



FACULTY OF  
FINE ARTS

## Constituent college of Bareilly International University

Administrative Block, BIU Building, Rohilkhand Medical College Campus, Pilibhit Bypass Road, Bareilly-243006 (U.P.) INDIA  
Phone : 0581-2526051/ 53, +91 9568 131000 Email : [info@biu.edu.in](mailto:info@biu.edu.in) Website : [www.biu.edu.in](http://www.biu.edu.in)

## Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Painting

### Four-Year Undergraduate Degree Programme (Eight Semesters)

### A Comprehensive and Contemporary Curriculum Framework

#### 1. Programme Overview

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Painting is a four-year professional undergraduate degree programme designed to develop students into creative visual thinkers, professional artists, educators, researchers, curators, and interdisciplinary practitioners. The curriculum integrates classical drawing and painting traditions with contemporary visual practices, digital media, critical theory, research methodologies, and professional exposure.

The programme emphasizes:

- Strong foundation in drawing and visual perception
- Development of personal artistic language
- Understanding of Indian and World Art History
- Experimentation with traditional and contemporary media
- Interdisciplinary and research-based studio practice
- Professional readiness for galleries, teaching, design, animation, curation, public art, and independent art practice
- Portfolio development and exhibition practices
- Digital literacy and contemporary visual culture

#### 2. Programme Objectives

The programme aims to:

1. Develop technical proficiency in drawing, painting, composition, colour, and visual language.





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2. Build critical understanding of aesthetics, art history, and contemporary art discourse.
3. Encourage experimentation with media, methods, and conceptual practices.
4. Foster originality, imagination, and personal expression.
5. Integrate traditional Indian art practices with contemporary global perspectives.
6. Prepare students for professional careers in visual arts and related creative industries.
7. Cultivate research aptitude, visual analysis, and documentation skills.
8. Develop interdisciplinary and socially engaged artistic practices.
9. Encourage ethical, ecological, and culturally sensitive artistic approaches.
10. Prepare students for higher studies, teaching, gallery practice, curation, and entrepreneurship.

### 3. Programme Structure

#### Duration

- 4 Years (8 Semesters)

#### Pattern

- Foundation Year: Semesters I & II
- Intermediate Exploration: Semesters III & IV
- Advanced Studio Practice: Semesters V & VI
- Professional Specialization & Research: Semesters VII & VIII

#### Credit Structure

- Total Credits: 180–200 Credits
- Theory : Practical Ratio = 30 : 70





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### Teaching Methodologies

- Studio Practice
- Demonstrations
- Workshops
- Lectures
- Museum & Gallery Visits
- Field Studies
- Critiques and Reviews
- Artist Talks
- Seminars and Presentations
- Collaborative Projects
- Digital Learning
- Research and Documentation

### 4. Graduate Attributes

Upon completion of the programme, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate advanced artistic and technical skills
- Develop independent visual language and conceptual thinking
- Analyze artworks critically and contextually
- Create professional portfolios and exhibitions
- Use digital tools and contemporary media effectively
- Apply research methodologies in studio practice
- Engage with cultural, ecological, and social concerns through art
- Work independently and collaboratively in creative industries

### 5. Assessment Pattern

#### Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA)

- Studio Assignments
- Sketchbooks and Journals





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- Presentations
- Viva Voce
- Process Documentation
- Mid-Semester Critiques
- Research Papers
- Participation and Attendance

### End Semester Assessment

- Practical Display and Jury
- Theory Examinations
- Portfolio Evaluation
- Exhibition Assessment
- Dissertation/Research Project

### Suggested Weightage

- Practical Subjects: 70% Internal + Jury/External Assessment
- Theory Subjects: 40% Internal + 60% External

## 6. Semester-wise Curriculum

### SEMESTER I – FOUNDATION OF VISUAL LANGUAGE

#### YEAR I

#### FOUNDATION STUDIES

### SEMESTER I – VISUAL FOUNDATIONS AND OBSERVATION

#### Practical Subjects

#### 1. Drawing and Observation Studies

- Line and contour drawing
- Shape and form studies





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- Light and shade
- Perspective basics
- Nature studies

### 2. Elements and Principles of Visual Design

- Elements of art
- Principles of design
- Abstract compositions
- Visual problem-solving
- Paper constructions

