Art, M.A.

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 program in art requires a minimum of 38 s.h. of graduate credit. Students must maintain a cumulative g.p.a. of at least 3.00. The degree is offered with emphases in the following studio art disciplines: ceramics, graphic design, three-dimensional (3D) design, drawing, intermedia and video art, jewelry and metal arts, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture.

M.A. students must hold a B.A. or B.F.A. in art equivalent to that offered by the University of Iowa. Undergraduate deficiencies, if any, may be made up concurrently with graduate study but do not count toward the graduate degree requirements.

Required Courses

The 38 s.h. of credit required for the degree includes at least 16 s.h. in a primary studio art emphasis; 8 s.h. in a secondary studio art emphasis chosen from one of the studio art disciplines listed above; and 6 s.h. in the history and theory of art, excluding readings and directed studies. Students provide five images of their M.A. work for the Grad Archive.

Committee Review

Students undergo a division-wide review for M.A. candidacy by the faculty during their third semester in residence. All those except painting and drawing students must submit a written artist's statement or thesis.

Thesis

M.A. students in 3D design are required to write a thesis. They may earn 1 s.h. for writing a technical or substantial thesis by registering for ARTS:6000 M.A. Written Thesis, with approval of the thesis supervisor. Thesis credit earned in an M.A. program is not applicable toward M.F.A. requirements. M.A. students in other studio art disciplines choose the thesis or nonthesis option in consultation with their discipline advisor.

The College of Education offers an M.A. program in art education; see the M.A. in teaching and learning in the Catalog.

Admission

Application materials should be uploaded onto a student's admissions profile (see instructions below under “Application Procedures”). All applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College and the School of Art and Art History requirements.

Deadline date for submission of materials to the Office of Graduate Admissions is February 1 for studio art programs; admission is for fall.

School of Art and Art History Requirements

Prospective graduate students must meet the School of Art and Art History's admission requirements for the specific degree program they plan to enter. They must submit application materials to the University's Office of Graduate Admissions and to the specific program they wish to enter. Program-specific application requirements and deadline dates are listed below.

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

Applicants whose first or official language is not English and whose previous academic degrees were not earned at an English-language institution must score at least 100 (internet-based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). All applicants must have a minimum TOEFL iBT speaking score of 26 and a listening score of 25. An application is not reviewed if scores are lower than the requirements specify. As an alternative to the TOEFL, applicants may take the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). They must have a total score of 7.0, with no subscore less than 6.0. In addition, all IELTS test takers, regardless of score, are required to take an on-campus English Proficiency Evaluation. The Duolingo English Test (DET) with a score of at least 105 also is accepted.

All students for whom English is not a first language and who have first-time appointments as teaching assistants (TAs) are required to take a test to assess their effectiveness in speaking English before they are assigned assistantship responsibilities. No applicant is considered for an appointment without an IBT speaking score of 26 and a listening score of 25. The English Speaking Proficiency Assessment (ESPA) is the test the University of Iowa uses to assess students’ oral language and listening skills. The English Language Performance Test (ELPT) is a supplement to the ESPA test and is designed to measure the ability to communicate in English in a classroom context in one’s field of study. The ELPT is given to students who have scored 50 or 55 on the ESPA, and to TAs who teach a world language that have scored 45. To learn more about the ESPA and ELPT, visit the English as a Second Language Program website.

Application Procedures

Prospective students may apply online through the Office of 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 (able to assess applicants' potential
Financial Support

Fellowships, teaching assistantships, research assistantships, and tuition scholarships are awarded to graduate students on the basis of artistic and/or scholarly record.

Iowa Arts Fellowships

The Graduate College awards Iowa Arts Fellowships to two incoming or first-year studio art graduate students each year. For more information, see Iowa Arts Fellowship on the Graduate College website.

Teaching and Research Assistantships

Assistantships are awarded to graduate students on the basis of academic record, promise as scholars or artists, and demonstrated ability to do the job. Quality of performance in one's graduate program at Iowa is generally the major criterion for awarding teaching assistantships. The number of hours of work required depends on the amount of the award.

Scholarships and Fellowships

The School of Art and Art History offers a variety of scholarships and fellowships made possible by contributions from alumni who wish to support promising artists and scholars. These awards are made on the same basis as teaching and research assistantships and a separate application is not necessary.

Information for graduate scholarships and fellowships is included in the admissions package and is available from the School of Art and Art History main office.

Renewal or reappointment for fellowships and assistantships depends on adequate progress toward the degree (students must accumulate at least 18 s.h. of graduate credit each calendar year and maintain a grade-point average above the required minimum) and satisfactory performance of assistantship duties.

Decisions on assistantships and financial aid generally are made during the latter part of the spring semester for the following academic year.

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, M.A.

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Career</td>
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<td>Any Semester</td>
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<td>38 s.h. must be graduate level coursework;</td>
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<td>graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval.</td>
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<td>History and Theory of Art course</td>
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Second Year

Fall
Primary emphasis course 4
Secondary emphasis course 4
History and Theory of Art course 3
Division-Wide Review e

Hours 11

Spring
Primary emphasis course 4
Elective d 2
Elective d 2
Final Exam f

Hours 8

Total Hours 38

a Students provide five images of their MA work for the Graduate Archive.
b The degree is offered with emphases in the following studio art disciplines: ceramics, graphic design, drawing, jewelry and metal arts, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture. Note: three-dimensional (3D) design students must complete the Art MA (Thesis) program.
c 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.
d Work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate coursework and sequence; see General Catalog and department website for specifics.
e Occurs at the end of the third semester in residence; written abstract of Artist's Statement required unless primary emphasis is painting or drawing.
f Completion of required coursework; provide preliminary Artist's Statement followed by Artist's Statement in the semester of degree completion.