The Admissions Process: MA or PhD in Art History

The deadline is December 15th every year for the following fall. DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JANUARY 31st, 2021 FOR FALL 2021 APPLICATIONS.

Contact the Graduate Program Coordinator, Kat Heatherington, at art255@unm.edu if you have questions or need assistance.

Eligibility: Applicants for admission the MA program should preferably have an undergraduate major in art history with a minimum of 24 semester hours as well as advanced courses in history, literature, and philosophy. Any deficiencies in this required preparation must be removed during the first year of coursework for the degree. Graduate credit will not be given for courses taken to remove a deficiency, but graduate study courses may be taken concurrently. Candidates for the MA degree will be required to demonstrate a general knowledge of the history of art.

In applying for admission to the doctoral program, the potential candidate is urged to state aims clearly and to specify the field of art history to be investigated. A candidate will not be accepted unless these aims can be realized. Fieldwork and travel will be necessary in support of research at the doctoral level.

Applicants for admission to the Ph.D. program should have an MA in art history, or exceptional circumstances as approved by the admitting faculty, in such cognate disciplines as history, anthropology, archaeology, or American Studies. Admission to the Ph.D. program without an M.A. in Art History is very rare. Those admitted to the Ph.D. program without the MA in art history may be required to take additional graduate courses beyond the minimum Ph.D. requirement of 48 hours of coursework. Any deficiencies in the required preparation must be removed during the first year of coursework for the degree.

To apply for the MA or PhD in Art History, you need to submit:

- Online application, $50 fee, pay with credit card. http://www.unm.edu/apply
- Letter of intent
- CV or Resume (optional)
- Three letters of recommendation
- Transcripts from every college or university you have attended, whether you earned a degree there or not. (Unofficial transcripts must be uploaded during application; official transcripts must be electronically delivered or mailed from the institution to the Admissions Office at apply@unm.edu.)
- A writing sample, demonstrating your best academic writing. This should be a 7-10 page Art Historical research paper.

All of these requirements should be uploaded on the application website, but official transcripts will still need to be mailed to the Admissions Office.

Please see http://art.unm.edu for more information.
University of New Mexico
Department of Art – Graduate Office
PhD in Art History Program Information

Graduate Program Coordinator:
Kat Heatherington
art255@unm.edu
505-277-6672
art.unm.edu/graduate-programs

Areas of Emphasis:
- Modern Latin American Art History
- Modern US & Canadian Art History
- Native North American Art History
- Art & Architecture of the Ancient Americas
- Ibero-American Colonial Art History
- History of Graphic Arts
- History of Photography
- History of the Built Environment

The application deadline is December 15th every year for the following fall. Please see the detailed admissions handout for application instructions and details. DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JANUARY 31st, 2021 FOR FALL 2021 APPLICATIONS.

In making application for admission to the doctoral program, the potential candidate is urged to state aims clearly and to specify the field of art history to be investigated. A candidate will not be accepted unless these aims can be realized. Fieldwork and travel will inevitably be necessary in support of research at the doctoral level.

Applicants for admission to the Ph.D. program should have an MA in art history or, exceptional circumstances as approved by the admitting faculty, in such cognate disciplines as history, anthropology, archeology, or American Studies. Those admitted to the Ph.D. program without the MA in art history may be required to take additional graduate courses beyond the minimum Ph.D. requirement of 48 hours of course work; in all cases they must take and pass the MA comprehensive examination. Any deficiencies in the required preparation must be removed during the first year of coursework for the degree.

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 about $700/month 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 90% of our PhD 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 PhD students are eligible for up to a maximum of 6 semesters (3 years) of departmental funding.

With an assistantship covering 6 hours, and the rest billed at the in-state rate, a student taking 9 hours can expect to pay a little over $1000/semester out of pocket in tuition.