### 3. Colour Exploration Studio

- Colour theory
- Colour relationships
- Warm and cool colours
- Colour psychology
- Nature-based colour studies

### 4. Material and Media Exploration

- Graphite and charcoal
- Ink and pastel
- Watercolour and acrylic
- Mixed media exploration
- Experimental mark-making

### 5. Visual Journal and Sketchbook Practice

- Daily drawing exercises
- Observation records
- Visual note-making
- Idea development
- Reflection and documentation





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### Theory Subjects

#### 1. History of Art and Visual Culture – I

- Prehistoric art
- Ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman art
- Indus Valley Civilization
- Mauryan and Buddhist art
- Ajanta paintings

#### 2. Fundamentals of Aesthetics

- Nature of art
- Beauty and expression
- Creativity and imagination
- Visual perception
- Indian aesthetic concepts

#### Workshop Module I

- Clay modelling
- Basic printmaking
- Collage construction
- Creative assemblage

#### Field Study

- Museum visits
- Heritage walks
- Nature sketching camp
- Field documentation portfolio

### SEMESTER II – INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPLORATION AND VISUAL COMMUNICATION





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### Practical Subjects

#### 1. Advanced Drawing and Human Studies

- Figure drawing
- Human proportions
- Portrait studies
- Gesture drawing
- Environmental sketching

#### 2. Foundation Painting Studio

- Watercolour techniques
- Acrylic painting
- Gouache methods
- Still life painting
- Landscape and expressive composition

#### 3. Introduction to Printmaking and Graphic Exploration

- Relief printing
- Monoprint techniques
- Texture printing
- Stencil methods
- Image transfer processes

#### 4. Visual Communication and Applied Art Basics

- Typography fundamentals
- Poster design
- Symbol and icon design
- Illustration basics
- Visual storytelling

#### 5. Digital Art and Contemporary Media





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- Digital drawing
- Image editing
- Digital composition
- Hybrid art processes
- Portfolio presentation

### Theory Subjects

#### 1. History of Art and Visual Culture – II

- Gupta art
- Mughal painting
- Rajput and Pahari painting
- Renaissance and Baroque art
- Modern Indian art and contemporary practices

#### 2. Introduction to Visual Culture and Communication

- Image and society
- Media literacy
- Visual communication
- Popular culture
- Contemporary visual language

### Workshop Module II

- Painting techniques
- Relief printmaking
- Typography and poster design
- Illustration
- Installation and collaborative practices

### Foundation Portfolio Project

- Drawing portfolio
- Painting portfolio
- Printmaking exercises





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- Visual communication projects
- Sketchbook and research documentation

### YEAR II

### INTRODUCTION TO PAINTING TRADITIONS

### SEMESTER III – INTERMEDIATE EXPLORATION

#### Practical Subjects

#### 1. Life Study and Portraiture

- Portrait drawing
- Facial anatomy
- Live model studies
- Expression and character

#### 2. Painting Techniques – I

- Watercolour advanced techniques
- Acrylic layering
- Transparent and opaque handling
- Experimental mark-making

#### 3. Composition and Visual Narrative

- Social themes
- Mythological themes
- Conceptual storytelling
- Sequential visual language

#### 4. Landscape Painting

- Outdoor painting





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- Atmospheric perspective
- Urban and rural landscape
- Light studies

### 5. Digital Art and Contemporary Practice

- Digital painting
- Hybrid media
- Mixed media integration
- Contemporary image culture

### 6. Elective – I (Choose One)

- Printmaking
- Sculpture
- Mural Art
- Illustration
- Photography

## Theory Subjects

### 1. History of Art – III

- Colonial Art in India
- Bengal School
- Modern Indian Art
- European Modernism
- Impressionism to Cubism

### 2. Aesthetics and Art Criticism

- Western aesthetics
- Indian aesthetics
- Formal analysis
- Visual criticism
- Contemporary theories





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### 3. Research and Documentation Skills

- Referencing
- Art writing
- Cataloguing
- Archival methods

## SEMESTER IV – INTERMEDIATE DEVELOPMENT

### Practical Subjects

#### 1. Advanced Life Study

- Dynamic poses
- Figure composition
- Movement studies
- Expressive anatomy

#### 2. Painting Techniques – II

- Oil painting basics
- Surface exploration
- Palette knife techniques
- Texture building

