

# Department of Art and Art History

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# Department of Art and Art History

204 Fine Arts Building  
5015 Holmes Street  
(816) 235-1501  
art@umkc.edu  
<http://cas.umkc.edu/art>

## Mailing Address

University of Missouri-Kansas City  
Department of Art and Art History  
204 Fine Arts Building  
5100 Rockhill Road  
Kansas City, MO 64110-2499

## Department Chair:

Burton L. Dunbar

## Professors Emeriti:

Eric J. Bransby, William Crist, George Ehrlich, Stephen Gosnell, Leonard Koenig, Barbara Mueller

## Instructor Emerita:

Nancy DeLaurier

## Professors:

Burton L. Dunbar, Craig A. Subler (graduate studio art adviser), Maude Wahlman (Dorothy and Dale Thompson/Missouri Endowed Professor of Global Arts)

## Associate Professors:

Frances Connelly, Geraldine E. Fowle (undergraduate art history adviser), Kati Toivanen, Rochelle Ziskin (graduate art history adviser)

## Assistant Professors:

Barry Anderson, P. Elijah Gowin, Paul Tosh

## Research Associate Professor and Joint Appointment with Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art:

Robert Cohon

## Adjunct Assistant Professor:

Marilyn Carbonell

## Curator of Slides:

Carla Gilliland

## Department Description

The Department of Art and Art History serves a variety of students, ranging from the non-major to the professionally oriented. The department offers programs leading to the bachelor of arts degree in art, art history and studio art. The master of arts is offered in art history and studio art. The department also participates in the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program.

In the undergraduate program, art history serves as humanities electives for non-majors, as part of the program for studio majors, and as a major field for students who wish a liberal arts major or who wish to pursue graduate study in this field.

Studio art courses are open to nonmajors who meet the appropriate prerequisites. After completing a foundation program, studio students can take work in a number of areas: drawing, painting, printmaking, graphic design, photography and electronic media. The program serves both the general studio major and those students seeking further professional training or employment in art-related fields.

There are four degree programs within the undergraduate major offered by the Department of Art and Art History: studio art, art history, general art and a combined art/art history major. In addition, the department works with the School of Education to offer a dual degree in studio art and secondary education.

Completion of an undergraduate degree with above-average performance in either art history or studio art is normally a prerequisite for further study on the graduate level.

## Special Resources/Programs

### The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

The University of Missouri-Kansas City is fortunate to be adjacent to one of the most comprehensive and distinguished art museums in the country, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. In addition to having ready access to the gallery's collection, advanced students may be privileged to use the museum's other facilities, such as the reference library, the acquisition records or the museum's collections. Use of these facilities is undertaken only after consultation with a member of the faculty. All art and art history students have free admission to the museum.

The department also maintains a close relationship with the museum through joint appointments, student internships and other cooperative programs. Museum curators also lecture in art history at UMKC.

### Collection of Slides and Mounted Reproductions

Among the resources of the department are a curator-supervised collection of slides and mounted photographic reproductions of art. These collections may be used by students with faculty permission and supervision. Selected materials may be put out for study in conjunction with a course or may be requested for individual projects, such as a research paper. In all cases, such use is under the supervision of the curator.

## Student Learning Outcomes

### Master of Arts in Art History

1. Students graduating with an MA in Art History will:

- Have an advanced knowledge of specialized areas of art history.
- Be able to communicate information both orally and in written form.

2. Students graduating with an MA in Art History will be prepared for entry into a PhD program or the job market.

### Master of Arts in Studio Art

1. Students graduating with an MA in Studio Art will:

- Have an advanced knowledge of a specialized area of studio art.
- Be proficient in adapting technology for the creation of works of art, including computer skills and digital photography.

2. Students graduating with an MA in Studio Art will be prepared for entry into an MFA program or the job market.

## Graduate Programs

The Department of Art and Art History offers the master of arts degree in art history and in studio art.

### General Nature of the Program

In studio art, the program offers emphasis in drawing, painting, graphic arts, printmaking, photography and electronic media. In art history, coursework in both Western and non-Western art is available.

