

University of New Mexico
Department of Art - Graduate Office
MFA Art Studio Program Information

Graduate Program Coordinator:

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<https://art.unm.edu/become-a-student/graduate>

Admission

The application deadline is January 15th every year for the following fall. Please see the detailed admissions handout for application instructions and details. All applicants must apply to one of the seven art studio areas:

- Art & Ecology (4D)
- Ceramics (4D)
- Experimental Art & Technology (4D)
- Painting & Drawing
- Photography
- Printmaking
- Sculpture (4D)
- Confluence Low-Residency MFA concentration (this is a separate process and degree plan; please see the Low-Res packet for further details)

Application Review Process:

If you select as your primary interest any of the following areas, your application will first be reviewed by the faculty in that individual area: Painting & Drawing, Photography, Printmaking.

If you select as your primary interest any of the following areas, your application will first be reviewed by faculty in all four areas under the "4D" framework: Experimental Art & Technology, Sculpture, Art & Ecology, or Ceramics. 4D is a cohort of faculty and students who share a commitment to creative research and practices across areas of sculpture, ceramics, art & ecology, experimental art and technology and more.

Any secondary interest area that you choose will be reviewed by faculty in that area after the primary interest area review.

Once you are admitted to the program, you can take coursework in any of these studio areas, as well as Art History and Art Education, and you can work with faculty from any area. You can also take coursework outside of the department. Funding, however, is largely determined by the area in which you are admitted, and you are expected to work with at least one faculty member from your area.

Funding and Tuition: Assistantships, Scholarships, and Links

All admitted students are given the opportunity (*after admission*) to apply for Teaching or Graduate Assistantships. Assistantships entail **10 hours/week teaching** (TAship) or assisting (GAship) in an introductory course in your area, and come with **\$1008/month (for GA and TA) in stipend, as well as 6 hours of tuition paid for, additional hours billed at the in-state rate, and free health insurance.**

We are able to fund over 85% of our MFA students with a TA or GAship. Assistantships are awarded each semester on a competitive basis, and funding is not guaranteed.

You cannot apply for an assistantship until you have been admitted to the program. All MFA students are eligible for up to **5 semesters** of departmental funding. If you do not graduate in 3 years, you will not continue receiving departmental funding.

With an assistantship covering 6 hours, and the rest billed at the in-state rate, a student taking 9 hours (which is the required courseload in order to graduate on time) can expect to pay a bit over **\$1500/semester out-of-pocket in tuition.**

In general, tuition and fee rates are here: <http://bursar.unm.edu/tuition-fees/tuition-and-fee-rates.html> If you do not have an assistantship, we recommend applying for New Mexico residency for tuition purposes after you have been here for one calendar year.

We recommend that all students investigate other funding possibilities as well, including:

Federal financial aid: <http://finaid.unm.edu>, <http://fafsa.gov>

Graduate Funding: <http://grad.unm.edu/funding/index.html>

Departmental Scholarships: <http://art.unm.edu/scholarships/>

University Scholarships: <https://scholarship.unm.edu/>

College of Fine Arts Scholarships: <http://finearts.unm.edu/advisement/cfa-scholarships/>

Curriculum & Credit Hours

Art Studio 502, Interdisciplinary Seminar (offered Fall only)	3
Art Studio credits (in addition to 502)	21
Art History credits	6
Electives:	
Outside studio credits	12
Free electives	6
699 Dissertation (normally taken with the chair of the committee)	12
Total Hours	60

In your first semester of graduate school, you are required to enroll in Art Studio 502 - Interdisciplinary Seminar. Normally, in the first semester, students will also enroll in 3 hours of art history and 3 hours of studio, either the area's graduate level course (graduate printmaking, graduate photo) or a graduate tutorial (independent study) with a specific instructor.

Nine (9) credit hours per semester is considered full-time, and is required for timely degree completion.

Your academic work after the first semester will be graduate credit art studio courses, art history or outside of studio courses, and one-on-one tutorial instruction.

You may transfer a maximum of twelve (12) hours of graduate work from another institution, from graduate non-degree status, or from a previous master's degree, to the MFA Program.

Program Requirements:

Graduate Reviews

In your second semester (Spring), you will participate in a review of your current and ongoing studio work. All the studio reviews will last one hour and be scheduled for one day, approximately the 12th week of the semester. They are conducted by a four-member committee and intended to create a critical dialogue about your work while introducing you to different points of view. They are open to the public. The Department Graduate Office will distribute a schedule and assign the faculty committee.

One week prior to the review you will be required to submit a one-page statement about your work. Your committee will be concerned with the clarity of your ideas, both written and verbal, and the body of work you have produced. Following the review, a written evaluation will be available from each committee member regarding content and presentation.

