

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 Studio Art

MA & MFA Coordinated Degree Program in Studio Art

Guidelines, Policies and Procedures

Revised 10.5.21

MISSION STATEMENT

The MA/MFA Coordinated Degree Program in Studio Art provides the means for candidates to develop as contemporary visual artists. Through a conservatory approach, candidates acquire the skills necessary to create sophisticated aesthetic statements, master technical and formal interests, practice professional behaviors, and mature their understanding of form and content. Explorations in critical analysis, research methods, and contemporary theory are linked by extensive considerations of innovative problem solving. The MA/MFA Coordinated Degree Program in Studio Art provides the context in which students join elements into a holistic philosophical, aesthetic and practical knowledge of the discipline.

Admission Requirements & Application Process

Students must apply with all application materials *directly* to the University through the Graduate School. Requirements for the Department of Art and Art History and the University of Texas at Tyler are detailed below. Completion of the appropriate applications for graduate admissions to the University through the Graduate School may be emailed to <http://www.uttyler.edu/graduate/>

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. An original research paper showing competence in the use of the English language and with conducting research.
5. Curriculum Vita/resume
6. Three academic letters of recommendation (*Letters of recommendation will be waived for graduates with a BA in Art or a BFA in Studio Art earned at UT Tyler*)
7. Official transcripts
8. Completion of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE)
9. Applicants for the emphasis in Studio Art must also submit the following in a single PDF document:
 - a) A one-page typed statement of intent regarding the purpose and rationale for graduate study. Please include the intended focus area or medium (ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, painting, etc.)
 - b) A portfolio of 20 individual images of recent artwork, from the past 1-3 years. Digital submissions should be accompanied by a list containing the artist's name, title, dimensions, media, and date of completion. Three-dimensional works may include multiple views/details.
 - c) Artist Statement

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.

For more information regarding our program, please contact:

Professor Alexis Serio, Graduate Coordinator (MA & MFA with emphasis in studio art)
aserio@uttyler.edu

Professor Dewane Hughes, Graduate Advisor (MA & MFA with emphasis in studio art)
dhughes@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

In addition to applying through the Graduate Office, we encourage our prospective candidates to reach out to the appropriate coordinator listed above with notice of your intent to apply. We are here to answer questions, give tours, and would love to hear from you!

IMPORTANT! ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED.

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.uttyler.edu/graduate/fin/>

For information regarding the status of your application (domestic) contact Graduate Admissions at ogs@uttyler.edu. International students should contact the Graduate International Admissions Representative at igs@uttyler.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/MFA Coordinated 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. Minimal required on-campus meetings and visits leave students free to work in their own studio spaces under self-direction, while interacting with faculty for periodic review. Art history courses can be completed either in the classroom or online through a distance option. Students develop an individualized plan for studio and 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 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 MA/MFA Coordinated Degree 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

All studio art graduate students seeking the MA or MFA degree enter the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art program.

The MA with an emphasis in Studio Art is a 30-hour minimum, 36-hour maximum degree program. Upon the completion of 6 hours of art history and 15 hours of studio art electives, students must declare whether they are going to complete the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art or the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art and Studio Art MFA coordinated degree program.

MA in Art Emphasis in Studio Art Degree Requirements

All studio art graduate students seeking the MA or MFA degree enter the MA in ART with an emphasis in Studio Art program. The MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art is a 30-hour minimum, 36-hour maximum degree program. Upon completion of 6 hours of art history and 15 hours of studio art electives, students must declare whether they are going to complete the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art or the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art and Studio Art MFA coordinated degree program.

1. Art History (9 hours)

ART 5336	Aesthetics and Criticism
ART 5394	Contemporary Issues

Select one of the following:

ART 5342	Medieval Art
ART 5343	Graduate Studies in Greek and Roman Art
ART 5345	Graduate Studies in Renaissance Art History
ART 5346	Graduate Studies in Baroque and Rococo Art
ART 5347	Graduate Studies in Nineteenth Century Art
ART 5348	Graduate Studies in Art in America
ART 5349	Graduate Studies in Twentieth-Century Art
ART 5390	Selected Topics in Art

2. Studio Art Electives (21 hrs.)

3. Thesis/Exhibition (6 hrs.)

Additional Degree Completion Requirements

1. Students must receive a grade of "B" or higher in all graduate level coursework.
2. All students admitted into the program are required to undergo a Portfolio Review after the completion of 15 hours. Recommendations for actions will be at the discretion of the faculty. This review must be successfully completed before enrolling in additional hours. Students may be dismissed from the program if the faculty, upon Portfolio Review, deems the student's progress not sufficient, or that the portfolio holds insufficient potential.