### Applications for Graduate Study

Students are admitted to graduate study within a specific program of study, either studio art or art history.

Applications for graduate study in the Department of Art and Art History should be submitted at least one semester in advance of the application deadline. Applicants in studio art should apply by March 1 for the fall semester and by October 15 for the spring semester. There is no summer semester admission. Portfolios must be included with the applications. After portfolio review and classification by the department, an appointment for advisement will be arranged.

## Studio Art Classification of Entering Students

In all cases, evidence of adequate preparatory work in the area of the proposed course is required. Admittance to graduate-credit classes is given only after a review of transcripts and portfolio. A student with an accredited B.A. in art or B.F.A. in art (or with equivalent studio background) may enroll in Art 495 or Art 498A-498N for graduate credit. Instructor's approval for each course is required, and this is contingent upon previous training (normally at least 28 hours of junior-senior studio work) and proven performance.

### Requirements for Graduation

All degree candidates are required to take a minimum of 36 graduate credits, including at least three courses in art history and Art 5599, Research and Thesis. Additional courses are determined in consultation with the adviser and the supervising committee for the thesis.

## Art History Classification of Entering Students

Admission to the graduate program in art history requires a B.A. or equivalent degree and sufficient undergraduate study in art history to provide a sound foundation for advanced study. Ideally, this foundation would include a solid grounding in the history of Western art, some study of non-Western art, and sufficient advanced-level work to indicate that a student can succeed in the specialized or topical courses and seminars associated with graduate study. Admission review is done by a committee of the faculty.

The applicant should have, in addition to a good general education in the humanities, 18 to 24 credit hours in art history with a grade-point average of 3.0 or better. Students with fewer hours and/or a restricted exposure to other humanities and fine arts courses, or having inconsistent grades, are eligible for admission to the graduate program on the basis of recent evidence indicating the potential for success, such as performance in UMKC 400-level courses, or through papers and exams for courses elsewhere. If there are some deficiencies in preparation that can be met readily by one or two undergraduate survey courses, a student will be admitted to graduate study. However, the survey courses must be taken for undergraduate credit before the student is allowed to take the qualifying examination that is required for advancement to degree candidacy.

Applicants lacking the minimum preparation deemed necessary for admission to graduate-level study in art history may make up their deficiency through enrollment in selected undergraduate courses offered by the department. These will be determined after consultation with a faculty adviser and in all cases must include 400-level work. Progress will be reviewed at the end of each term, and if warranted, reclassification to graduate status will occur prior to the start of the next semester.

### Requirements for Graduation

All degree candidates are required to take a minimum of 30 graduate credits, including Art 5501, Scope and Methods of Art History; and Art 5599, Research and Thesis. Other courses are determined in consultation with the adviser and the supervising committee for the thesis. In addition, a foreign language examination is required.

## Special Requirements

### Requirements for Retention

A student must maintain a graduate grade-point average of 3.0. In extenuating circumstances, a student may petition the Department of Art and Art History to be continued as a

graduate student for one term (or 6 hours) if the graduate GPA falls below 3.0. The deficiency must be remedied during the approved probationary period if the student is to be continued.

### The Qualifying Examination

There are two different qualifying examinations, one for each degree program. These are scheduled on demand. Students must have completed at least 9 hours of graduate study to be eligible, and the exam should be taken before 15 hours of graduate study applicable to the program are completed. A major purpose of the qualifying exam is to determine the readiness of students to be degree candidates; therefore, the examination is a review, both of the general competency of a student in the chosen field of study and of the plans for the thesis. Based on the results of the qualifying examination, a planned program will be prepared; if appropriate, a foreign language examination in art history will be assigned; and a supervisory committee will be appointed. Specific details concerning each qualifying examination will be publicized at the time that the examinations are scheduled.

### The Thesis or Final Project

In the last term of candidacy, a student must complete an approved project that demonstrates capacity for independent work of a suitably high level of proficiency. This project, selected in conjunction with the thesis adviser, may range from production in a selected studio medium to a research project in art history. If it is the latter, its presentation must conform to the requirements of the School of Graduate Studies. If a production thesis is selected, students must present a written statement of purpose and make an oral defense of thesis before their supervisory committee. In addition, a photographic record of the project must be made and presented to the department to be held in its visual resources collection.

