

Department Head: Carolyn Cárdenas

Location: Fine Arts Visual 122

Phone: (435) 797-3460

FAX: (435) 797-3412

E-mail: carolyn.cardenas@usu.edu

WWW: <http://www.art.usu.edu/>

Assistant Head and Graduate Program Director:

Alan Hashimoto, Fine Arts Visual 116 (435) 764-1913,
alan.hashimoto@gmail.com

Assistant Head and Undergraduate Program Director:

Christopher T. Terry, Fine Arts Visual 216, (435) 797-3409,
chris.terry@usu.edu

Art Department Advisor:

Marcia Roberts, University Reserve 107, (435) 797-3883,
marcia.roberts@usu.edu

Art Education Undergraduate Advisor:

Dennise Gackstetter, University Reserve 110, (435) 797-1542,
denniseg@gmail.com.

Degrees offered: Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (BS), Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA), Master of Arts (MA), and Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Art

Undergraduate emphases: Art Education, Art History, Ceramics, Drawing and Painting, Graphic Design, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture

Graduate specializations: Ceramics, Drawing, Graphic Design, Illustration, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture

Undergraduate Programs

Objectives

The Department of Art's primary goal is to prepare undergraduate students for careers in art history, art education, and studio art, as well as the applied and fine arts. Requirements in eight different emphasis areas address the specific needs of each career. The Department of Art also serves the University community by offering courses in the University Studies program and by offering training for students in related degree programs.

Departmental Admission Requirements

Admission to the Art major is competitive. New freshmen admitted to USU in good standing may apply for admission to the Art major by submitting a portfolio of digital images on CD-ROM of their best work. Details are available from the Art Department. Entrance to the BFA program in the emphasis areas in studio art is accomplished by formal application after completion of the department's foundation courses. Students applying for this degree program should have a GPA of at least 2.75. Application to the emphasis area is done by portfolio review and should be made during the spring semester in which the prerequisites will be completed. Transfer students should make application during the spring semester prior to their entrance to USU to arrange for the portfolio review of their work prior to acceptance in the department. Participation in the BA program in Art History is limited to students with at least a 2.5 GPA.

Degrees Offered

Bachelor of Science Degree

The BS degree is a general art degree for the student who is not interested in specializing in one area of art. This degree requires 50 semester credits in Art courses, 27-28 credits in University Studies courses, and allows for 40 elective credits. A GPA of 2.5 is required for the BS degree. No grade less than C is acceptable in any art class. Art classes may be retaken for a higher grade. This degree does not fulfill the requirements for entrance into graduate schools of art.

Bachelor of Arts Degree

This degree is available primarily to students selecting an emphasis in Art History at USU. BA degree candidates should complete the majority of University Studies lower-division requirements, the modern language requirement, and the foundation curriculum by the end of the sophomore year. This will allow concentration in an area of specialization during the junior and senior years.

In addition, BA candidates must either complete requirements for the Art History Emphasis, as listed below, or the general art requirements as listed under the BS degree. The major professor may also prescribe other courses to serve the particular needs of different students. A minimum of 36 semester credits in art is required for a BA degree in Art with an Art History Emphasis. Students who desire to receive a BA degree in Art *without an emphasis*, must earn a minimum of 50 semester credits in art.

Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree

The BFA is a professional art degree requiring above-average accomplishment in art. Only students demonstrating considerable promise will be accepted for this more demanding professional degree program. Admission to the Art Department BS program *does not* guarantee admission to the BFA program. Entrance to the BFA program is by application only. Each emphasis area specifies classes that must be completed, along with the common foundation courses, prior to application to the BFA program. For most students, this will occur at the end of their sophomore year. Transfer students may make application during the spring semester prior to their planned entrance into the department.

To graduate with a BFA degree, students must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. A **career total** GPA of at least 2.75 must be attained.
2. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of at least 2.75 in the Art Foundation and Art Basic Core classes.
3. No grade lower than a C will be accepted in any art class.
4. In any emphasis area class, no grade lower than a B- is acceptable. Emphasis classes may be retaken for a higher grade.

