Graduate Programs in Studio Art

The Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree, the terminal degree for studio art, is offered for qualified students planning careers as professional artists, either working independently or as artist-teachers on the college or art school level. The program offers emphases in ceramics, painting, photo media, printmaking, and sculpture.

Admission Requirements
Admission without deficiencies requires a grade point average of at least 2.750 based upon the last 60 hours of course work, the other general requirements of the Graduate School, with the additional requirement of a 3.000 grade point average in the emphasis (ceramics, painting, photo media, printmaking, or sculpture). Also required is a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree, or the equivalent of a BFA, that includes a minimum of 12 hours of art history, 15 hours in the emphasis, and 20 hours of related work.

Application Procedures
Applicants should forward the following to the Graduate School office:

1. Completed application for admission to the Graduate School. Students can choose to apply online, or submit a paper application. Both are available at www.wichita.edu/gadm
2. Nonrefundable application fee; and
3. Official transcripts of all college-level academic coursework completed, either sent directly from the institutions, or issued-to-student transcripts in sealed envelopes.

Application must also apply to the School of Art and Design at www.wsufinearts.slideroom.com
Please note that there may be an additional fee charged by slideroom to use their service. Through the slideroom portal, applicants will be prompted to submit the following:

1. An application including a statement of intent (outlining artistic goals, professional objectives, and expectations of graduate study experience) and an artist’s statement (outlining artistic philosophy and the nature of work represented in the portfolio);
2. A resume listing education, academic and art awards and recognition, exhibition and any relevant information;
3. Three original letters of recommendation (recommenders will be listed in the online portal); and
4. A portfolio with 15-20 examples of recent work, labeled with title, description, size, medium, and date.

Do not send materials directly to the School of Art and Design. They will be returned unopened.

Questions regarding the application procedures should be directed to the Graduate Coordinator – contact information is on the second page of this form.

Deadlines for Application
Completed application materials must be received by the first Wednesday in February for consideration for admission to the following fall semester, and by the first Wednesday in October for the following spring semester.

Degree Requirements
Minimum course requirements for completion of the MFA degree are 60 graduate hours, summarized below. 45 of the 60 hours must be taken in courses numbered 800 or above.

Courses
23 hrs, Studio courses in emphasis
12 hrs, Studio courses in minor/minors
6 hrs, Courses in graduate-level art history
6 hrs, University electives*
2 hrs, ART S 895, Professional Practices in Studio Art: Graduate
1 hr, ART S 790, Graduate Teaching Seminar
10 hrs, Terminal project in the emphasis
* Art or non-art courses 500 level or above. May include ARTH, ARTE, or ARTG courses. May include ARTS 800. Courses must be approved by the faculty advisor.

The terminal project consists of an exhibition of original studio art work, accompanied by the MFA terminal project report, which is a documentation of the candidate’s studio work (slides, video, CD, etc.), a hard copy list of the work, a written statement, and a resume.
Plan of Study: In order to define a program of study for the graduate degree, students must submit the Plan of Study form leading to admission to candidacy for the degree no later than one month following the completion of 24 semester hours of graduate credit.

Assessment Reviews and Examinations
There will be a number of reviews throughout the program to assess the progress of students. This will include a First Year Review, Mid-Program Review, Terminal Project Proposal Review, Terminal Project Progress Review, and Terminal Project Review. In addition, prior to the public presentation of the terminal project exhibition, the oral examination is conducted.

Transfer of Credit: All graduate credit accepted for transfer will be at the discretion of the departmental adviser and graduate art coordinator. A maximum of 24 semester hours from prior graduate study may be considered for transfer to the MFA program. Final determination of transfer to will be made after the student has successfully completed 12 semester hours at WSU and the first graduate review. A maximum of 12 semester hours can be applied to the emphasis. If a transfer of credit is allowed, it may reduce course requirements but not entrance requirements. A ruling on hours converted to the MFA program by the dean of the Graduate School, graduate art coordinator, and the emphasis faculty is final. Graduate non-degree work obtained before admission to a planned degree program will not be accepted.

Prerequisite: Students who have not been accepted to the degree status for the MFA in Art may enroll in 800-level courses only with written consent of the course faculty and graduate coordinator, and must be admitted to at least non-degree Category A status in any graduate area.

Policy Toward Student Art
Conforming to College Art Association MFA Standards Guidelines, retention of student work without compensation is not required.

Facilities
Graduate students have 24-hour access to their studio space, and the well-equipped central shop in Henrion Hall is available to them as well.

Assistantships
Graduate teaching assistantships with the School of Art and Design are available to qualified and deserving MFA graduate students at all levels of study. MFA graduate students who are awarded teaching assistantships receive additional financial support from Wichita State University in the form of tuition waivers. A detailed description of the assistantships is available from the graduate art coordinator.

Studio Art Faculty
Ted Adler. MFA, Ohio University, Ceramics
Barry Badgett. MFA, Syracuse University, Sculpture
Robert Bubp. MFA Georgia State University, Painting
Brenda Lichman, MFA, University of North Texas, Ceramics
Jennifer Ray, MFA, Columbia College Chicago, Photography
Humberto Saenz, MFA, University of Dallas, Printmaking
Levente Sulyok, MFA, Rhode Island School of Design, Painting

For More Information
Graduate Coordinator
School of Art and Design
Wichita State University
1845 Fairmount
Wichita, Kansas 67260-0067
Phone (316) 978-7700
E-mail: ted.adler@wichita.edu

Visit WSU, the School of Art and Design, and the Ulrich Museum with links to other Wichita organizations on the Internet at http://www.wichita.edu/artdesign

Apply On-Line: www.wichita.edu/apply

11/15