

Art: M.A., M.F.A.

Program Description

The Division of Fine and Performing Arts offers the Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees in Studio Art. The Master of Arts degree offers concentrations in various areas including ceramics, design, drawing, painting, photography, computer art and fashion design.

The Master of Fine Arts degree combines studio work with art history and criticism. The College Art Association, as well as other professional art organizations, universities, and colleges, acknowledges the MFA degree as the terminal degree for artists. This degree has become a prerequisite for those who intend to teach at the college level. It is also directed at those individuals who want to further develop their professional careers. Full-time or part-time students may apply to the MFA program.

Graduate offerings in Studio Art and Art History also fulfill program requirements for graduate degrees in Education, Valuation Sciences, and Arts Management. The program in Arts Management is individualized and requires minimum of 12 hours of coursework in Business Administration.

Master of Arts

Admission Requirements to the Program

1. Fulfillment of general requirements for admission to graduate status as outlined in this catalog.
2. Successful completion of undergraduate major in Studio Art, with a minimum of 3.0 in all art courses. Exceptions may be granted by the division dean.
3. Submission of a portfolio of the applicant's creative work for review by the art faculty. The portfolio should include representative examples of works in varied media as well as a fuller selection of works in the studio area proposed for concentration. Slides or colored photographs of professional quality may be included as part of the portfolio. The request for the portfolio review should be made to the art faculty as early as possible in the admissions process.
4. Conditional admittance to the graduate program in art, based on the evaluation of undergraduate preparation or determined at the time of the portfolio review, requires the successful completion of specified course work prior to full admittance to the graduate program. Undergraduate credit will be awarded for courses completed during the conditional status and are not applicable toward a graduate degree.
5. Full admittance to the graduate program in art requires the endorsement of the division dean.

Degree Requirements

1. Completion of 36 hours of graduate courses in art, distributed as follows:
 - 21 hours Studio Art area (or areas) of concentration;
 - 6 hours Studio Art courses outside of the area of concentration;
 - 3 hour course in Art History or art criticism;
 - 3 hours Art 500 Research Methods in Art
 - 3 hours Exhibit and thesis project.
 2. Satisfactory completion of an oral review of the graduate exhibit and thesis conducted by the thesis committee of three faculty members of the Art faculty.
 3. Completion of graduate studies with a minimum grade point average of 3.0.
 4. 24 hours of credit must be earned in regularly scheduled classes.
 5. No more than 9 hours of approved transfer credit at the graduate level may be included in meeting the degree requirement of 36 hours. The division dean may approve substitutions in the core curriculum if the student has a significant and demonstrable proficiency in a specific area. The division dean may also waive credits under special circumstances.
 6. All graduate students in Studio Art must surrender one work approved by the faculty in their final semester.
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Master of Fine Arts

Admission Requirements to the Program

1. Candidacy is dependent upon approval by the Art faculty.
2. A BFA in Studio Art. Students of exceptional merit who have earned a BA or a BS in Studio Art or Design, or the equivalent, will also be considered contingent upon faculty approval. Students without either a BFA or BA in Studio Art who have significant studio art experience will submit 20 slides, plus additional portfolio material for faculty review.
3. Submission of 20 slides.
4. One letter of recommendation.
5. A two-page essay indicating goals and expectations for graduate school.
6. A faculty review after the completion of 24 hours.
7. All candidates are on probation until mid-program review.
8. Students with an MA in Studio Art from Lindenwood University may enter the program based on program criteria.

Degree Requirements

1. Admission to MFA candidacy after the completion of 24 hours and a faculty evaluation.
2. Successful completion of the 60 hour MFA program with a B (3.0) grade point average. The 60 hour MFA will include:
 - 42 studio hours, with 6 of those hours outside the area of emphasis;
 - The successful completion of 12 hours of art history;
 - The successful completion of ART 500 Research Methods in Art;
 - The successful completion of the written graduate thesis approved by the student's thesis committee;
 - The completion of the thesis project and an exhibition of the candidate's creative work that is approved by the student's graduate committee.
3. All MFA students in Studio Art must surrender one work approved by the faculty member in their final semester.