A minimum of 70 semester credits in art must be completed for the BFA degree. This includes 6 credits of upper-division art history. During the spring semester of their senior year, students must take ART 4910 (Senior BFA Exhibition). Students must also fulfill the standard University Studies requirement of 27-28 credits, as well as complete 20 credits of electives. Any student unable to complete the necessary requirements for the BFA may still qualify for the BS degree.

Department of Art

Department of Art Curriculum

Foundation Courses

Students in the BS, BA, and BFA degree programs (except for students in the Art History emphasis) need to complete the following foundation curriculum. (Art History students should *instead* complete the BA foundation courses, which are listed in the *Art History* section.)

Suggested Sequence:

Freshman year—first semester:

ART 1020 Drawing I (3 cr) or	
ART 1110 Drawing I (Art Majors Only) (3 cr)	3
ART 1120 Two-dimensional Design (3 cr) or	
ART 1150 Two-dimensional Design (Art Majors Only) (3 cr)	3
ARTH 2710 (BHU) Survey of Western Art: Prehistoric to Medieval.....	3

Freshman year—second semester:

ART 1130 Three-dimensional Design (3 cr) or	
ART 1160 Three-dimensional Design (Art Majors Only) (3 cr)	3
ART 2110 Drawing II.....	3
ARTH 2720 (BHU) Survey of Western Art: Renaissance to Post-Modern.....	3

Subsequent curriculum requirements are specific to these individual emphasis areas:

Art Education

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Additional Admission Requirement: admission granted by art education instructor

Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.75, core/foundation courses; 2.75, major; 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career

Minimum Grade Accepted: B- in emphasis courses; C in remaining ART courses

The art education curriculum prepares students to teach art in the public schools. Students graduate with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree in art and obtain a secondary education teaching license. The BFA degree requires 70 credits in Art courses. A minimum of 45 credits must be completed in the core and broadening area:

ART 1020 Drawing I (3 cr) or	
ART 1110 Drawing I (Art Majors Only) (3 cr)	3
ART 1120 Two-dimensional Design (3 cr) or	
ART 1150 Two-dimensional Design (Art Majors Only) (3 cr)	3
ART 1130 Three-dimensional Design (3 cr) or	
ART 1160 Three-dimensional Design (Art Majors Only) (3 cr)	3
ART 2110 Drawing II.....	3
ART 2200 Painting I.....	3
ART 2230 Basic Printmaking.....	3
ART 2400 Computers and Art (Art Majors Only)	3
ART 2600 Basic Sculpture.....	3
ART 2650 Introduction to Ceramics.....	3
ARTH 2710 (BHU) Survey of Western Art: Prehistoric to Medieval.....	3
ARTH 2720 (BHU) Survey of Western Art: Renaissance to Post-Modern	3
ART 1050 Introduction to Photography (3 cr) or	
ART 2810 Photography I (3 cr).....	3

In addition, 6 credits are required in upper-division art history courses. A minimum of 25 art credits must be taken in a specialization area. The secondary education teaching license requires the following courses:

ART 3000 Secondary Art Methods I (Alt F)	3
ART 3300 Clinical Experience I (Alt F)	1

(ART 3000 and 3300 must be taken concurrently.)

ART 4000 Secondary Art Methods II (Alt F).....	3
ART 4300 Clinical Experience II (Alt F).....	1

(ART 4000 and 4300 must be taken concurrently.)

ART 5500 Student Teaching Seminar	2
ART 5630 Student Teaching in Secondary Schools.....	10
INST 3500 Technology Tools for Secondary Teachers	1
SCED 3100 Motivation and Classroom Management.....	3
SCED 3210 (DSS/CI) Educational and Multicultural Foundations	3
SCED 4200 (CI) Reading, Writing, and Technology	3
SCED 4210 Cognition and Evaluation of Student Learning	3
SPED 4000 Education of Exceptional Individuals	2

Art History (52 total credits)

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.5, USU; 2.5 Career

Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.5, major requirements; 2.5, USU; 2.5 Career

Minimum Grade Accepted: C in all major requirements

For the BA degree in Art with an emphasis in Art History, all students must take the following required foundation courses (15 credits):

ARTH 2710 (BHU) Survey of Western Art: Prehistoric to Medieval (F) 3	
ARTH 2720 (BHU) Survey of Western Art: Renaissance to Post-Modern (Sp)	3
HIST 1100 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Ancient and Medieval (F,Sp,Su)	3
HIST 1110 (BHU) Foundations of Western Civilization: Modern (F,Sp,Su)	3

One studio art course of student's choice (note prerequisites where necessary)

All majors must choose between the following two tracks, and must meet with their advisor to determine a concentration and special area by the beginning of their sophomore year. In addition, the student should have produced two research papers of 10-15 pages each by the senior year.

