

The University of Texas at Tyler
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Art + Art History

Master of Arts in Art with an emphasis in Art History

Guidelines, Policies and Procedures

Revised 8.24.16

MISSION STATEMENT

The Master of Arts with an emphasis in Art History develops scholars and professionals who are knowledgeable about a wide range of art, from Ancient to Contemporary. Students develop a deep understanding of historical context, formal and stylistic development, as well as the relevant aesthetic theories and scholarly methodologies that define the discipline. Courses in art history teach students to speak and write clearly and creatively about art through the ages. The MA with an emphasis in Art History prepares scholars who plan to continue their graduate education, or who plan to pursue a career in teaching, museums, or arts management.

Admission Requirements & Application Process

The application process consists of **two parts**. **Students must apply to the University through the Office of Graduate Studies *and* through the Department of Art + Art History.** The requirements for each are detailed below.

Prerequisites and Admissions Requirements

1. Minimum upper-division requirements equivalent to UT Tyler's BA degree in Art History for students applying to the MA in Art with an emphasis in Art History or minimum upper-division requirements equivalent to UT Tyler's BFA degree in Studio Art for students applying to the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art.
2. A minimum 3.0 grade-point average.
3. Completion of the appropriate applications for graduate admissions to the University.
4. A one-page typed statement of intent regarding the purpose and rationale for graduate study.
5. An original research paper showing competence in the use of the English language and with conducting research.
6. Curriculum Vita/resume
7. Three academic letters of recommendation
8. Official transcripts
9. Completion of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE)

Part 1 (UT Tyler Graduate School Application Requirements)

1. Completion of the appropriate applications for graduate admissions to the University through The Graduate School. <http://www.uttyler.edu/graduate/>
2. Official transcripts
3. Completion of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). Most successful applicants have cumulative scores greater than 1100.

Part 2 (UT Tyler Department of Art + Art History Requirements)

1. A one-page typed statement of intent regarding the purpose and rationale for graduate study.
2. An original research paper showing competence in the use of the English language and with conducting research.
3. Curriculum Vita/resume
4. Three academic letters of recommendation

Consideration is also given to one or more of the following: the applicant's demonstrated commitment to his or her chosen field of study, socioeconomic background, first generation college graduate, multilingual proficiency, geographic region of residence, and level of responsibility in other matters including extracurricular activities, employment, community service and family responsibilities.

Send application materials for the Department of Art + Art History to:

Department of Art and Art History
Attn: Art History Graduate Coordinator
The University of Texas at Tyler 3900 University
Blvd.
Tyler, TX 75799

Or

Email all documents, labeled lastname_MAApplcation, as a single .pdf file to:

elisot@uttyler.edu

Application Deadline

For full consideration, complete application materials are due in the Department of Art + Art History by the following deadlines:

March 15 for Fall Admission
October 15 for Spring Admission

Please be aware that this departmental deadline may not coincide with Graduate Office deadlines.

IMPORTANT! ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED

All required application materials must be received by the Graduate Coordinator and the Office of Graduate School by the posted deadlines. It is the responsibility of the applicant to confirm the receipt of all application materials with the Art History Graduate Coordinator.

Financial Support

For information on graduate student financial assistance options, including tuition waivers and fellowships, please visit the Graduate Student Financial Aid website:

<http://www.utt Tyler.edu/graduate/fin/>

For information regarding the status of your application (domestic) contact Graduate Admissions at ogs@utt Tyler.edu. International students should contact the Graduate International Admissions Representative at igs@utt Tyler.edu.

Graduate Assistantships

The Department of Art + Art History offers several Graduate Assistantship each academic year, the primary goal of an assistantship is to provide work experience in the profession under the supervision of a faculty mentor. Graduate assistants are both student and employee. Only full-time, residency graduate students in good standing are eligible to apply for graduate assistantship opportunities.

The Department of Art + Art History offers up to three types of Graduate Assistantships depending on the needs of the department, the availability of funds, and the qualifications of the individual graduate student. Students are selected through a competitive application process. The duties of a particular assistantship can be and most often are a combination of the types of duties listed below.

Teaching Assistantship (T.A.): A T.A. works with students in a specific course to provide support for the faculty member in charge, and, in some cases, to teach the course as the primary instructor. (T.A.s must have 18 hrs. of graduate credit).