Tuition and fee rates are here: [http://bursar.unm.edu/tuition-fees/tuition-and-fee-rates.html](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:

- Graduate Funding: [http://grad.unm.edu/funding/index.html](http://grad.unm.edu/funding/index.html)
- Departmental Scholarships: [http://art.unm.edu/scholarships/](http://art.unm.edu/scholarships/)
- University Scholarships: [https://scholarship.unm.edu/](https://scholarship.unm.edu/)
- College of Fine Arts Scholarships: [http://finearts.unm.edu/advisement/cfa-scholarships/](http://finearts.unm.edu/advisement/cfa-scholarships/)

### Curriculum

**Credit Hours**

A minimum of 48 hours of course work beyond the bachelor’s degree, exclusive of dissertation.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A maximum of 30 hours from the M.A. degree (if approved, may be counted toward the 48-hour requirement)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History graduate courses in major and supporting fields</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History dissertation</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Course Work**

All coursework applied to the degree must be graduate-level (courses numbered 500 and above). You must take 24 hours of coursework at UNM, of which at least 18 must be taken after admission to the Ph.D. program (exclusive of dissertation hours).

To receive the Ph.D. degree, you must demonstrate a general mastery of the discipline, comprehensive knowledge of your field of specialization and an ability to conduct original research. Required course work done outside the Department of Art will be determined by your particular needs and is to be undertaken with the advice and approval of your Committee on Studies.

**Transfer Credits**
Credit hours previously applied to a master’s degree from UNM or another accredited institution may be applied toward the Ph.D. The credits may include (1) UNM non-degree and/or extension credit, (2) a maximum of nine hours of approved graduate-level courses taken in undergraduate status, (3) a maximum of 6 hours of thesis credit or other coursework graded pass or credit.

**Graduate Symposium**
In your second and third semesters, you are required to participate in the *Graduate Symposium*, an oral presentation given to faculty and peers of a research work in progress. This is conducted by a committee composed of the Art History faculty and one Art Studio faculty member. Written evaluations will be available regarding content and presentation. Your committee will be concerned with the clarity of your ideas as well as the coordination of your text with your slides. All PhD students must pass two Symposia before graduating, and can make the attempt 3 times. If you earned an MA at UNM, and participated in the Symposium as an MA student, you must still fulfill the Symposium requirement as a PhD student.

**Language Requirement**
All PhD students must provide evidence of proficiency in two languages other than English, appropriate to your area of concentration, by the time of graduation. To satisfy the language requirement, you can apply 4 semesters of coursework from your bachelor’s degree, experience with a second language (native speaker, graduate work in the language, international coursework conducted in the language), or you can take coursework at UNM through the 202 level.

**Comprehensive Exam (if M.A. was not in Art History)**
If you were admitted to the doctoral program with an M.A. from another institution you must meet the following general requirements before advancing to candidacy:
- Art History 500
- pass two Graduate Art History Symposia
- IMPORTANT: Doctoral students admitted with an M.A. in a field other than Art History must also pass the Department M.A. comprehensive examination. This examination is not limited to the areas of the student’s course work, but tests the student’s grasp of the field as a whole.

**Doctoral Comprehensive Exam**
You must successfully complete the Doctoral Comprehensive Examination. This written examination, administered by the student’s Committee on Studies, tests the student’s comprehensive knowledge of the field of specialization. The exam consists of questions from three faculty members on the student’s committee. You have one week to complete 10-page papers in response to each question, with appropriate references and citations.

**Dissertation Proposal**
After passing the Comprehensive Exam, PhD candidates will submit their dissertation proposal to their Committee on Studies, and, if necessary, form the four-person Dissertation Committee.

**Dissertation**
The dissertation demonstrates your ability to undertake original research and to write a readable, scholarly argument of book length. You are expected to have complete knowledge of the historical, critical, theoretical, and methodological issues raised by the subject. You must submit a dissertation that demonstrates evidence of your ability to do sound research. Your topic and methodology must have the approval of your Dissertation Committee. It is your responsibility to provide each member of your committee with a complete draft of your dissertation in ample time for review before your final defense. After approval three copies of your dissertation need to be submitted. It is your responsibility to defend your dissertation in an oral examination administered by your Dissertation Committee.