Track I (18 credits): Students must complete six upper-division courses in art history, consisting of three interrelated courses (e.g., by period) and three distributed widely (i.e., a concentrator in a modern period of art history would select courses from the ancient or medieval, renaissance, and Baroque periods to achieve the wide distribution).

Track II (Interdisciplinary Track) (18 credits): Students must complete three upper-division courses in Art History and two upper-division courses outside the department that make up a special field (these may be combined from area studies, such as the British Commonwealth, French Studies, American Studies, Folklore, or Anthropology; or may consist of a selection of courses that deal with post-colonialism, Women and Gender Studies, and the intersections between art and the history of science, for example; or may include courses that deal with a certain period). The student must formally apply, in consultation with his or her advisor, to determine the concentration and special area. One additional course in Art History (outside the special field) must also be completed.

All majors are required to take ARTH 4790, Art History Seminar and Special Problems (3 credits, offered every year). Students will be advised to take this seminar after they have written a research paper. Students are required to produce a self-assessment portfolio. During the second semester, senior majors must provide a portfolio of their work in art history. No credit is granted for the portfolio (which is not a class). The portfolio consists of a two-page self-assessment of the student's work and progress in the major; a list of classes taken in art

history, studio art, and any related fields that have contributed to the student's understanding of art history; and examples of the student's work in art history at all levels, including study-abroad work and internship experiences.

Foreign Language (16 credits): Four semesters of one foreign language are required. (French and German are especially recommended for students who plan to go on to graduate school, but a student may petition to have another foreign language count toward this goal.)

Including foundation, foreign language, and major classes, the Art History emphasis requires a total of 52 credits.

Ceramics

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Additional Admission Requirement: portfolio and application review
Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.75, major; 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Minimum Grade Accepted: B- in emphasis courses;
 C in remaining ART courses

Contemporary ceramics represents the extension and synthesis of clay sculpture and vessel traditions. Students are acquainted with the technology of ceramic materials and firing processes, while developing sound craftsmanship as a means to personal expression. Enrichment is provided through the ceramics collection of the Nora Eccles Harrison Museum, numerous ceramics exhibitions, and visiting guest artists. Juniors and seniors in the program may compete for one of the Ellen Stoddard Eccles Scholarships, an endowed scholarship fund set aside especially for undergraduate ceramics majors. Students must complete the following courses for a Ceramics emphasis:

ART 2600 Basic Sculpture (F,Sp).....	3
ART 2650 Introduction to Ceramics (F,Sp,Su)	3
ART 3610 Intermediate Sculpture (F)	3
ART 3650 Intermediate Ceramics: Handbuilding (F)	3
ART 3660 Intermediate Ceramics: Throwing on the Potter's Wheel (Sp).....	3
ART 4640 ¹ Technology of Ceramic Art (F,Sp,Su)	6
ART 4650 ² Advanced Ceramic Studio (F,Sp,Su)	12
ART 4910 Senior BFA Exhibition (Sp).....	2
Two upper-division Art History courses	6
CHEM 1010 (BPS) Introduction to Chemistry (F,Sp) (3 cr) or	
CHEM 1110 (BPS) General Chemistry I (4 cr) (F,Sp).....	3 or 4
GEO 1010 (BPS) Introduction to Geology: Geology of National Parks (F,Su) (3 cr) or	
GEO 1110 (BPS) The Dynamic Earth: Physical Geology (F,Sp) (4 cr)	3 or 4

¹ART 4640 is repeatable for credit, and must be taken during at least two semesters.
²ART 4650 is repeatable for credit, and must be taken during at least four semesters.