Studio/Gallery Assistantship (S/G.A.): An S/G.A. works as a studio technician or gallery assistant. The studio assistant will be assigned a range of duties, such as maintenance of the studios, oversight of equipment maintenance, and afterhours tool check out. The gallery assistant will work closely with the gallery director in exhibition installation, preparation, maintenance, and cataloging.

Administrative Graduate Assistantship (G.A.): A G.A. works with the administrative assistant of the Department, primarily in gathering and organizing information.

Notice of Admission

Upon completion of review by the Department of Art + Art History Graduate Faculty, the Graduate School will inform the applicant in writing of admission status. The type of admission will be stipulated as one of the following:

- 1. Conditional Admission:** Students may be accepted into the MA/MFA Coordinated Degree Program with conditional status if the faculty feels that a student's work shows promise, but requires confirmation of improvement, or that the student's background in art is not sufficient. The Conditionally accepted student will be required to pass a review after completion of nine (9) hours

of course work and another review after fifteen (15) hours. The first review must be successfully completed before enrolling in additional hours.

- 2. Full Admission:** All students accepted into the MA/MFA Coordinated Degree Program must pass a review by the graduate art faculty after completion of fifteen (12) hours of course work. This review must be successfully completed before enrolling in additional hours.

Confirmation of Acceptance: Applicants are required to respond in writing (by email) within 30 days of notification as to whether they will be attending the university the semester following acceptance.

Deferment of Enrollment: Applicants may apply for deferment of up to one semester from the date of acceptance. Request should be in writing and presented to the Studio Art Graduate Coordinator.

Additional Graduate Program Information

Residency and Low-Residency Options

The MA in Art degree program does not have a residency requirement, however, students should state their intent of being a resident or low-residency student in their application statement of intent.

The low-residency option offers a flexible approach to the way students use their time, and is primarily intended for art educators and professional artists wanting to pursue graduate studies while continuing to work full time through minimal required on-campus meetings and distance options. Students develop an individualized plan for academic work in consultation with a Faculty Advisor, with an adjustable timeline for completion allowing students to take classes when available, and take time away when necessary.

Advising and Course Enrollment

Students are required to consult with the Graduate Coordinator before registering for courses every term in order to ensure appropriate progress through the program. Students will be assigned enrollment codes after this consultation.

Transfer Credit

A student may transfer a maximum of six semester credit hours of graduate work from accredited institutions with a grade of "B" or higher, pending evaluation by the UT Tyler Admissions Office, and the approval of the M.A. graduate coordinator. No articulation agreements have been completed or are planned with other institutions.

Application of Hours

Graduate hours completed at UT Tyler prior to the official acceptance into the M.A. program will be accepted only by approval from the graduate coordinator in consultation with the art history faculty. If approved, a maximum of nine hours will be accepted.

Time Limitation

Degree requirements for graduate programs at the University of Texas at Tyler must be completed within a six (6) year period. Graduate credit transferred from another institution must meet the limitations imposed by each degree program. The academic advisor, Graduate Coordinator for the

college granting the degree, and the Dean of Graduate Studies must approve exceptions to the six-year time limitation.

Hiatus (required/requested)

Candidates may be required to take a hiatus from course work for one semester or up to two consecutive long semesters for reasons mentioned under “dismissal.” The candidate must provide significant proof (in writing to the Graduate Coordinator, and approved by the graduate committee) that the issues leading to the hiatus have been resolved.

If a graduate student finds it necessary to request a hiatus from the program, he or she may do so by providing the Graduate Coordinator with a written rationale. The Art Faculty must approve request for hiatus.

A graduate student not enrolled for more than one year or two long semesters will be excused from the program without prejudice. The student may re-apply to the program for the following term, although re-application does not guarantee re-admittance.

Graduate hours completed before the APPROVED hiatus may apply as long as they are within the six(6)-year requirement set by the University. However, after non-participation of one year or two long semesters, the Graduate Art Faculty may deny the application of those hours toward the degree due to a lack of continuity in the student’s aesthetic development.

Probation

Candidates may be placed on probation for a semester for any of the reasons listed under “dismissal.” The candidate may continue to enroll in coursework, but must resolve the issues cited by the graduate committee. If the candidate does not resolve the issues to the satisfaction of the committee upon completion of the probationary semester, the candidate may be dismissed from the program.

Dismissal

Candidates may be dismissed by the Art Faculty for (but not limited to):

1. Insufficient Progress
2. Insufficient Potential for Improvement
3. Violation of Degree, Department, College or University Policies
4. Lack of communication with Faculty Committee
5. Low Grade Point Average.

