The Department of Photography and Imaging offers students the intensive focus of an arts curriculum while demanding a serious and broad grounding in the liberal arts and new technologies. Working with faculty advisors, students tailor a program that is best suited to their interests and goals. The curriculum of studio and critical studies courses is aimed to teach students how to think critically, to see, and to find their individual vision in order to adapt and excel in a constantly evolving field.
The Department of Photography and Imaging’s curriculum is built around two principle areas: creative practice and critical studies. Creative practice covers camera vision and presentation techniques while critical studies covers the history of film-based photography and contemporary new media strategies. The course offerings are extensive and varied in both the studio and critical studies area. Photography and Imaging provides a rigorous academic environment where critical thinkers, both art and documentary image-makers, can thrive. The students here cultivate their skills and nourish their creativity in a small community where studio practice is immersed in liberal studies. It is a diverse department embracing multiple perspectives; the 140 students work in virtually all modes of analog and digital photo-based image making and multimedia, including history, theory, criticism, intermedia, drawing, book arts, time-based video and performance, and public and community collaboration practices.

Students are given the opportunity to work with faculty who are involved in a wide range of practices. Our faculty and staff consist of photoartists, commercial and documentary photographers, designers, critics, historians, and scholars, offering a wide range of perspectives.

**Internships** create opportunities for hands-on experience vital to students’ educational and career goals by allowing them to apply classroom theory to practical work in the field, while also building skills, confidence, and relationships with industry professionals. The Department of Photography and Imaging offers production credit for internships for juniors and seniors. A wide range of internships is available, including opportunities with artist studios, galleries, museums, web design companies, publications, commercial photography studios, and in community settings. Additionally, the department itself sponsors internships.

During the fall semester, all seniors take **Senior Directed Projects** and exhibit the resulting thesis projects in the spring. Accompanying this show is **Senior Focus: Catalog**, in which design and production of a catalog is learned. Many seniors also take **The Business of Art**, which offers students the opportunity to explore post-graduate options, prepare portfolios, and write grants for professional work and graduate school.

**Career Resources**

The **Tisch Office of Career Development** strives to provide students and alumni with lifelong professional skills that help establish and sustain successful careers in the arts. TOCD’s services include: Tisch College Central, a searchable internship/job database; individualized career counseling (by appointment and weekly walk-ins); resume and cover letter reviews; career workshops and events; industry mentorship programs; access to electronic industry research tools; and a resource library stocked with trade publications and numerous career-related handouts. TOCD is located within Tisch’s Office of Student Affairs.

In conjunction with TOCD, the **NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development** provides career guidance and development services to NYU students and alumni. The Center hosts seminars, job fairs, and expos; schedules career counseling appointments; connects students with mentors and alumni; trains students in job interview skills and resume/cover letter writing; and compiles employer databases. The Center also maintains NYU CareerNet, an online database of both on- and off-campus job and internship listings. Students may use Wasserman’s resources to identify sustainable employment opportunities or explore additional career interests outside of the arts.

**Alumni**

Photography and Imaging alumni maintain a lifelong affiliation with the Tisch School of the Arts. Our graduates are connected to the many worlds of photography and imaging, including photojournalism, art photography, archiving, curating, commercial photography, advertising, academia and publishing. Alumni from the department go on to exhibit their work in galleries and museums; publish in national newspapers and magazines; pursue graduate degrees; become art critics; work as documentary photographers and photojournalists, filmmakers, graphic designers, web designers, editors, and educators; work in computer graphics and multimedia; and work in museums, educational, and community art settings.

All are part of a vibrant network of mentors, artists, and entrepreneurs supported by the Tisch Office of Alumni Relations and the Tisch Office of Career Development. By creating interdisciplinary and cross-generational collaborations, these two offices help alumni maintain a connection to the past while growing into their future. Of particular note are two main alumni councils, Tisch East and Tisch West, whose activity is centered on metropolitan NYC and LA respectively.