**Book Arts, M.F.A.**

Graduate study of the book is interdisciplinary. It focuses on book arts as hands-on practice as well as a historical and cultural phenomenon. Its principal objectives are to provide scholarly and aesthetic contexts for the study of book history, arts, and technologies; and to offer a structured program in book-related disciplines for graduate students with a serious interest in book studies.

**Requirements**

The Master of Fine Arts program in book arts requires a minimum of 60 s.h. of graduate credit, including a thesis. Students complete core courses and work with a faculty advisor to design an individualized curriculum spanning several studio practice disciplines: artist book work, bookbinding, lettering arts, digital book work, papermaking, or letterpress printing. The degree culminates with the successful completion of a thesis.

The program requires the following course work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Studio Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:4205/ BKAT:4205</td>
<td>Bookbinding I: Materials and Techniques</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UICB:4300/ ARTS:4300</td>
<td>Letterpress I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UICB:4400/ ARTS:4400</td>
<td>History of Western Letterforms</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>UICB:4415/ ARTS:4415</td>
<td>Calligraphy I: Foundational Hands</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UICB:5110/ BKAT:5110</td>
<td>Islamic/Asian Papermaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UICB:5130/ BKAT:5120</td>
<td>European Papermaking</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Graduate Book Arts Workshop**

- UICB:6520: Graduate Book Arts Workshop (must be taken three times for a total of 9 s.h.)

**Book Art Seminar**

- UICB:6510: Book Art Seminar: History, Practice, and Critique

**Studio Practice Electives**

- Studio practice courses: 15

**Scholarly Inquiry Requirement**

Two of the following, or students may request to use related courses approved by the head of the scholarly inquiry area (6 s.h.):

- UICB:3140/ ENGL:3140: Literature and the Book
- UICB:3142/ ENGL:3142: Topics in Book History
- UICB:3980/ ARTH:3980: American Print Culture

**Material Analysis Requirement**

This course:

- UICB:4930/ HIST:4430: Topics in Material Analysis

**Additional Electives**

Elective courses (may include 0–6 s.h. of thesis credit; see below)

**Thesis**

Can be taken for a maximum of 6 s.h.:

- UICB:6540: M.F.A. Thesis Hours

**Combined Programs**

**M.F.A./M.A. in Library and Information Science**

The Center for the Book and the School of Library and Information Science offer a combined Master of Fine Arts in book arts/Master of Arts in library and information science. The combined degree program allows students with strong interests in the book arts, book history, and material book studies to also gain expertise in library and information science. The degrees provide book artists and librarians with credentials reflecting a depth of skills and knowledge that have been used to secure positions in special collections libraries and archives. Students in the combined program earn both degrees by completing fewer semester hours than if each degree was completed separately.

Separate application to each degree program is required. Applicants must be admitted to both programs before they may be admitted to the combined degree program. For more information, see the M.A. in library and information science in the Catalog.

**Admission**

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College. Visit Admissions on the Center for the Book website for more information.