Drawing and Painting

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Additional Admission Requirement: portfolio and application review
Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.75, major; 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Minimum Grade Accepted: B- in emphasis courses;
 C in remaining ART courses

The drawing and painting emphasis includes the two-dimensional study of form and space, as well as the exploration of drawing and painting media, graphic elements, and visual dynamics. It is an essential discipline for all artists, as it provides the fundamental visual skills needed in their search for a personal idiom. At the same time,

drawing and painting are also vehicles of creative expression, visual adventure, and self-discovery. The curriculum emphasizes an analysis of historical approaches to drawing and painting, and the exploration of new ideas, techniques, and materials. Basic courses are designed to foster a respect for the craft of drawing and painting, and subsequent courses encourage application of the craft to expressive goals. Central to the focus of drawing and painting study at USU is the development of a personal portfolio reflecting the specific interests of the individual. Students must complete the following courses for a drawing and painting emphasis:

ART 1050 Introduction to Photography (F) (3 cr) or	
ART 2810 Photography I (F,Sp) (3 cr).....	3
ART 2200 Painting I (F).....	3
ART 2230 Basic Printmaking (F).....	3
ART 2400 Computers and Art (Art Majors Only) (F)	3
ART 2600 Basic Sculpture (F,Sp) (3 cr) or	
ART 2650 Introduction to Ceramics (F,Sp,Su) (3 cr).....	3
ART 3200 Painting II (Sp)	3
ART 4200 Advanced Drawing and Painting Studio (F,Sp,Su).....	6
ART 4210 Figure Painting (Sp)	3
ART 4260³ Life Drawing (F)	3
ART 4910 Senior BFA Exhibition (Sp).....	2
ARTH 4750 Twentieth Century Art	3
One additional upper-division Art History course (required).....	3

One course must be chosen from:

ART 3230 Lithography (F).....	3
ART 3240 Intaglio (Sp).....	3
ART 3250 Relief Prints (F)	3

The remainder of the 70 semester credits can be taken as electives.

³ART 4260 is repeatable for credit, and must be taken during at least two semesters.

Graphic Design

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Additional Admission Requirement: portfolio and application review
Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.75, major; 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Minimum Grade Accepted: B- in emphasis courses;
 C in remaining ART courses

Graphic design is the study of visual communications and the art of presenting information. Visual elements, such as animation, photography, illustration, symbols, and type, are designed or arranged using various techniques and materials. Materials range from traditional ink, paper, and printing presses to video and the Internet, using the latest computer software and hardware. Students in graphic design complete a variety of courses that involve working with symbols, trademarks, typography, layout, and all formats of print and publication design. Illustration, digital imaging, motion graphics, animation, and interactive media are also part of the graphic design curriculum. Seniors may specialize in one or more of these areas of study and create a professional portfolio specific to their interests. Graphic Design emphasis students should complete the following courses:

ART 2400 Computers and Art (F) (Art Majors Only)	3
ART 3400 Typography (Sp).....	3
ART 3420⁴ Communication Arts Seminar (F,Sp).....	1
ART 4410 Graphic Interface Design I (F).....	3
ART 4420 Brand Identity Design (F)	3
ART 4440 Type, Image, and Visual Continuity (Sp).....	3
ART 4450 Portfolio Preparation (F).....	3

Department of Art

ART 4910 Senior BFA Exhibition (Sp).....	2
Additional Art courses.....	14
Two upper-division Art History courses (3000- or 4000-level).....	6

⁴ART 3420 is repeatable for credit, and must be taken during a minimum of three semesters.

Photography

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Additional Admission Requirement: portfolio and application review
Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.75, major; 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Minimum Grade Accepted: B- in emphasis courses;
 C in remaining ART courses

Found throughout all of contemporary life, photographic images shape the way we document, interpret, and direct our lives. As an art form, photography constantly reinvents our concept of beauty, reality, and culture. Within the program in photography, students learn the aesthetic and technical skills of the medium. The fundamentals of craft and the "hands on" application of knowledge at each level enables the student to pursue a variety of photographic professions. Requirements for the Photography emphasis include:

ART 2810 Photography I (F,Sp).....	3
ART 3810 Photography II (Sp).....	3
ART 4810 Digital Photography (F).....	3
ART 4820 Nineteenth Century Photography Printing Processes (F)....	3
ART 4830 Independent Projects in Photography (F,Sp,Su).....	6
ART 4840 Color Photography I (F).....	3
ART 4850 Color Photography II (Sp).....	3
ART 4860 Photographic Studio (F).....	3
ART 4870 Photographic Portfolio (Sp).....	3
ART 4910 Senior BFA Exhibition (Sp).....	2
ARTH 3820 History of Early Photography (Sp).....	3
ARTH 3830 History of Contemporary Photography (Sp).....	3
Additional Art courses.....	4

Printmaking

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Additional Admission Requirement: portfolio and application review
Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.75, major; 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Minimum Grade Accepted: B- in emphasis courses;
 C in remaining ART courses

Students in the printmaking emphasis have the opportunity to explore all aspects of traditional and contemporary printmaking. After an introduction to the basics of intaglio, lithographic, silkscreen, and relief processes, students are encouraged to continue their development in a specific area of interest. Independent studio projects will investigate the wide field of printmaking, providing a framework for the student to become engaged in a creative pursuit involving both technical and aesthetic considerations. Requirements for the Printmaking emphasis include:

ART 1050 Introduction to Photography (F) (3 cr) or	
ART 2810 Photography I (F,Sp) (3 cr).....	3
ART 2230 Basic Printmaking (F).....	3
ART 3230 ⁵ Lithography (F).....	3
ART 3240 ⁵ Intaglio (Sp).....	3
ART 3250 ^{5,6} Relief Prints (F).....	3
ART 4250 Advanced Printmaking Studio (F,Sp).....	9
ART 4910 Senior BFA Exhibition (Sp).....	2

Additional Art courses.....	11
Two additional upper-division Art History courses, 3000-level and above (required).....	6

⁵A total of 12 credits must be taken in a combination of ART 3230, 3240, and 3250.
⁶ART 3250 may be repeated for credit.

Sculpture

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Additional Admission Requirement: portfolio and application review
Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.75, major; 2.75, USU; 2.75 Career
Minimum Grade Accepted: B- in emphasis courses;
 C in remaining ART courses

Sculpture is the three-dimensional expression of ideas. Its range extends from discrete, permanent objects to ephemeral, multi-media environments. Students in the sculpture emphasis develop a base of knowledge in traditional approaches to the creation of form. After gaining competency in figure modeling, as well as in stone or wood carving, they explore both site-specific sculpture and sculptural installations. Intermediate and advanced students investigate specific problems involving technical, aesthetic, and conceptual considerations, while developing their own direction, based on both experience with form, materials, and techniques, and an understanding of traditional concerns and contemporary issues in the vast field encompassed today by sculpture.

The following courses are required for students in the sculpture emphasis:

ART 1050 Introduction to Photography (F) (3 cr) or	
ART 2810 Photography I (F,Sp) (3 cr).....	3
ART 2600 Basic Sculpture (F,Sp).....	3
ART 2650 Introduction to Ceramics (F,Sp,Su).....	3
ART 3610 Intermediate Sculpture (F).....	3
ART 4660 Advanced Sculpture Studio (Sp).....	9
ART 4910 Senior BFA Exhibition (Sp).....	2
Additional Art courses.....	20
Two additional upper-division Art History courses (required).....	6

Sample Four-year Plans

Sample semester-by-semester four-year plans for students working toward a bachelor's degree within the Art Department can be found at: <http://www.usu.edu/degreeplans/>

Students should consult with their advisor to develop a plan of study tailored to their individual needs and interests.

Minor Requirements

Art Minor

To plan a minor in Art, students should meet with an advisor. Generally, the minimum requirements include:

ART 1020 Drawing I (F,Sp).....	3
ART 1120 Two-dimensional Design (F,Sp).....	3
ART 1130 Three-dimensional Design (F,Sp).....	3
ARTH 2710 (BHU) Survey of Western Art: Prehistoric to Medieval (F) (3 cr) or	
ARTH 2720 (BHU) Survey of Western Art: Renaissance to Post-Modern (Sp) (3 cr).....	3
Credits in any ART classes.....	12

Art History Minor

A minor in art history requires ARTH 2710 and 2720, plus 12 credits from the art history group (ARTH 3820, 3830, 4720, 4740, 4750, 4790).

