

What are the prereqs for the Art Education Master's program? What if I don't have them – will you accept teaching experience?

For the Art Education MA program, a strong studio arts background is recommended, and the prerequisite is 24 hours of academic art studio coursework. While this requirement can be waived in exceptional circumstances, this is rare. If you do not yet have the art studio credit hours, we recommend earning them before applying to the MA degree. You don't have to have a BFA specifically, but some academic experience in art studio is necessary.

How long does it take to finish the Master's degree?

It depends on whether you are working full-time and studying part-time, or studying full-time. The MA by itself (without licensure) is 33 hours of coursework, culminating in either a thesis or Master's exam in the final semester. Most classes are offered in the evenings to accommodate the schedules of MA students who are working in the schools. It is entirely possible to complete the degree 1-2 classes per semester while working full-time, and we encourage applications from current classroom teachers who want to deepen their understanding of the field. If you are taking classes full-time, nine graduate credit hours per semester is considered a full-time schedule – on that schedule, it would take two years to complete the degree.

What does the post-bacc entail?

We offer K-12 Art Education teacher licensure as a post-baccalaureate. If you do the post-bacc, you do not receive a degree at the end of the process, but you will be able to take the NES exams and apply for teacher licensure in the state of New Mexico in the field of Art education. The post-bacc is 36-38 credit hours, exclusive of the teaching content area. Applicants to the post-bacc should already have 24 credit hours in art studio and 9 hours in art history (the teaching content area).

What does it cost to attend UNM?

Check UNM tuition rates here: [UNM Tuition Rates](#)

What about funding for the degree – are there assistantships or scholarships available?

We strongly recommend filling out a FAFSA, at www.fafsa.gov, to apply for workstudy, loans, grants, etc in addition to departmental funding. Many scholarship applications are dependent on FAFSA information, even if you do not accept any offered loans. The Department offers a number of scholarships to returning students, for which you will be eligible once you have been in the program for a semester. That process happens in March of each year, and is open to all continuing students in the department. Awards range from \$200-1000.

We have one or two assistantships available each year on a competitive application basis. Assistantships usually entail working 10 hours/week, and come with a paycheck of about \$650/month, as well as free health insurance, and six credit hours of tuition waived.