

Art, MA

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking and conceptual problem solving within the particular focus and practice of their field;
- demonstrate a personal vocabulary, approach, and vision in creative work;
- demonstrate knowledge of historical, social, and cultural perspectives in relation to visual art and design;
- demonstrate technical proficiency in relation to the tools, techniques, and materials used in their field; and
- develop a professional package that includes a curriculum vitae/résumé, statement about their work, images of their work, and prepare materials (i.e., teaching and research statement, online portfolio, etc.) for specific careers as a professional emerging artist/designer or in teaching, art, or design-related positions.

Requirements

The Master of Arts in art requires a minimum of 38 s.h. of graduate credit. Students must maintain a Graduate College program grade-point average of at least 3.00. Students complete the degree with a subprogram in one of the following studio art disciplines: ceramics, drawing, graphic design, jewelry and metal arts, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture and intermedia, or three-dimensional (3D) design.

The MA in art functions as an exit degree option for MFA students who have completed three semesters of graduate study and are not continuing in the MFA program. Students become eligible for the MA only after admission to the MFA and successful completion of three semesters of coursework in residence. Any undergraduate deficiencies may be completed concurrently with graduate study but do not count toward the graduate degree.

Students who pursue the MA as an exit degree must complete the following requirements.

| Requirements | Hours |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Primary Studio Art Discipline | 16 |
| Secondary Studio Art Discipline | 8 |
| Art History and Theory | 6 |
| Electives | 8 |
| Thesis | |

Additional Requirements

Primary Studio Art Discipline

Students complete 16 s.h. of coursework in their primary studio art discipline, which is the same as their subprogram.

| Course # | Title | Hours |
|--|-------|-------|
| Ceramics | | |
| Ceramics courses (prefix CERM) numbered 3000 and above | | |
| Drawing | | |
| Drawing courses (prefix DRAW) numbered 3000 and above | | |
| Graphic Design | | |

Graphic design courses (prefix DSGN) numbered 3000 and above

Jewelry and Metal Art

Jewelry and metal art courses (prefix MTL5) numbered 3000 and above

Painting

Painting courses (prefix PNTG) numbered 3000 and above

Photography

Photography courses (prefix PHTO) numbered 3000 and above

Printmaking

Printmaking courses (prefix PRNT) numbered 3000 and above

Sculpture and Intermedia

Sculpture and intermedia courses (prefix SCIM), sculpture courses (prefix SCLP) and intermedia courses (prefix INTM) numbered 3000 and above

Three-Dimensional Design

Three-dimensional design courses (prefix TDSN) numbered 3000 and above

Secondary Studio Art Discipline

Students complete 8 s.h. in one secondary studio art discipline; this cannot be the same as the subprogram in which they are enrolled. The secondary discipline may be one of those listed above, or one of the following.

| Course # | Title | Hours |
|--|-------|-------|
| Book Arts | | |
| Papermaking courses (prefix BKAT) numbered 3000 and above | | |
| UICB:3140-UICB:6520, excluding UICB:3900 and UICB:5550 | | |
| Other | | |
| Courses outside of the studio arts disciplines taken with program permission | | |

Art History and Theory

Students complete 6 s.h. of coursework from ARTH:3000-6999, excluding ARTH:3985, ARTH:3995, ARTH:6020, and ARTH:6040.

Electives

In consultation with an advisor, students complete 8 s.h. of UI coursework numbered 3000 or above, excluding ARTS:7000.

Thesis

MA students with a subprogram in three-dimensional design are required to write a thesis and enroll in ARTS:6000 MA Written Thesis. MA students in other studio art disciplines choose to complete the MA with or without a thesis in consultation with their discipline advisor. Students may earn 1 s.h. of elective credit for writing a technical or substantial thesis by registering for ARTS:6000 with approval of the thesis supervisor, but they are not required to enroll in the course. Students who do not complete a thesis must submit an artist's statement to the School of Art, Art History, and Design; the artist's statement is not required of students in the drawing or painting subprograms.

Additional Requirements

Students provide five images of their MA work for the Grad Archive.

Students undergo a division-wide clearance by the faculty during their third semester in residence.

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education. The College of Education offers an MA program in art education; see the MA in teaching and learning in the catalog.

Graduate Education

Graduate education prepares students with advanced knowledge and skills in specialized fields. At the University of Iowa, the Graduate College advocates for student-centered graduate education and supports equitable application of rules and policies across graduate programs.

Academics

University of Iowa graduate credentials are regulated by policies and requirements found in the Graduate College Manual of Rules and Regulations. This includes minimum grade-point average (GPA) requirements for academic standing and degree conferral. The Graduate College sets the minimum requirement. Individual graduate programs may establish higher GPA requirements.

Admissions

Graduate student applicants must meet admission requirements for both the Graduate College and the program to which they have applied. University of Iowa graduate admission requirements are published by the Graduate College and on the Graduate Admissions website.

Financial Support

Graduate students might be eligible for financial support. Several contingencies apply, including degree program and award type, satisfactory progress toward degree, satisfactory completion of all duties related to an appointment, and availability of funding. Graduate students should inquire directly with their program for more information about funding availability. The Graduate Student Employment Standards govern the employment relationship between the University of Iowa and all graduate teaching and research assistants in all matters except wages, which are covered by an existing collective bargaining agreement or the conditions of an applicable federal grant.