**Time Limit to Complete Requirements**
You have five years to complete all degree requirements from the date you complete your comprehensive exam. For example, if you advanced in the fall of 2020, your five-year time limit will end during the fall of 2025. Under *extenuating circumstances*, you may request an extension of this time limit in writing but it must be done prior to the end of the time limit.

**Note:** Those applying to the Ph.D. program without an MA in art history may be admitted to the MA, or required to take additional graduate courses beyond the minimum Ph.D. requirement of 48 hours of coursework.
Faculty

Painting & Drawing
Associate Professors: Baochi Zhang, MFA, Florida State University, 1990 baochi@unm.edu
Scott Anderson, MFA, scobin@gmail.com
Bart Exposito, MFA, bexposito@unm.edu
Assistant Professors: Raychael Stine, MFA, raychaelstine@gmail.com
John Abbott, MFA, jabbot01@unm.edu

Interdisciplinary:
Assistant Professor: Ellen Babcock, M.F.A., ebabcock@sonic.net
Visiting Asst. Prof.: Amanda Curreri, MFA, acurrerir@unm.edu
Professor: Andrea Polli, MFA, PhD, apolli@unm.edu

Photography
Professors: Jim Stone M.F.A., Rhode Island School of Design jimstone@unm.edu
Associate Professor: Patrick Manning, MFA, University of New Mexico, pcm@unm.edu
Meggan Gould, MFA, megggould@unm.edu
Visiting Asst. Prof.: Michelle Murphy, MFA, michellemurphy@unm.edu

Printmaking
Professor: Yoshiko Shimano, MFA, Mills College, 1991 yshimano@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Karsten Creightney, MFA, University of New Mexico, 2010 kcc1@unm.edu

3D
Professors: Constance DeJong, MFA, UNM, 1981 dejong@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Randall Wilson, MFA, rgwilson@unm.edu
Llewelyn Fletcher, MFA California College of the Arts, 2010, lfl Fletcher@unm.edu

Ceramics
Associate Professor: Gina Voelker-Bobrowski, Contemporary Ceramics, MFA, gymbobrowski@unm.edu
Professor of Practice: Kathy Cyman, Arita Porcelain, MA Art Education, aritaunm@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Clarence Cruz, Pueblo Pottery, MFA University of New Mexico, 2008, c108@unm.edu

Experimental Art & Technology
Professor: Mary Tsiongas, M.F.A., 1993 tsiongas@unm.edu
Associate Professors: Lee Montgomery, M.F.A., lee@undemocratic.us

Art & Ecology
Professors: Subhanker Banerjee, subhankar@unm.edu
Associate Professors: Catherine Harris M.F.A., cphunm@unm.edu
Szu-Han Ho, M.F.A. szho@unm.edu
Assistant Professor: Jenn Hart-Mann, MFA, Land Arts of the American West, hartmann@unm.edu
Res Lecturer III: Ryan Henel, MFA, Land Arts of the American West rhenel@unm.edu

Art History
Professors: Kirsten Buick, Ph.D., American Art, University of Michigan, 1999 kbuick@unm.edu
Libby Lumpkin, PhD, Contemporary Art, rocket@unm.edu
Associate Professors: Susanne Anderson-Riedel, Graphic Arts, Ph.D., U of California, 2002 ariedel@unm.edu
Justine Andrews, Byzantine and Medieval, Ph.D., jandrews@unm.edu
Ray Hernandez-Duran, Spanish Colonial, University of Chicago, Ph.D. rhernand@unm.edu
Assistant Professors: Kency Cornejo, Latin American Art History, kcornejo@unm.edu
Margaret Jackson, PreColumbian Art History, UCLA, mars@unm.edu
Kevin Mulhearn, PhD, Modern & Contemporary, Photography, CUNY, kmulhearn@unm.edu
Lecturer II: D. Aaron Fry, ABD, Native American Art, tsalagi1313@unm.edu