Art M.A. with an Emphasis in Studio Art and Studio Art MFA Coordinated Degree Program (60 semester hours total)

The MFA in Studio Art provides the means for candidates to develop as contemporary visual artists. Through a conservatory approach, candidates acquire the skills necessary to create sophisticated aesthetic statements, master technical and formal interests, practice professional behaviors, and mature their understanding of form and content. Explorations in critical analysis, research methods, and contemporary theory are linked by extensive considerations of innovative problem solving. The MFA program provides the context in which students join elements into a holistic philosophical, aesthetic and practical knowledge of the discipline.

Admission Requirements

Acceptance into the MFA program requires a positive recommendation by a faculty review committee, which meets at the time of the candidate's MA thesis exhibition. The committee reviews the student's progress upon the completion of 30 graduate hours taken within the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art program. The committee will recommend the candidate continue with the Studio Art MFA coordinated degree program or finalize studies at the University with a completed MA degree.

MA in Art with an Emphasis in Studio Art Coordinated Degree Program Requirements (30 semester hours)

1. Art History (6 hours):
 - ART 5336 Aesthetics and Criticism (required)
 - ART 5394 Contemporary Issues (required)
2. Studio Art Electives (18 hours)
3. Thesis/Exhibition (6 hours)

Studio Art MFA Coordinated Degree Program Requirements (30 semester hours)

1. Art History (6 hours)
 - Select two of the following:
 - ART 5342 Medieval Art
 - ART 5343 Graduate Studies in Greek and Roman Art
 - ART 5345 Graduate Studies in Renaissance Art History
 - ART 5346 Graduate Studies in Baroque and Rococo Art
 - ART 5347 Graduate Studies in Nineteenth Century Art
 - ART 5348 Graduate Studies in Art in America
 - ART 5349 Graduate Studies in Twentieth-Century Art
 - ART 5390 Selected Topics in Art History
2. Studio Art Electives (15 hours)
3. Thesis/Exhibition (9 hours)

Additional Degree Completion Requirements

1. Students must receive a grade of "B" or higher in all graduate level coursework.
2. All students admitted into the program are required to undergo a Portfolio Review after the completion of 15 hours. Recommendations for actions will be at the discretion of the faculty. This review must be successfully completed before enrolling in additional hours. Students may be dismissed from the program if the faculty, upon Portfolio Review, deems the student's progress not sufficient, or that the portfolio holds insufficient potential.

Committee Selection, Reviews, and Critiques

Committee Selection Requirements

During the first semester students should arrange critiques with every faculty member. It is important that students become familiar with each faculty member in order to make a more informed decision regarding their committee selection. Students have the right to invite whom they wish to become a committee member.

By the end of the first semester of residence, candidates must:

1. Designate a committee chair (with the professor's consent). This professor will have the primary responsibility for the guidance of each student through the degree program.
2. Invite at least two additional art faculty members to serve on the student's committee. The committee can have as many faculty members as the student wishes.
3. Verify in writing the committee invitations (or any changes to the committee) with the Graduate Coordinator.

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.

Graduate Committee Critiques and Updates

Graduate students are required to schedule regular critiques/updates with members of their graduate committee at least once every month during each semester in which the candidate is registered for credit (it is important to realize that these critiques/updates may be with individual committee members, and need not be formal critiques. The critique/update is intended to maintain an appropriate level of communication between student and committee members).

It is the candidate's responsibility to schedule these critiques/updates and to maintain a critique confirmation form signed by the professor who conducts the critique/update. This form must be turned in to the Graduate Coordinator at the end of each semester. (see attached form)

Semester Review

At the end of each year graduate student will participate in a semester review at which time the entire Graduate Committee, all faculty members of the Department of Art + Art History, and all graduate students will review the work and interview the student. This review is open to the undergraduate cohort as well. Every graduate student is required to participate by showing and discussing current work at the date and time scheduled. The student's committee will determine semester grades.