Admission

Applicants to the graduate studio art programs apply directly to the MFA in Studio Art. The MA in Art functions solely as an exit degree available to MFA students under specific circumstances and is not an admission pathway. All application materials must be submitted to the University of Iowa Graduate Admissions Office through the online application system.

Visit the Art MFA Requirements page for more information.

School of Art, Art History, and Design Requirements

Prospective graduate students must meet the School of Art, Art History, and Design's admission requirements for the specific degree program they plan to enter. They must submit application materials to Graduate Admissions and to the specific program.

All applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.

Application Procedures

Prospective students may apply online through the Admissions website. After submitting an application, applicants will receive email instructions on how to access their admissions profile on MyUI. Applicants then upload the required supplemental documents through a secure portal.

Required documents include transcripts from all colleges and universities an applicant has attended, contact information for three individuals who are able to assess an applicant's potential for graduate study designated to provide letters of recommendation, and a statement of purpose.

Applicants should consult the Studio Art Graduate Bulletin on the School of Art, Art History, and Design website. No separate application is necessary for scholarships or teaching/research assistantships for studio art applicants.

Studio art applicants' portfolio requirements are listed below. Images in the portfolio should be uploaded as PDF files no larger than 72 dpi and 1240 by 1240 pixels. File size must not exceed 18 MB. Images must be numbered according to the order they are to be presented to the admissions committee, beginning with 01. Applicants must include an inventory list that includes each image's name, title, medium, size, and approximate date of work, as well as their name and emphasis. They may supply a link to their personal website.

Portfolio contents and submission requirements for each program are as follows.

- Ceramics: 10 to 20 images.
- Three-dimensional (3D) design and jewelry and metal arts: eight images in the primary studio art discipline and two in a second discipline.
- Graphic design: documentation of 15 to 20 projects. Applicants should include a brief description of each work, illustrated with embedded still images and supplemented by links to online media. The precise number of images varies according to the nature of the work. Contact the School of Art, Art History, and Design with questions.
- Painting and drawing: eight images in the primary studio art medium (either painting or drawing) and two in a second medium.
- Photography: 15 to 20 images.
- Printmaking: 10 to 20 images.
- Sculpture and intermedia: applicants submit the following depending on their preferred area of emphasis.
 - Sculpture: Twenty images in sculpture, including details, and two or three images in a second medium. Video links may be included.
 - Intermedia: documentation of five to ten projects, including a brief description of each work illustrated with embedded still images and supplemented by links to online media. The precise number of images varies

according to the nature of the work; contact the School of Art, Art History, and Design with questions.

Graduate Admissions notifies all applicants by mail of admission decisions.

Career Advancement

Many graduates pursue careers that match their degree specializations, for example, commercial or graphic designer, conservation or museum curator or administrator, art educator, public artist, or community art center coordinator or instructor.

Academic Plans

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Art, MA

| Course | Title | Hours |
|--|-------|-----------|
| Academic Career | | |
| Any Semester | | |
| 38 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^{a, b} | | |
| Graduate College program GPA of at least 3.00 is required. ^c | | |
| Students complete the degree with a subprogram in one of the following studio art disciplines: ceramics, drawing, graphic design, jewelry and metal arts, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture and intermedia, or three-dimensional (3D) design. ^d | | |
| Hours | | 0 |
| First Year | | |
| Fall | | |
| Primary studio art discipline course ^e | | 4 |
| Art history and theory course ^f | | 3 |
| Elective course ^g | | 2 |
| Hours | | 9 |
| Spring | | |
| Primary studio art discipline course ^e | | 4 |
| Secondary studio art discipline course ^h | | 4 |
| Elective course ^g | | 2 |
| Hours | | 10 |
| Second Year | | |
| Fall | | |
| Primary studio art discipline course ^e | | 4 |
| Secondary studio art discipline course ^h | | 4 |
| Art history and theory course ^f | | 3 |
| Division-Wide Clearance | | |
| Hours | | 11 |
| Spring | | |
| Primary studio art discipline course ^e | | 4 |
| Elective course ^g | | 2 |
| Elective course ^g | | 2 |

Exam: Master's Final Exam ⁱ

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Hours | 8 |
| Total Hours | 38 |

- a Students provide five images of their MA work for the Grad Archive.
- b Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.
- c Graduate College program GPA is comprised of all courses that are approved degree requirements. If a student takes more than the minimum required number of semester hours to complete the degree, but all courses taken are eligible to count toward the degree, those courses will be included in the Graduate College program GPA.
- d MA students with a subprogram in three-dimensional design are required to write a thesis and enroll in ARTS:6000. MA students in other studio art disciplines choose to complete the MA with or without a thesis in consultation with their discipline advisor.
- e Students complete 16 s.h. of coursework in their primary studio art discipline, which is the same as their subprogram. See the General Catalog for list of approved courses.
- f Students complete 6 s.h. of coursework from ARTH:3000-6999, excluding ARTH:3985, ARTH:3995, ARTH:6020, and ARTH:6040.
- g In consultation with an advisor, students complete 8 s.h. of UI coursework numbered 3000 or above, excluding ARTS:7000.
- h Students complete 8 s.h. in one secondary studio art discipline; this cannot be the same as the subprogram in which they are enrolled. See the General Catalog for list of approved courses.
- i Provide preliminary artist's statement followed by artist's statement in the semester of degree completion.