USU does not offer an art teaching minor for secondary teachers. Students choosing to train for teaching art in secondary schools must complete the art education major listed under art specialties and must comply with all requirements listed by the Secondary Education Program of the School of Teacher Education and Leadership (TEAL).

Departmental Honors

Students who would like to experience greater academic depth within their major are encouraged to enroll in departmental honors. Through original, independent work, Honors students enjoy the benefits of close supervision and mentoring, as they work one-on-one with faculty in select upper-division departmental courses. Students wishing to pursue departmental honors in art must have a cumulative GPA of 3.30 or higher, and must first be admitted to the BFA program. Once that process is completed, they should meet with the departmental honors advisor to complete an honors program of study contract form. Contact the Art Department at: Fine Arts Visual 122, (435) 797-3460.

The 15-credit requirement for Departmental Honors in Art is met in the following manner:

1. At least 6 credits in upper-division Art or Art History courses must be taken with an honors contract.
2. At least 3 credits must be completed in an Honors Depth Life and Physical Sciences (DSC) course or in an Honors Depth Social Sciences (DSS) course.
3. At least 3 credits of upper-division coursework must be completed in the emphasis area or from outside the department, and must be taken with an honors contract.
4. Students must complete ART 4910 (Senior BFA Exhibition, 2 credits), along with at least 1 credit in HONR 4900 (Senior Thesis/Project, 1-3 credits).

To qualify for departmental honors in art, students must graduate with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.30 in their upper-division coursework taken as part of their departmental honors contract, and must present their work in a public forum (such as the Senior BFA show and/or Student Showcase).

Additional Information

For additional information about undergraduate requirements in the Department of Art, see the major requirement sheet, which can be obtained from the department, or accessed online at: <http://www.usu.edu/majorsheets/>

Additional information may also be found on the Art Department website at: <http://www.art.usu.edu/>

Graduate Programs

The Department of Art offers two graduate degrees and cooperates with the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services on another degree. The Master of Arts (MA) and the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) are offered by the Art Department. A Master of Education (MEd) with a specialization in art is offered through the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services.

Master of Arts

Students are selected for the MA program on the basis of a portfolio demonstrating artistic individuality and a level of development beyond the need of classroom instruction.

Admission Requirements

All applicants are required to have earned a bachelor's degree in the visual arts or its equivalent. During the last two years of undergraduate work, the GPA in art courses must have been at least 3.0 on a 4 point scale. MAT scores should be at or above the 40th percentile. Applicants taking the GRE should have verbal and quantitative scores at or above the 40th percentile.

Degree Requirements

Candidates for the MA must complete a minimum of 30 credits, to include: (1) 21 graduate studio credits, which may be divided into two or three areas of study at the graduate level; (2) 3 credits which may be earned in classes outside the department; (3) 3 credits of art history; and (4) 3 credits of Research and Thesis.

A total of 12 credits of art history, including undergraduate credits, is required for graduation, but only 3 credits earned as a matriculated graduate student at USU may be applied toward the 30-credit MA requirement. The additional 9 credits of art history may include credits earned at the undergraduate level.

A candidate must complete a minimum of two semesters in residency. Nine credits per semester is considered full-time graduate enrollment, while 12 credits are considered the maximum enrollment. A minimum of three semesters is thus required to complete the 30-credit program.

Master of Fine Arts

The Master of Fine Arts degree is the terminal degree in the visual arts field. The MFA program is designed to allow students to mature to a level of professional competence in the making of art. Related studies augment a rigorous studio program. The prospective student must exhibit both academic excellence and a well-developed personal artistic vision.

Admission Requirements

All applicants are required to have earned a BFA degree in the visual arts or its equivalent, including a minimum of 12 credits of art history. *Students must submit either MAT or GRE scores.* GPA in art courses must have been at least 3.0 on a 4-point scale. MAT scores should be at or above the 40th percentile. Applicants taking the GRE should have verbal and quantitative scores at or above the 40th percentile.

