Fine Arts M.F.A.
(Concentration in Graphic Design)

Degree Requirements: 60 Credit Hours

Application Deadlines
March 1 for Fall Semester, October 1 for Spring Semester; application portfolios for the MFA degree program are not reviewed during summer session.

Admission Requirements
1. Completed requirements for the Bachelor’s degree in a college accredited by the appropriate accrediting association.
2. Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 18 credits of undergraduate studio arts courses and an additional minimum of nine (9) credits of art history.
3. A 3.0 (4.0 scale) cumulative grade point average or higher on all undergraduate work.
4. In addition to application materials required by the College of Graduate Studies, prospective students are required to submit a creative portfolio for consideration by the admissions committee in the Art Department.

Hard-Copy Portfolio is mailed directly to MFA Graduate Program Director and must include:
1. Letter of Interest which includes a Statement of Intent describing purpose of entering full-time graduate studio art program and ultimate goal(s) as an artist.
2. 20 to 30 images of current artwork representing a mature, post-baccalaureate, body of work. Submit images on printed tear sheets, minimum 4"x6" each; including proper identification of title, media, year, size AND on CD/DVD in 300 dpi jpeg format.
3. Artist's Statement highlighting body of work presented in portfolio.
4. Three (3) letters of reference identifying your studio practices and ability to pursue coursework of an advanced critical and theoretical nature.
5. Curriculum Vitae.

Program of Study
Students admitted into the Master of Fine Arts degree program pursue tracks in graphic design or studio art. Students are expected to maintain full-time enrollment throughout the degree program. A grade of "A" or "B" is required in course work applied toward the degree. After earning grades of "C" or below in two courses during their degree program, students will be dismissed from the program.

Degree Requirements: 60 Credit Hours
Major Studio Concentration in Graphic Design: student develops the conceptual and strategic characteristics of his/her personal design work in studio coursework that explores current trends and essential competencies in contemporary graphic design.

Required Studio Coursework 36 (Credit Hours)
ART 7151 Design Activism 3
ART 7152 Design & Semiotics 3

Electives 9 (Credit Hours)
Select 9 credit hours from the following elective courses (in discipline relative to student's thesis direction):
ART 7190 Graduate Studio Practice 3
ART 8030 Selected Topics in Art 3
ART 8830 Readings and Research in Art 3
ART 7351 Design Methods 3
ART 7352 Design and Typographic Form 3
ART 7353 Design Ethics 3
ART 7354 Design Issues 3

Art History/Critical Theory/Professional Practices 9 (Credit Hours)
ART 7377 Graphic Design Art History 3
ART 8630 Art Theory and Criticism 3

MFA Thesis: Thesis Exhibition and Support Paper 6 (credit Hours)
ART 8999 Master of Fine Arts Thesis (repeatable) 6

Total Credit Hours 60

Required Participation in Faculty Review of Creative Work Throughout Program
• Graduate Semester Critiques: Present two to four works in one critique per semester during (Year 1 Fall and Spring; Year 2 Spring)
• Third Semester Review: Faculty Review of body of work during (Year 2 end of Fall)
• Graduate Research Symposia Poster Presentation (Year 1, 2, 3 Spring)
• Preparation of MFA Thesis Exhibition with Gallery Director (Year 2 Spring)
• Written Support Document reflective of thesis body of creative work
  • Presentation of hardbound thesis monographs to a. Thesis Chair and b. Department of ART Archives
• Oral Defense of Thesis Exhibition/Written Text

Thesis Exhibition, Support Text, Oral Defense
Completed during the last two semesters of a student's program, the thesis exhibition, support paper and oral defense of exhibition and paper is the culmination of the MFA graduate degree. The student's thesis exhibition represents a sound-body of contemporary artwork, presented professionally. The written support text adheres to the College of Graduate Studies guidelines and explains the historical and theoretical foundations for the student's creative body of visual artwork. The student acknowledges and defends their accomplishments during the oral defense of exhibition and written support text.

Advisement
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