#### 3. Conceptual Composition

- Abstraction
- Symbolism
- Personal narratives
- Contemporary themes

#### 4. Experimental Media

- Mixed media





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- Found object integration
- Collage
- Assemblage

### 5. Visual Communication and Presentation

- Layout and display
- Portfolio design
- Exhibition presentation

### 6. Elective – II

- Printmaking
- Sculpture
- Mural Art
- Illustration
- Photography

## Theory Subjects

### 1. History of Art – IV

- Contemporary Indian Art
- Global Contemporary Art
- Installation Art
- Performance Art
- New Media Art

### 2. Methods and Materials – Advanced

- Conservation basics
- Archival practices
- Sustainable materials
- Professional studio management

### 3. Art and Society





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- Gender and art
- Public art
- Art activism
- Community art practices

### SEMESTER V – ADVANCED STUDIO PRACTICE

#### Practical Subjects

##### 1. Major Studio Practice – I

- Independent thematic exploration
- Series development
- Visual experimentation
- Medium specialization

##### 2. Advanced Portrait and Figure Painting

- Psychological portraiture
- Multi-figure composition
- Expressive realism

##### 3. Nature and Environmental Studies

- Ecological themes
- Site-specific studies
- Nature documentation

##### 4. Contemporary Painting Approaches

- Conceptual painting
- Installation-based painting
- Interdisciplinary practices

##### 5. Elective – III





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- Printmaking
- Sculpture
- Mural Art
- Animation
- Visual Communication

### Theory Subjects

#### 1. Contemporary Art Theory

- Postmodernism
- Semiotics
- Visual culture studies
- Media and representation

#### 2. Professional Practice in Art

- Gallery systems
- Art market
- Curatorial practices
- Copyright and ethics
- Grant writing

#### 3. Internship / Field Engagement

- NGO collaboration
- Museum internship
- Studio assistantship
- Community art project

### SEMESTER VI – ADVANCED SPECIALIZATION

#### Practical Subjects

#### 1. Major Studio Practice – II





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- Personal visual language
- Research-based practice
- Advanced thematic body of work

### 2. Experimental and Interdisciplinary Art

- Video art
- Installation
- Sound and image
- Performance-based exploration

### 3. Public Art and Mural Practice

- Large scale compositions
- Public engagement
- Site-specific work

### 4. Portfolio Development

- Artist statement
- Documentation
- Professional portfolio
- Digital portfolio

### 5. Elective – IV

- Printmaking
- Sculpture
- Animation
- Curatorial Studies
- Art Education

## Theory Subjects

### 1. Indian Aesthetics and Philosophy





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- Rasa theory
- Dhvani
- Chitrasutra
- Traditional aesthetics

### 2. Research Methodology

- Academic writing
- Proposal writing
- Dissertation methods
- Interview and survey methods

### 3. Entrepreneurship in Creative Arts

- Branding
- Freelancing
- Art startups
- Social media and marketing

## SEMESTER VII – PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE & RESEARCH

### Practical Subjects

#### 1. Major Project – I

- Research-driven studio project
- Concept note development
- Advanced experimentation

#### 2. Exhibition Planning and Curation

- Display systems
- Exhibition design
- Catalog creation
- Curatorial writing





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### 3. Contemporary Media Integration

- Hybrid media
- Digital interfaces
- Interactive visual art

### 4. Dissertation / Seminar

- Literature review
- Academic presentation
- Visual analysis paper

## Theory Subjects

### 1. Global Contemporary Art Practices

- Biennales
- International art movements
- Globalization and art

### 2. Art Criticism and Writing

- Critical essays
- Exhibition reviews
- Art journalism

### 3. Open Elective

- Psychology of Art
- Film Studies
- Design Thinking
- Museum Studies
- Cultural Studies

## SEMESTER VIII – DEGREE PROJECT & PROFESSIONAL EXHIBITION





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### Practical Subjects

#### 1. Final Major Studio Project

- Cohesive body of work
- Advanced conceptual and technical execution
- Independent artistic research

#### 2. Degree Exhibition

- Public display
- Exhibition management
- Installation and presentation
- Artist interaction

#### 3. Professional Portfolio Submission

- Digital and physical portfolio
- Documentation of process and outcomes
- Artist CV and biography