### Graduate Credit

Instructor's approval for each course is required, and this is contingent upon previous training (normally at least 28 hours of junior-senior studio work) and proven performance.

## Art and Art History (Art) Courses

**5501 Scope And Methods Of Art History (3).** A history of the discipline, bibliography, procedures and methods, and similar topics essential to graduate-level work in art history. Every winter.

**5505 Graduate Technical Colloquium (3).** An advanced study of technical matters pertinent to the production and study of art. Demonstration projects are required. Prerequisite: Permission of the department. Every fall.

**5506 Graduate Photography (3-6).** Photography on the graduate level with individual selection of media and technique. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of 15 hours.

**5510 Graduate Painting (3-6).** Painting on the graduate level with individual selection of medium and technique. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of 15 hours.

**5513 Graduate Graphic Design (3-6).** Graphic design on the graduate level with individual selection of medium and technique. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of 15 hours.

**5515 Graduate Drawing (3-6).** Drawing on the graduate level with individual selection of media and technique. Student may pursue selected projects on a group or individual basis. May be repeated up to a total of 15 hours.

**5520 Graduate Printmaking (3-6).** Printmaking on the graduate level with individual selection of medium and technique. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of 15 hours.

**5530 Graduate Sculpture (3-6).** Sculpture on the graduate level with individual selection of medium and technique. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of 15 hours.

**5540 Graduate Electronic Media (3-6).** Electronic media on the graduate level with individual selection of subject and technique. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of 15 hours.

**5550 Graduate Performance Art (3-6).** Performance art on the graduate level with individual selection of medium and technique. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of 15 hours.

- 5565 Seminar In American Art (3).** Graduate-level seminar dealing with an announced area in American art. May be repeated once, provided there is a change in the area of concentration. Permission of the department is required.
- 5566 Seminar In 19Th-Century Art (3).** Graduate-level seminar dealing with an announced area in 19th-century art. May be repeated once, provided there is a change in the area of concentration. Permission of the department is required.
- 5567 Seminar In 20Th-Century Art (3).** Graduate-level seminar dealing with an announced area in 20th-century art. May be repeated once, provided there is a change in the area of concentration. Permission of the department is required.
- 5570 Seminar In Renaissance Art (3).** Graduate-level seminar dealing with an announced area in Renaissance art. May be repeated once, provided there is a change in the area of concentration. Permission of the department is required.
- 5571 Seminar In Art Of Africa, Oceania And New World Cultures (3).** Seminar in art of Africa, oceania and new world cultures. May be repeated once, provided there is a change in the area of concentration. Permission of the department is required.
- 5572 Seminar In Asian Art (3).** Seminar dealing with an announced area in Asian Art. May be repeated once, provided there is a change in the area of concentration. Permission of the department is required.
- 5573 Visual Arts Administration (3).** This course on professional arts administration includes assignments in: copyright laws, database management, ethics issues, evaluation design, gallery museum management, grant writing and budgeting, public relations, resume design, tax laws, and website design and management. Students are required to learn relevant computer programs. This course is also open to music and theatre majors. Research requirements for graduate credit are more comprehensive and professional.
- 5575 Seminar In Baroque Art (3).** Graduate-level seminar dealing with an announced area in Baroque art. May be repeated once, provided there is a change in the area of concentration. Permission of the department is required.
- 5590 Directed Studies In Art History (2-4).** Individually directed studies or research in selected topics or problems in art history. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of six hours applicable to a degree program.
- 5591 Directed Technical Studies (2-4).** Individually directed studies or research in selected projects of a technical nature in studio art. Permission of the department is required. May be repeated up to a total of six hours applicable to a degree program.
- 5599 Research And Thesis (1-9).** Production and/or writing of thesis. Usually taken in the last term of candidacy. Permission of the department is required.
- 5699 Research And Dissertation (1-12).** Dissertation Research and writing in Art History. Prerequisite: Consent of advisor
- 5899 Required Graduate Enrollment (1).**