CFN 1000. Communication Design. 3 Credits.
This course will examine digital design techniques and concepts that are relevant to all majors. Students will learn the basics of visual communication, typography, and design by utilizing Adobe Photoshop to create a series of projects that will result in the creation of their own basic website. Students will learn how to scan, import, and create artwork and how to correct and adjust image tone and color. Students will also use Photoshop’s many selection and editing tools and will be introduced to layers, channels, color palettes, and scripted actions. By going through lessons ranging from image retouching to title banner and button creation and simple time-based animation, students will assemble and produce a simple website which will showcase a portfolio of their own work. In addition to the projects above, students will be introduced to the theories and practices of visual communications and graphic design through a series of lectures and demonstrations. Other Adobe CS software such as InDesign will be touched on as well.

CFN 1090. First Year Studio I. 3 Credits.
The First Year Studio course is a two-semester sequence structured as a themed, shared experience that focuses on cross-disciplinary approaches to art making and the creative process. All first-year students participate in a rotating class structure that allows for the development of an iterative art-making experience beneficial to artists, designers, and photographers alike. Working in small groups, students study with a variety of faculty across departments, explore and experience a variety of methods and materials, and are introduced to the conceptual framework of the artist in today’s society. Class projects will address how artists and designers communicate to an audience, collaborate with others, and manage multi-step projects. They also will foster the development of a culture of constructive criticism and foreground the role of spontaneity and improvisation in the process of art making. Through this course, designed as a two-semester sequence, First Year students will explore all levels of artistic engagement, from the exploration of self identity to the exploration of the artist in the broader community. Successful completion of both First Year Studio courses is required for entry into major-specific studio courses in second year.

CFN 1091. First Year Studio II. 3 Credits.
The First Year Studio course is a two-semester sequence structured as a themed, shared experience that focuses on cross-disciplinary approaches to art making and the creative process. All first-year students participate in a rotating class structure that allows for the development of an iterative art-making experience beneficial to artists, designers, and photographers alike. Working in small groups, students study with a variety of faculty across departments, explore and experience a variety of methods and materials, and are introduced to the conceptual framework of the artist in today’s society. Class projects will address how artists and designers communicate to an audience, collaborate with others, and manage multi-step projects. They also will foster the development of a culture of constructive criticism and foreground the role of spontaneity and improvisation in the process of art making. Through this course, designed as a two-semester sequence, First Year students will explore all levels of artistic engagement, from the exploration of self identity to the exploration of the artist in the broader community. Successful completion of both First Year Studio courses is required for entry into major-specific studio courses in second year.

CFN 5000. Graduate Studio Foundation. 3 Credits.
This multi-media course introduces future educators to working with art materials, traditional and unconventional, commonly used in the studio components of art education programs in schools, museums and community organizations. The emphasis is on members of the class gaining proficiency through their own art making. Studio projects are designed for adults with prior studio experience. Instruction and critique will be at the graduate level, with discussion of educational implications for educational program development kept secondary to the primary studio experience. Note: This is not a course in which students practice techniques tailored to beginners, amateurs or children. Enrollment restricted to 1st year MAT students.