9 and 15-Hour Reviews

Students admitted into the MA/MFA Coordinated Degree Program in studio art under 'Conditional' status will be required to pass a nine (9) hour review. All students accepted into the MA/MFA

Coordinated Degree Program in studio art must pass a review by the graduate art faculty after completion of fifteen (15) hours of studio work. This review must be successfully completed before enrolling in additional hours.

Declaration & Acceptance into the MA/MFA Coordinated Degree Program in Studio Art

Upon the completion of 6 hours of art history and 15 hours of studio art electives, students must declare whether they are going to complete the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art or the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art and Studio Art MFA coordinated degree program.

Acceptance into the MFA program requires a positive recommendation by a faculty review committee, which meets at the time of the candidate's MA thesis exhibition. The committee reviews the student's progress upon the completion of 30 graduate hours taken within the MA in Art with an emphasis in Studio Art program. The committee will recommend the candidate continue with the Studio Art MFA coordinated degree program or finalize studies at the University with a completed MA degree.

Thesis and Thesis Exhibition

Expectations and Responsibilities

During the final semester, it is imperative that the candidate works closely with his/her committee in all phases of the project to ensure a valuable learning experience and a quality result.

The Graduate Committee Chair

The Committee Chair is responsible for mentoring the candidate through the documentation of and the exhibition of the candidate's work. It is the Committee Chair's responsibility to ensure that the candidate documents and exhibits his/her work with a clear purpose and intent.

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 exhibition defense. The Committee Chair is also responsible for (in consultation with the committee as a whole) the final grade for the Thesis Exhibition.

The Graduate Committee Members

Committee Members provide advice and counsel regarding the production of works included in the exhibition and the writing of thesis document, and will meet individually with the student as required.

MA Thesis & Exhibition Hours

Upon Completion of all required courses, university, college, departmental requirements, the candidate will enroll in six (6) hours of thesis work, three of which culminate in the thesis exhibition for the MA degree with an Emphasis in Studio Art.

MFA Thesis & Exhibition Hours

The culmination of the MFA program is the Thesis Exhibition, which occurs during the last semester of

the candidate's matriculation. It is crucial that graduate students are aware of the expectations of this final semester, and that the student is prepared to present a cohesive Thesis Exhibition.

Approval from the candidate's committee must be given before the semester in which the student enrolls in the Thesis Exhibition hours. The location of the exhibition requires prior approval from the Graduate Committee, as well. Arrangement for the exhibition of the approved work must be made with the Graduate Committee, the Director of Exhibitions, and the Chair of the Department of Art + Art History.

MA & MFA Thesis Exhibition Proposal

Prior to enrolling in thesis credits, and with the advice and approval of the Committee Chair, the candidate must define the broad parameters of the exhibition. An exhibition proposal is then prepared and submitted to the graduate Committee Members for their approval and signatures.

Exhibition Proposal Preparation

The candidate should be aware that the work itself must be judged by the faculty to be original, conceptually mature, technically proficient, and formally sound. The exhibition proposal should include the following materials:

1. Cover Sheet The proposed exhibition should include a cover sheet that includes the proposed Title for the exhibition, name, date, etc.
2. Description of the Proposed Work The candidate should provide a brief description of the work. The media, content, and formal characteristics of the proposed work should be described as completely and succinctly as possible.
3. Background In this section of the proposal, the candidate should provide a brief description of the source, inspiration, or basis for the work proposed.

Defense and Documentation

During the period of the graduate exhibition candidates will be expected to present an oral defense of the thesis exhibition. During this defense, candidates must present their graduate committee with the following:

1. Written thesis document.
 - Title Page—conventional page showing essential bibliographical information
 - Signature page—serves as a formal record of approval
 - Text—the main body of the thesis
2. Photographic documentation of the thesis exhibition in digital format. CD containing images of the installed thesis exhibition, and individual images of each work. The images must be of the highest quality of the Thesis Exhibition.
3. Curriculum vitae
4. Artist's statement
5. Artist's biography
6. Statement of influences
7. List of works included in the exhibition
8. Public Lecture- candidates are required to present a public lecture concerning their thesis work. The lecture will be scheduled by the Studio Art Graduate Coordinator and the Gallery Director.

This information should be presented in a bound folder. MFA candidates will not have completed the graduation requirements unless all of this information is approved by the graduate committee and is on file with the Graduate Coordinator. The quality of this exhibition will be the primary determinate as to whether the candidate will be granted the Master of Fine Arts degree.

