

FINE ARTS - MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Emphasis: Studio Art

Art requirements for an MFA degree with an emphasis in studio art include a minimum of 60 credits of academic work, usually completed in three years. Of those 60 credits,

- 15 in 500-level ARTS classes
- 9 must be taken in art history,
- 6 in non-art courses numbered 450 or above,
- 3 in ARTH 579 Methodologies and Historiography of Art History and Art Theory
- 15 in ARTS 596 Graduate Studio Seminar
- 3 in ARTS 493 Studio Core III
- 3 in ARTS 495 Studio Core IV
- 6 in ARTS 598 Studio Thesis
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In order to remain in good standing in the MFA program, a student must maintain an average GPA of 3.0. Any grade lower than B- in an Art Department graduate course is considered failing. In the event that a student fails a required course, they must repeat the class in order to get credit for it. If a student is awarded a graduate assistantship, he or she must maintain an average GPA of 3.0.

Prefix	Title	Credits
Program Requirements		
ARTH 579	Methodologies and Historiography of Art History and Art Theory	3
ARTS 596	Graduate Studio Seminar	15
Non-ARTS/Non-ARTH 450 level or higher courses		6
Studio Art Electives (ARTS 500-level)		15
Art History Electives (ARTH 500-level)		9
ARTS 493	Studio Core III: Professional Practices	3
ARTS 495	Studio Core IV: Thesis Production & Display	3
ARTS 598	Studio Thesis	6
Total Credits		60

Semester Reviews

At the end of the first two semesters, each graduate student's creative production will be reviewed by the assembled faculty. Participation in semester reviews are required for successful completion of graduate level studio courses.

Candidacy

Candidacy occurs during the third semester of study in residency. Candidacy consists of a formal review of the student's work by the assembled graduate faculty. The graduate faculty advances the student to his or her final 3 semesters of study by a majority vote. If the faculty does not advance the student, candidacy may be repeated one additional time at the end of the next consecutive semester. The final three semesters of thesis work will commence from that point. Students who are not successful in their second candidacy attempt will be dis-enrolled from the MFA program.

MFA Capstone Committee

At the end of the third semester and after a successful candidacy the student will propose his or her MFA capstone committee, consisting of two department of art graduate faculty members, and one graduate faculty member from outside the department.

MFA Capstone Exhibition

The studio thesis will culminate in an exhibition of the candidate's creative works and a written artist statement. A successful oral examination and defense of the statement and exhibition is required for graduation. Two copies of the artist statement and a photographic record of the final exhibition are required; other requirements may be determined by the graduate faculty. Students who do not satisfactorily complete their oral examination may not participate in the MFA capstone exhibition.

Capstone exhibitions for the MFA degree will be held in the spring semester in the University Art Museum. Students who wish to graduate at mid-year are obligated to find an exhibition space other than the NMSU Art Museum that meets with the approval of the graduate committee. In this case the student is responsible for making all arrangements for the MFA capstone exhibition.