#### 4. Viva Voce and Jury

- Concept presentation
- Research defense
- Portfolio discussion

### Theory Subjects

#### 1. Dissertation Submission

- Original research project
- Written thesis with visual documentation





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### 2. Art Management and Career Development

- Art entrepreneurship
- Residencies
- Funding opportunities
- Career planning

### 7. Elective Courses (Suggested)

Students may choose electives based on institutional resources:

- Printmaking
- Sculpture
- Mural Art
- Photography
- Animation
- Illustration
- Art Education
- Curatorial Practice
- Visual Communication
- Textile Art
- Ceramic Art
- Installation Art
- Digital Painting
- Video Art
- Art Therapy
- Folk and Tribal Art Studies

### 8. Workshops and Extension Activities

The programme should include:

- Artist Residencies
- National and International Workshops
- Plein-Air Camps





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- Museum Visits
- Gallery Reviews
- Community Art Projects
- Heritage Walks
- Art Fairs and Biennale Exposure
- Collaborative Design Projects
- Internship Programmes

### 9. Infrastructure Requirements

#### Studio Facilities

- Drawing Studios
- Painting Studios
- Life Study Hall
- Digital Art Lab
- Printmaking Studio
- Sculpture Yard
- Exhibition Gallery

#### Equipment

- Easels
- Drawing Boards
- Lighting Equipment
- Projection Systems
- Computers and Graphic Tablets
- Printing Presses
- Audio-Visual Equipment

#### Library Resources

- Art History Books
- Exhibition Catalogues





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- Journals and Magazines
- Digital Archives
- Online Research Databases

### 10. Suggested Reading List

#### Indian Art

- Stella Kramrisch – The Hindu Temple
- Ananda Coomaraswamy – The Dance of Shiva
- B.N. Goswamy – Indian Painting
- Partha Mitter – Indian Art

#### Western Art

- E.H. Gombrich – The Story of Art
- H.W. Janson – History of Art
- John Berger – Ways of Seeing
- Herbert Read – Meaning of Art

#### Contemporary Theory

- Nicolas Bourriaud – Relational Aesthetics
- Hal Foster – Return of the Real
- Arthur Danto – After the End of Art

### 11. Career Opportunities

Graduates may pursue careers as:

- Professional Artist
- Art Educator





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- Illustrator
- Curator
- Art Critic
- Art Historian
- Mural Artist
- Digital Artist
- Animator
- Gallery Professional
- Visual Designer
- Art Therapist
- Set Designer
- Concept Artist
- Museum Professional
- Independent Researcher

### 12. Suggested Pedagogical Philosophy

The curriculum should promote:

- Experiential learning
- Studio-centered practice
- Reflective and research-based learning
- Inclusive and interdisciplinary education
- Cultural sensitivity and sustainability
- Creative risk-taking and innovation
- Collaborative and community engagement

### 13. Suggested Evaluation Rubrics

#### Practical Evaluation Parameters





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- Observation and Drawing Skill
- Creativity and Innovation
- Technical Competence
- Composition and Design
- Conceptual Clarity
- Process Development
- Professional Presentation
- Research Integration

### Theory Evaluation Parameters

- Conceptual Understanding
- Critical Thinking
- Writing and Research Skills
- Visual Analysis
- Presentation Skills

### 14. Exit Requirements

To qualify for the BFA Degree in Painting, students must:

- Successfully complete all required credits
- Pass all theory and practical subjects
- Submit final portfolio and dissertation
- Participate in the degree exhibition
- Complete internship/community engagement requirements
- Maintain minimum attendance and studio participation

### 15. Conclusion

This curriculum framework integrates the strengths of classical atelier training, Indian art traditions, modernist pedagogy, and contemporary interdisciplinary art practices. It is





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designed to nurture technically skilled, conceptually strong, socially aware, and professionally equipped artists capable of contributing meaningfully to the evolving global visual culture.

The syllabus balances studio rigor with conceptual depth, ensuring that students not only master artistic techniques but also develop critical thinking, research abilities, and professional competencies necessary for sustained artistic practice in the contemporary world.

### IMPORTANT NOTE

In this **programme**.

Guest lectures, masterclasses, workshops, special events and 2 Educational tours, are **mandatory and included in the programme fee**.