Oral Defense and Written Thesis

Candidates are required to complete an oral defense of the thesis exhibition by giving a scholarly presentation of the thesis work and fielding questions from the Graduate Committee.

The candidate's written thesis should provide information that leads to an understanding of the intent of the work. The thesis document must demonstrate a thorough awareness of the sources, inspiration, and traditions relevant to the work, as well as the particular methods employed in the use of materials and conceptual principles that determined the form of the completed work. The quality of the oral defense and written thesis will also be considered in whether the candidate will be granted the Master of Fine Arts degree.

Possession of Work

The Department of Art + Art History is entitled to retain as many as two works by each graduate student. The intention is to honor the successful candidate and to provide evidence of his/her success in lieu of the usual formal thesis. These works will become the property of the Permanent Collection of the Department of Art + Art History at The University of Texas at Tyler.

STUDENT INFORMATION	
Student:	
ID #:	Email:
Address:	
Phone:	
Admittance Date:	
Degree Program: <input type="checkbox"/> MA (Art History) <input type="checkbox"/> MA (Studio Art) <input type="checkbox"/> MA/MFA	
Admittance Status: Conditional <input type="checkbox"/> Unconditional <input type="checkbox"/>	
Residency Status: Residency <input type="checkbox"/> Low-residency <input type="checkbox"/>	

COMMITTEE CHAIR
1.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
1.
2.
3.
4.

REVIEWS		
9 hour Review	Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required <input type="checkbox"/>	Review Date: Review Outcome: Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail <input type="checkbox"/>
15 hour Review	Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required <input type="checkbox"/>	Review Date: Review Outcome: Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail <input type="checkbox"/>

MA (STUDIO ART) DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (36 HOURS)		
Art History Requirements (9 hours)		
	Grade	Term Completed
3 hours Art 5336: Aesthetics and Criticism		
3 hours Art 5394: Contemporary Issues		
3 hours Art History Elective		
Studio Art Electives (21 hours)		
3 hours Studio Art Elective:		
3 hours Studio Art Elective:		
3 hours Studio Art Elective:		
3 hours Studio Art Elective:		
3 hours Studio Art Elective:		
3 hours Studio Art Elective:		
3 hours Studio Art Elective:		
Thesis (6 hours)		
3 hours Art 5395: Thesis		
3 hours Art 5397: Thesis Exhibition		
Additional Degree Completion Requirements:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students must receive a grade of “B” or higher in all graduate level coursework. 2. All students admitted into the program are required to undergo a Portfolio Review after the completion of 15 hours. Recommendations for actions will be at the discretion of the faculty. This review must be successfully completed before enrolling in additional hours. Students may be dismissed from the program if the faculty, upon Portfolio Review, deems the student’s progress not sufficient, or that the portfolio holds insufficient potential. 		

MA (STUDIO ART) COORDINATED DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (30 HOURS)		
Art History Requirements (6 hours)		
	Grade	Term Completed
3 hours Art 5336: Aesthetics and Criticism		
3 hours Art 5394: Contemporary Issues		
Studio Art Electives (18 hours)		
3 hours Art Elective:		
Thesis (6 hours)		
3 hours Art 5395: Thesis		
3 hours Art 5397: Thesis Exhibition		

MFA (STUDIO ART) COORDINATED DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (30 HOURS)		
Art History Requirements (6 hours)		
	Grade	Term Completed
3 hours Art History Elective		
3 hours Art History Elective		
Studio Art Electives (15 hours)		
3 hours Art Elective:		
Thesis (9 hours)		
3 hours Art 5395: Thesis		
3 hours Art 5396: Thesis		
3 hours Art 5397: Graduate Exhibition		
Additional Degree Completion Requirements:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students must receive a grade of "B" or higher in all graduate level coursework. 2. All students admitted into the program are required to undergo a Portfolio Review after the completion of 15 hours. Recommendations for actions will be at the discretion of the faculty. This review must be successfully completed before enrolling in additional hours. Students may be dismissed from the program if the faculty, upon Portfolio Review, deems the student's progress not sufficient, or that the portfolio holds insufficient potential. 		

CRITIQUE/UPDATE CONFIRMATION FORM

Student:

Term: Fall Spring

Year:

Date

Committee Member

Candidates are expected to maintain this form throughout each semester, and submit to the Graduate Coordinator at the end of each semester.

