INTERNALSHIPS AND PRACTICA

Internships and Practica are work experiences for which students may receive College credit. These experiences can be extremely valuable in helping students to determine their specific career interests and can serve as a transition between academic work and the professional art world. Alma students who complete internships frequently return to their course work with a stronger sense of focus and greater confidence in their own abilities.

Typically, these placements are in a field for which the student has had some academic training. Usually they are arranged for the summer months or for Spring Term, since these are times when students can more easily work off-campus. Internships may be paid or unpaid, depending on the kind of business or art center in which one is working.

Department of Art requirements for internships (Art 385 – Practicum):

1. The placement must be a professional work experience, not an academic course at another institution.

2. To receive Art credit, it must be an art-related job.

3. An internship proposal must be presented to the Department of Art and Design. (Application forms are available in the Registrar’s Office.)

4. For 4 credits, the College requires a minimum of 150-200 hours work in the placement.

5. A summary of the student’s experience, including examples of work, must be presented at the end-of-term review immediately following completion of the practicum.

Before attempting to set up a practicum, the student needs to consult with his/her advisor and parents, an instructor in the area of interest, and the Department Chairperson. Read the requirements concerning Practica in the College catalog.