

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM FOR THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS DEGREE

The MFA program in studio art is designed to promote artistic achievement, creative research, and professional practices. The program's required coursework is structured so that students can benefit from the department's wide range of faculty expertise. In consultation with their advisers, students plan a sequence of elective courses that complements involvement with their primary media. The program also fosters student engagement with faculty and peers through coursework in contemporary art theory, art criticism, and art history.

Graduate students are required to earn a minimum of 60 semester credits in the MFA program. Courses taken as prerequisites for advanced courses are not counted as part of the 60 required credits, but are listed on the Program of Study (GS Form 6).

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 24 credits must be earned at Colorado State University, 21 of which must be earned after admission to the Graduate School. Credits earned in pursuit of one master's degree may not be used for a second master's degree, except in cases where an MA degree is applied to the MFA.

A minimum number of 16 credits earned at CSU must be in 500- or higher-level courses. Of these 16 credits, at least 12 credits must be in regular courses. *Regular courses* are numbered 581 and lower or 681 and lower; *non-regular courses* are numbered 582–599 or 682–699. Non-regular course numbers designate independent or group studies, seminars, thesis/dissertation credits, supervised college teaching, internships, unique title courses offered through the Division of Continuing Education, and any courses graded pass/fall.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A. Concentration (Specialization) Requirements	Total of 30 credits
<u> </u> ART 575 A-G Studio Problems (first & second semesters)	9 credits
Credit varies; may be repeated (e.g., 4 credits Fall, 5 credits Spring).	
<u> </u> ART 675 A-G Studio Problems (third & fourth semesters)	9 credits
Credit varies; may be repeated (e.g., 4 credits Fall, 5 credits Spring).	
Total minimum credits of ART 575 & ART 675: 18	
<u> </u> ART 695 A-J Independent Study (complete during first four semesters)	3 credits
Research in concentration topic; students consult with advisers in writing papers, developing lectures, or pursuing specialized media research. These 3 credits may be taken over two semesters (e.g. 1 credit Fall, 2 credits Spring).	

Concentration (Specialization) Requirements, continued

___ *Graduate School form GS6 Program of Study is submitted before registration for the fourth semester. This form includes names of faculty who will serve on students' thesis committees.*

During the fourth semester, students present their work in formal Qualifying Reviews, in which thesis-committee members and other interested faculty assess student readiness to pursue thesis credits.

___ **ART 699 A-G Thesis (fifth & sixth semesters)** **Total minimum of 9 credits**
Credit varies; may be repeated (e.g., 5 credits Fall, 4 credits Spring).

B. Studio Seminar Requirements **Total of 6 credits**

___ **ART 696 I Group Study—Studio Art Graduate Seminar**
Students take this course twice: once during the first year & once during the second year;
3 credits each.

C. Requirements in Art History **Total of 12 credits**

___ **ART 592 Art History Seminar** **3 credits**
Offered in alternating years; enroll during first or second year.

___ **ART 510 Q Advanced Study in Art History—Contemporary Art and Art Critics** **3 credits**
Students enroll in this class during the first or second year.

___ **Elective Courses in Art History** **Total of 6 credits**
Courses are offered on rotating schedules.

ART 510 A-P Advanced Studies in Art History 3 credits each

- A) American Art
- B) African Art
- C) Pre-Columbian Art
- E) United States Arts Since 1945
- F) Greek Art
- G) Medieval Art
- H) Renaissance Art
- I) Baroque and Rococo Art
- J) 19th Century European Art

- K) 20th Century European Art
- L) Native American Art
- M) Roman Art
- N) Graphic Design
- O) Women in Art
- P) Pacific Art

ART 695H Independent Study in Art History
Requires approval of instructor.

Credit varies.

Students may provide their advisers with justification for an alternative course to substitute for one three-credit art history elective. Students may request adviser approval for an alternative course that would be chosen from among suitable University course offerings.

D. Electives

Total of 12 credits

These credits support individual studio practice and creative research. Students and advisers determine appropriate courses from (but not limited to) the lists below. Students consult with faculty to assess readiness for upper-level courses, to confirm access to advanced courses, and to request overrides.

Graduate students may register for 300- or 400-level courses at a graduate (500) level, after consulting with the instructor to ascertain the additional requirements expected for 500-level work. These classes may have prerequisite conditions.

Studio-Elective Options

4 credits each

- ART 435 Advanced Drawing I
- ART 436 Advanced Drawing II
- ART 440 Pottery IV
- ART 441 Pottery V
- ART 445 Metalsmithing IV
- ART 446 Metalsmithing V
- ART 450 Fibers IV
- ART 451 Fibers V
- ART 455 Advanced Typography & Design
- ART 456 Advanced Illustration
- ART 460 Advanced Painting I
- ART 461 Advanced Painting II
- ART 465 Printmaking IV
- ART 466 Printmaking V

ART 470 Sculpture IV

ART 471 Sculpture V

Other Elective Options in the Department of Art

ART 495 A-L Studio Independent Studies; credit varies

ART 496 A-L Group Study; credit varies

ART 510 A-P Advanced Study in Art History; 3 credits each

ART 684 Supervised College Teaching; credit varies

ART 695 A-J Studio or Art History Independent Study; credit varies

ART 696 I Group Study—Studio Art Graduate Seminar (taken in the third year); 3 credits

Elective Options Outside the Department of Art

PHIL 318 Aesthetics: Visual Arts

3 credits

ANY OTHER NON-ART ELECTIVES:

Credits may vary.

Students and advisers determine relevant elective courses that may be taken outside the Department of Art.

GRAND TOTAL 60

**AN EXAMPLE OF A TYPICAL PROGRAM OF STUDY
FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS
NO DEFICIENCIES**

(Graduate Teaching Assistants usually follow comparable sequence)

First Semester	Credits
ART 575 Studio Problems	4
ART 696 I Group Study— Studio Art Graduate Seminar	3
ART 510 Art History elective or PHIL 318	3
Total	10
Second Semester	
ART 575 Studio Problems	5
ART 510 Q Contemporary Art and Art Critics (or ART 592 Art History Seminar)	3
ART 695 Independent Study; research in concentration topic	3
Total	11
Third Semester	
ART 675 Studio Problems	5
ART 696 I Group Study— Studio Art Graduate Seminar	3
Elective course	3
Total	11
Fourth Semester	
ART 675 Studio Problems	4
ART 592 Art History Seminar (or ART 510 Q Contemporary Art and Art Critics)	3
Elective course	3
Total	10
Fifth Semester	
ART 699 Thesis	3
Elective course	3
ART 510 Art History Elective or PHIL 318	3
Total	9
Sixth Semester	
Elective course	3
ART 699 Thesis	6
Total	9

GRAND TOTAL 60