The BFA Visual & Critical Studies Department at SVA is a multidisciplinary studio program designed to engage and challenge ambitious students in areas beyond a single medium of expression and creation. This dynamic course of study reflects our rapidly expanding visual culture and the increasing urgency to educate students about all aspects of visual experience. Visual & Critical Studies allows students the opportunity to shape their own multi-dimensional art education through a guided combination of studio courses and academic offerings focusing on myriad forms and venues of contemporary visual life.

The first year provides a solid foundation in basic drawing, photography, literature and writing skills and presents the opportunity to begin discovering a personal artistic voice. In the second and third years, students further explore multiple studio disciplines while simultaneously delving into critical reading and writing of philosophy, history and theory. The program culminates in a thesis project, which takes the form of a studio project with a complementary written component. The Visual & Critical Studies curriculum integrates the academic and studio offerings, with course credits evenly divided between the two throughout the program.

2011 - 2012 student population
88 matriculated students

Department chair
Tom Huhn, philosopher and critic

Some notable faculty members

Student exhibitions
The BFA Visual & Critical Studies Department presents an annual exhibition. This exhibition allows students in the program to show work in one of the College’s three on-campus galleries. In addition, students have the opportunity to submit work for inclusion in numerous juried exhibitions at SVA’s galleries.

For further information, visit our Web site at www.sva.edu.

Visit VCS online to view student work and learn more about the program
VCS Blog at Wordpress (Link to http://visualandcriticalstudies.wordpress.com/)
VCS on Vimeo (Link to http://www.vimeo.com/vcssva)
VCS on Flickr (Link to http://www.flickr.com/photos/vcs_sva/)