Recommendations will be at the discretion of the Department of Art + Art History faculty. The student must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) on all graduate work at the University of Texas at Tyler. Students may be dismissed if their grade point average drops below 3.0. Any grade below a “B” will not count toward the completion of a graduate degree.

Degree Requirements

The MA in Art with an emphasis in Art History is a 36-hour degree program. All students complete a 6-hour set of Core Courses and 24 hours in art history electives. After 18 hours of study, students must select one of the two following options with an advisors approval. Graduate students should take no more than 9 hours in a regular term and 6 hours during summer terms.

Option I: M.A. in Art with an Emphasis in Art History With Thesis

Option II: M.A. in Art with an Emphasis in Art History Without Thesis

1. Core Classes required of all students (6 hours) Select two of the following courses:
ART 5337: Theory and Research methods in Art History
ART 5336: Aesthetics and Criticism
ART 5394: Contemporary Issues
2. Art History Electives (24 hours)
3. Art History or Studio Art Electives (6 hours)

Additional Requirements

1. Language Requirement: Students must be proficient in German, French, or another language in consultation with a professor. The language requirement can be fulfilled concurrently with the degree program. Students are required to pass one of the following:
 - a. An oral and written proficiency exam given by the Department of Language and Literature (Spanish, French, or Latin)
 - b. A nationally standardized examination (such as the MLA Cooperative Foreign Language Test) in their chosen language
 - c. Receive a grade of "B" or higher in 12-16 semester hours of college-level classes in a single foreign language.
2. Students must receive a grade of "B" or higher in all graduate level coursework.
3. Students selecting Option II: MA in Art with an Emphasis in Art History Without Thesis must successfully complete a comprehensive examination.

Committee Requirements & Selection

Committee Selection Requirements

By the end of the first year of study, MA students selecting the thesis option must designate a committee chair (with the professor's consent). This professor will have the primary responsibility for the guidance of the student's thesis. In order to enroll in thesis credits, MA students will have a faculty committee comprised of three UT Tyler Faculty, two from the department of Art + Art History and one from a related department (e.g. History, Languages and Literature, etc.).

Committee Changes

Students may make changes to their committee during the first three semesters in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator and existing or potential committee members. Students are expected to maintain their committee after the third semester to ensure an appropriate amount of continuity through the program.

Thesis Option

Expectations and Responsibilities

Students must inform the art history faculty by the beginning of the third semester if they will be writing a thesis. Students selecting the thesis option should identify their committee members and topic by the beginning of the third semester, and present a thesis proposal to all committee members after approval by the thesis advisor. All committee members should sign the “Committee Designation Form” when they get the proposal.

The Graduate Committee Chair (thesis advisor)

The Committee Chair is responsible for mentoring the candidate and offering guidance with the selection of the thesis topic, research methodologies, and the writing and editing of the thesis document.

The Committee Chair is the primary mentor for the candidate, and is responsible for the overall conduct of the Graduate Committee. The Chair will be the primary reader and editor of the thesis document. The Committee Chair is responsible for conducting a fair, thorough, and equitable oral defense. The Committee Chair is also responsible for (in consultation with the committee as a whole) the final grade for the thesis document.

Written Thesis

Upon Completion of all required courses, university, college, departmental requirements, the candidate will enroll in six (6) hours of thesis work, which culminates in a work of scholarship that demonstrates a mastery of art historical methodology and proficiency in independent and original research.

Oral Defense

Candidates are also required to complete an oral defense of the thesis by giving a scholarly presentation of the student’s thesis work and fielding questions from the Graduate Committee and the audience. This defense will be open to the public. The quality of the written thesis and oral defense will primarily determine whether the candidate will be granted the Master of Arts degree.

The Department of Art is entitled to retain an original of the written thesis. The intention is to honor the successful candidate and to provide evidence of his/her success.

Comprehensive Exam Option

Expectations and Responsibilities

The student who has chosen the comprehensive exam option and completed 30 semester hours of graduate coursework and satisfied the language requirement is ready to be examined in a written comprehensive exam administered in the fall or spring semesters. The written comprehensive exam is divided into two parts:

- (1) a slide exam that tests the student’s broad knowledge of the history of Western art,

(2) an essay portion that tests for expertise in TWO fields of concentration: consisting of a major and minor area.