Degree Requirements

Students must earn 60 credits, to include: (1) 43 credits of graduate-level studio art as determined by the student in consultation with his or her major professor, including a minimum of 6 credits outside of the emphasis area; (2) 6 credits of Graduate Seminar; (3) 2 credits of Graduate Interdisciplinary Critique; (4) 6 credits outside the Art Department as specified by the supervisory committee; and (5) 3

Department of Art

credits of Research and Thesis, which concludes with an MFA thesis exhibition and an oral defense. The MFA thesis is a visual presentation, the equivalent of a written dissertation in other disciplines. The thesis exhibition is the single most important feature of the MFA program; the culmination of at least two years, and often three or more years, of intensive study in a single discipline. The student must also submit a selection of digital images documenting the exhibition.

The MFA program is a resident program; it is not possible to complete the requirements for graduation by correspondence. The program is predicated upon the assumption that students will live in the Logan area. Students must complete a minimum of four semesters in residency. Nine credits per semester is considered full-time graduate enrollment, while 12 credits are considered the maximum enrollment. A minimum of five semesters is thus required to complete the 60-credit program; most students require three years.

Application Procedures

Completed applications must include: (1) completed application forms; (2) a letter of intent; (3) transcripts of all previous graduate and undergraduate work; (4) three letters of recommendation from qualified professionals; (5) GRE or MAT scores; and (6) the \$50 application fee.

These materials must be sent directly to the School of Graduate Studies. When complete, applications will be forwarded by the School of Graduate Studies to the Art Department for review.

A portfolio of twenty digital images on CD-ROM of recent work must be mailed directly to: Graduate Coordinator, Department of Art, Utah State University, 4000 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-4000.

Completed applications and slide portfolios must be received by **February 1**. Students should note that applications will be considered *only* at this time, and *only* completed applications will be reviewed. Admission will *only* be considered for fall semester. The deadlines for financial aid may be earlier than the admissions deadline. For further information about financial aid, visit the Financial Aid Office in Taggart Student Center 106; write to: Financial Aid Office, Utah State University, 1800 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-1800; or phone (435) 797-0173.

Applications are reviewed by the Art Department faculty. Candidates are selected primarily on the basis of their **portfolio**, which should demonstrate a level of development beyond the need of classroom instruction and encouragement. The faculty will also look in the portfolio for evidence of significant personal exploration.

Secondary to the portfolio, but important nonetheless, the applicant's **letter of intent** and **letters of recommendation** will also be given careful consideration. In reviewing these letters, the faculty will look for, among other things, indications that the applicant will be capable of prolonged and concentrated effort, guided by realistic personal goals. Letters should address both academic and artistic accomplishments, as well as potential for further growth in both of these areas.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to visit the USU campus and meet with the faculty in their proposed field of study *well in advance* of the February 1 application deadline.

Important Note. Please note that the graduate programs in the Art Department have limited enrollment; admission is *very* competitive. Because only a small fraction of applicants can be accommodated, there can be no guarantee that applicants who meet minimum admission requirements will be accepted into master's programs.

Financial Assistance

Departmental support is available to graduate students on a competitive basis. Students requesting financial support should apply to the department by February 15. Other assistance is available through the University Financial Aid Office. Students should note that applications for Federal work-study should be mailed during the first week of February.

Art Faculty

Professors

Carolyn Cárdenas, drawing, painting
Craig J. Law, photography
John Neely, ceramics
Christopher T. Terry, drawing, painting

Professors Emeritus

Jon I. Anderson, graphic design
Glen L. Edwards, illustration
Adrian Van Suchtelen, drawing

Associate Professors

Jane S. Catlin, art education, painting
Alan Hashimoto, graphic design
Robert Winward, graphic design

Associate Professor Emeritus

Marion R. Hyde, printmaking, art education

Assistant Professors

Eileen Doktorski, sculpture
JinMan Jo, sculpture
J. Daniel Murphy, ceramics
Alexa Sand, art history
Woody Shepherd, drawing, painting
Dave Smellie, graphic design

Course Descriptions

Art (ART), [click here](#)

Art History (ARTH), [click here](#)