

MFA Curriculum

Revised November 8th 2021

MFA Degree Requirements

MFA students complete 9 – 12 credits of coursework per semester for a total of 60 credits at the completion of the three-year program. The curriculum is designed to accommodate a range of art practices, from studio-based inquiry to more scholarly, research-focused work.

Courses

Studio Concentration	18 credits
Studio Research Elective*	6 credits
Graduate Critique	18 credits
History/Theory/Criticism (HTC) Seminar	9 credits
Teaching Methods	3 credits
Thesis / Exhibition	<u>6 credits</u>
	60 Credits Total

Course Descriptions

Studio Concentration ART 500/600 level

Studio Concentration courses are at the core of the MFA program. Each semester, students engage in at least 3 credit hours of intense exploration, research, production, and critique of their individual creative work, in close collaboration with faculty and/or advisors. (may include 6 credits of electives per approval by Graduate Director)

Studio Research Elective* ART 500/600 level

Students can choose Studio Research Elective courses to meet their individual MFA curriculum goals, studio development and research: they can also select graduate academic courses outside of the program that are central to their studio practice. Approval by Graduate Director required.

Graduate Critique Seminar ART 674

Graduate Critique Seminar is taken each semester and focuses on reading, discussion, making and critique. Course is designed for inquiry into motivations, ideas, strategies, and theoretical underpinnings of students' studio art practice.

History/Theory/Criticism (HTC) ART 500/600 level

These courses develop an advanced understanding of Art as a complex cultural medium through the discussion of key theoretical and critical approaches.
(HTC Seminar is taken every other Fall semester)

Teaching Practicum ART 630

Students work closely with a full-time faculty in order to gain first-hand knowledge of the organizational, observational and creative aspects of studio art instruction. A variety of approaches, methods and professional best practices of teaching in a studio art curriculum are introduced and discussed in detail.

Thesis / Exhibition ART 699

This course requires selection and recommendation of the students' thesis committee. The primary expectation is the presentation of a body of work in a thesis exhibition accompanied with a written thesis. Work is subject to evaluation by the thesis committee (Oral Defense) and successful completion of an MFA thesis is requirement for the degree.

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Sample Plan of Study

Year 1

Fall			
Art 674	Graduate Critique Seminar	3 credits	
Art 500/600	Studio Concentration	3 credits	
Art 500/676	H/T/C (<i>History/Theory/Criticism</i>)	3 credits	
			9 credits
Spring			
Art 674	Graduate Critique Seminar	3 credits	
Art 630	Teaching Methods	3 credits	
Art 500/600	Studio Concentration	6 credits	
			12 credits

Year 2

Fall			
Art 674	Graduate Critique Seminar	3 credits	
Art 500/600	Studio Concentration and/or Studio Research Elective	3 credits	
Art 500/676	HTC (<i>History/Theory/Criticism</i>)	3 credits	
			9 credits
Spring			
Art 674	MFA Critique Seminar	3 credits	
Art 500/600	Studio Concentration	6 credits	
500/600	Studio Research Elective	3 credits	
			12 credits

Year 3

Fall			
Art 674	MFA Critique Seminar	3 credits	
Art 600 level	Studio Concentration	3 credits	
500/600	HTC (<i>History/Theory/Criticism</i>)	3 credits	
			9 credits
Spring			
Art 674	Graduate Critique	3 credits	
Art 699	Thesis/Exhibition	6 credits	
			9 credits

Total 60 credits