the requirements of the minor?

There are no substitutions for courses explicitly required of the Teaching Artist minor.

9. Can classes I take at other colleges and universities be applied toward the minor?

Students can transfer credits on a case-by-case basis. Contact the Teaching Artist advisor for information.

10. How is the completed Teaching Artist minor indicated on students' transcripts?

If students successfully complete the courses required of the Teaching Artist minor, it will be indicated on their official final MCAD transcript. No notation will appear on transcripts if they fail to complete the requirements for the Teaching Artist minor before they graduate.

11. Is this a teaching license program?

No. Teaching certification for art education is offered as a Master program at the University of Minnesota and licensure programs at other liberal arts colleges. Through its coursework, the Teaching Artist Minor can provide a basis for application to these arts education licensure and graduate programs by fulfilling course and contact hour requirements. MCAD is not able to monitor degree requirements for all licensure programs. If students are interested in a license or Master degree, they are responsible for researching and tracking application requirements, including overall GPA and course distribution.

12. What coursework is specific to the Teaching Artist minor?

The Teaching Artist minor comprises six required courses, 3 Liberal Arts and 3 Studio courses. These are: FAS 3010 Art in Community, HS 3340 Introduction to Psychology, HS 3530 Teaching Artist Theory and Methods, ID 3517 Teaching Artist Practicum, a Non-western Art History, Teaching Artist Internship (preferred) or a Studio Elective outside your major.

*Teaching Artist Theory and Methods* introduces students to the theory and practice of the teaching artist and professional opportunities in the field. Students engaged in inquiry based learning, reflective practice, lesson planning and assessment, classroom management. The course includes peer teaching, classroom observations, and arts infused team teaching in K-12 classrooms. This course connects students with organizations who offer teaching artist opportunities.

The hybrid Teaching Artist Practicum provides the opportunity to be mentored by professional teachers and teaching artists in a connected learning community. Students participate in two visual art residencies and shadow a teaching artist during an artist residency. The course includes teaching journals, cohort meetings, development of a teaching artist job application portfolio, and online presence. *Pre-req TA Theory and Methods.*

13. Do I have to declare a Teaching Artist minor to take the Teaching Artist courses?

No, you do not have to declare the minor to take the Teaching Artist courses.

14. How can I get more information about the courses required of the Teaching Artist minor?

Further information on the minor and courses required for completing it can be found on the Teaching Artist minor description, overview, and required courses sheet available in the Student Affairs Office, and online on the MCAD intranet

[MCAD Minors](#) page or [Academic Advising](#) page. For more information about specific courses, students are encouraged to meet with the Teaching Artist adviser.