Committee

In the third semester, you will select your Committee on Studies. The chair must be a tenure-track faculty from art studio. The remaining three members should be tenure-track faculty from UNM, including at least one member who is not in the Department of Art. You can also include one member who is non-tenure-track or an outside expert. The committee members you choose will be the faculty members you work most closely with for your MFA thesis.

Qualifying

In your third or fourth semester, you will complete the Qualifying Exam, which is a 10-12 page process paper and comprehensive review of a selection of your work, with an accompanying committee meeting and oral exam.

Advancement

The Advancement establishes that your creative work is of sufficient maturity; that you can begin work on your dissertation; and that your general knowledge of critical and historical issues in art is at the level expected of an MFA candidate. This examination, which may be written, oral, or both, is not limited to the areas of the student's course work, but tests the student's grasp of the field as a whole.

Dissertation

In the final semester, you will create and defend your MFA thesis. This will consist of:

- A solo exhibition of creative work that you have organized and installed

- An exhibition catalog you have assembled and produced that includes a written essay related to the issues represented in the work
- A public lecture that informs the audience about the nature of your creative process involved in the creation of the MFA thesis work.

Creative work submitted for the examination must be new work executed specifically for the final exhibition. The exhibition should in no way be a retrospective of work done in class or tutorial instruction.

Studios

All MFA students are assigned private studios in either the Art Annex or Mattox Sculpture Center. The program has 52 graduate studios, as well as a graduate-only woodshop, metal shop, a ceramics kiln, and a press available for printmakers. Studio changes are made through the Graduate Office, and are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Studios have a \$250 refundable damage deposit in the first semester, as well as \$150/semester fee. The semester fee is charged in both fall and spring (summer is included in the spring fee, except for spring graduates). All studio-holders must abide by the studio building rules. All MFA students are eligible to have an on-campus studio for 3 years; a studio is not guaranteed if you extend your time beyond 3 years.

Faculty

Painting & Drawing

Professor: Scott Anderson, MFA, sander73@unm.edu
Associate Professor: Raychael Stine, MFA, rstein@unm.edu
Assistant Professors: John Abbott, MFA, jabbot01@unm.edu
Amanda Curreri, MFA, acurreri@unm.edu

Interdisciplinary:

Professor: Andrea Polli, MFA, PhD, apolli@unm.edu
Associate Professor: Ellen Babcock, MFA, ebabcock@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Stephanie Woods, MFA, sjwoods0@unm.edu

Photography

Professor: Jim Stone, MFA, jimstone@unm.edu
Meggan Gould, MFA, meggould@unm.edu
Associate Professor: Patrick Manning, MFA, pcm@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Sara Abbaspour, MFA, sabbaspour@unm.edu

Printmaking

Professor: Yoshiko Shimano, MFA, yshimano@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Karsten Creightney, MFA, kcc1@unm.edu

Sculpture/3D

Associate Professor: Randall Wilson, MFA, rgwilson@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Llewelyn Fletcher, MFA, lfletcher@unm.edu

Ceramics

Associate Professor: Gina Voelker-Bobrowski, MFA, gymbobrowski@unm.edu
Clarence Cruz, Pueblo Pottery, MFA, c108@unm.edu
Professor of Practice: Kathryn Cyman, Arita Porcelain, MA Art Education, aritaunm@unm.edu

Experimental Art & Technology

Professor: Mary Tsiongas, MFA, tsiongas@unm.edu
Associate Professor: Lee Montgomery, MFA, mrlee@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Stewart Copeland, MFA, stewartcopeland@unm.edu

Art & Ecology

Professors: Subhankar Banerjee, subhankar@unm.edu
Szu-Han Ho, MFA, szho@unm.edu
Associate Professor: Jeanette Hart-Mann, MFA, Director of Ravel Lab, hartmann@unm.edu
Lecturer III: Kaitlin Bryson, MFA, Field Coordinator of Ravel Lab, kbryson@unm.edu

Art History

Professor: Kirsten Buick, PhD, *American Art*, kbuick@unm.edu
Libby Lumpkin, PhD, *Contemporary Art*, rocket@unm.edu
Ray Hernandez-Duran, PhD, *Spanish Colonial*, rhernand@unm.edu
Associate Professors: Susanne Anderson-Riedel, PhD, *Graphic Arts*, ariedel@unm.edu
Justine Andrews, PhD, *Byzantine and Medieval*, jandrews@unm.edu
Kency Cornejo, PhD, *Latin American Art History*, kcornejo@unm.edu
Margaret Jackson, PhD, *Pre-Columbian Art History*, mars@unm.edu
Assistant Professors: Kevin Mulhearn, PhD, *Modern & Contemporary Photography*, kmulhearn@unm.edu
Marcella Ernest, PhD *Contemporary Native North American Art*, ojibwe@unm.edu
Lecturer II: D. Aaron Fry, ABD, *Native American Art*, tsalagi1313@unm.edu