The student must declare intent to take the exam in writing to the Art History Graduate Coordinator at least two months prior to the exam date. At that time an exam committee is formed that includes the Art History Graduate Coordinator and another art historian from the department. If the student would prefer a professor from a discipline outside of art history, such as history, he/she must petition the Department of Art + Art History for approval of an extra- departmental member, who must be faculty at the University of Texas at Tyler. The entire art faculty must agree to the addition of the extra-departmental member, who may supervise and evaluate the minor field of study essay. The committee members represent the two areas of concentration (major and minor) declared by the student.

Concentration Fields for Comprehensive Exam Essays

The areas of concentration (major & minor) for the exam must be within the disciplinary fields of the two chosen committee members, in order that they have the expertise to evaluate the student's essay output. Examples of concentration fields are: Ancient Art (Greek and/or Etruscan, Roman), Medieval Art, Renaissance Art, Baroque and/or Rococo Art, Nineteenth-Century Art, American Art, Modern/ Contemporary Art, Islamic Art and Latin American Art.

Passing the Comprehensive Exam

The committee evaluates the written exam (both the slide IDs and essay sections) and notifies the candidate of the results. An exam must be judged to be of at least "B" quality in order to be considered a pass. For the slide identification, this means correctly identifying at least 80% of the images shown, which may include: title, artist, patron, date, period, medium and location. The two concentration field essays are evaluated as to whether they demonstrate a master's level knowledge of significant artists/ movements within the period, as well as primary and secondary sources, along with art historical methodologies of analysis. A student who does not pass the exam may take it once more at the normally scheduled exam time during the next semester. If a student fails the exam twice, the degree will not be conferred. If there are extenuating circumstances such as a major health crisis, the student may petition to delay retaking the exam with departmental approval.

The Department of Art + Art History is entitled to retain the original of the comprehensive exam. The intention is to honor the successful candidate and to provide evidence of his/her success.

STUDENT INFORMATION**Student:****ID #:****Email:****Address:****Phone:****Admittance Date:****Degree Program:** **MA (Art History)** **MA (Studio Art)** **MA/MFA****Admittance Status:** **Conditional** **Unconditional** **Residency Status:** **Residency** **Low-residency** **Degree Program Option:** **Option I: Thesis** **Option II: Without Thesis**
(selected after 18 hours)**COMMITTEE CHAIR (Option I: Thesis)**

1.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1.

2.

3.

4.

MA (ART HISTORY) DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (36 HOURS)

The MA in Art with an emphasis in Art History is a 36-hour degree program. All students complete a 6-hour set of Core Courses and 24 hours in art history electives. After 18 hours of study, students must select one of the two following options with an advisors approval. Graduate students should take no more than 9 hours in a regular term and 6 hours during summer terms.

Art History Core Requirements (6 hours)

Select <u>two</u> of the following courses:	Grade	Term Completed
3 hours Art 5336: Aesthetics and Criticism		
3 hours Art 5337: Theory and Research Methods in Art History		
3 hours Art 5394: Contemporary Issues		

Art History Electives (24 hours)

3 hours Art History Elective:		
3 hours Art History Elective:		
3 hours Art History Elective:		
3 hours Art History Elective:		
3 hours Art History Elective:		
3 hours Art History Elective:		
3 hours Art History Elective:		
3 hours Art History Elective:		

Option I: MA in Art with an emphasis in Art History With Thesis Thesis (6 hours)

3 hours Art 5395: Thesis		
3 hours Art 5395: Thesis		

Option II: MA in Art with an emphasis in Art History Without Thesis Studio or Art History Electives (6 hours)

3 hours Studio/Art History Elective:		
3 hours Studio/Art History Elective:		
Comprehensive Exam	Date:	Score:

Additional Degree Completion Requirements:

1. Language Requirement: Students must be proficient in German, French, or another language in consultation with a professor. The language requirement can be fulfilled concurrently with the degree program. Students are required to pass one of the following:
 - a. An oral and written proficiency exam given by the Department of Language and Literature (Spanish, French, or Latin)
 - b. A nationally standardized examination (such as the MLA Cooperative Foreign Language Test) in their chosen language
 - c. Receive a grade of "B" or higher in 12-16 semester hours of college-level classes in a single foreign language.
2. Students must receive a grade of "B" or higher in all graduate level coursework.
3. Students selecting Option II: MA in Art with an Emphasis in Art History Without Thesis must successfully complete a comprehensive examination.