The mission of the Slane College of Communications and Fine Arts shall be the pursuit of excellence in providing distinctive programs and learning environments most conducive to the intellectual, aesthetic, and professional development of its students and faculty. The College also recognizes its centrality to the broader University as a participant in general education and to the larger community, nation, and world as a cultural and communications center.

In keeping with this mission, the College offers graduate degrees in the Department of Art, as well as courses in the Departments of Music, Communication, and Theatre Arts.

A dedicated faculty of professional artist-teachers is committed to providing quality educational opportunities to students desiring post-baccalaureate study.

Harold Linton
Chair, Department of Art
Beth Linn, Graduate Advisor and Coordinator

The graduate degree program in art was established in 1948. The program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Mission

The mission of the graduate art program is the professional development of individual studio and scholarly abilities, exemplified by a significant body of work. Students admitted to the program demonstrate the potential to solve contemporary problems in the visual arts and address new questions and issues.

Two levels of graduate degrees are offered: an initial graduate degree (M.A.) and a terminal graduate degree (M.F.A.) which designates the highest level of academic achievement in studio art. The purpose of these degrees is to prepare students for professional practice in the field of studio art. Through participation in the program, students gain knowledge and insight into historical and contemporary ideas and studio theory and practice.

Admission Requirements

Applicants for graduate degrees in art shall demonstrate a special ability for growth and conceptual development in their area of concentration.
Following are requirements for admission to the program:

1. Official transcript confirming an undergraduate degree with a major in art or the equivalent, and a grade point average in accordance with the requirements of the Graduate School.

2. Portfolio of work (20 slides for ceramics, painting, printmaking, sculpture; 15-20 original matted prints for photography).

3. Two letters of recommendation.

4. A statement of one’s interests, abilities, and direction in the Fine Arts (250 words).

5. Personal interview (recommended).

6. Application deadlines are November 1 (for spring entrance) and April 1 (for fall entrance) to be assured full consideration.

In some cases, conditional acceptance is possible. Undergraduate study may be necessary where deficiencies exist. Students who already hold a Master of Arts degree in studio art may be admitted to the M.F.A. program. For details, consult the department chair.

Degree Requirements

General requirements:

1. The student is eligible to advance to candidacy with an oral and visual presentation to the graduate faculty after completion of 9 semester hours and before 18 hours. The graduate faculty will make a decision regarding the student's continuation in the program.

2. Each student must participate in the biennial graduate exhibition.

3. Students entering these degree programs with an undergraduate degree in art from Bradley are encouraged to take from 6 to 12 semester hours of work in the major studio concentration from another institution; these courses must be approved in advance by the graduate advisor.

4. A student may transfer from 6 to 12 semester hours of credit in the major concentration from another accredited institution if approved in advance by the graduate advisor.

5. The following studio major concentrations are offered: ceramics, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture. Drawing is available as a special emphasis.

6. Each student is assigned a graduate committee consisting of a major professor in the field and two additional graduate faculty members. The student must work closely with the major graduate advisor to plan his or her program of study.

7. Each full-time graduate student must take one seminar each semester until the requirement is completed. Twelve credits or four seminars are required.

8. A residency of 48 semester hours is required for the M.F.A. degree and 24 semester hours for the M.A. degree.

9. A written comprehensive examination must be passed before graduation.

10. A record of the student’s thesis exhibition on colored slides and video tape shall be the responsibility of the student and will become the property of the University.

Course Requirements

Master of Fine Arts Degree with a Major in Studio Art

Studio (major concentration) ......................... 30 hrs.
Graduate studio electives ................................. 9 hrs.
Graduate electives (may be University graduate courses, additional graduate studios, seminars, and/or written thesis) ......................... 6 hrs.
Seminar in art history ................................. 6 hrs.
Seminar in contemporary trends ....................... 6-12 hrs.
Thesis (exhibition) ........................................... 3-6 hrs.
Total Hours Required ........................................ 60 hrs.

Master of Arts Degree with a Major in Studio Art

Studio (major concentration) ......................... 12 hrs.
Graduate studio electives ................................. 6 hrs.
Graduate electives (may be University graduate courses, additional graduate studios, seminars, and/or written thesis) ......................... 3 hrs.
Seminar in art history ................................. 3 hrs.
Seminar in contemporary trends ....................... 3 hrs.
Thesis (exhibition) ........................................... 3-6 hrs.
Total Hours Required ........................................ 30 hrs.

Course Descriptions

ART 500  Advanced Studio
3-6 hrs.
Advanced work in printmaking, drawing, photography, ceramics, sculpture, intermedia, or painting. Prerequisites: graduate standing or completion of corresponding senior level course.

ART 590  20th Century Art Seminar
3-6 hrs.
Research, presentations, and group discussions on topics of current concern in the visual arts. Limited to a total of 6 hours. Prerequisites: ART 142.

ART 600  Photography Studio
3-30 hrs.
Development of advanced technical, aesthetic and conceptual concerns through experimentation within the photographic media relating to appropriate historical and contemporary references. 3-6 hours per semester.

ART 610  Drawing Studio
3-12 hrs.
Analytical and conceptual evaluation of individual style and content, emphasizing technical and creative competency on a professional level. 3-6 hours per semester.
ART 620 Printmaking Studio
3-30 hrs.
Technical and conceptual development with intaglio, relief, and planographic printing. Etching, engraving, wood, paper, and plastic relief printing, serigraphy and lithography. 3-6 hours per semester.

ART 630 Ceramics Studio
3-30 hrs.
Techniques and materials used in stoneware, earthenware, and porcelain. Emphasis on creative development and technical competence. 3-6 hours per semester.

ART 640 Sculpture Studio
3-30 hrs.
Technical and conceptual information about wood and stone carving and construction, welding and metals fabrication, non-ferrous foundry practice, and plastics lamination, emphasizing individual development. 3-6 hours per semester.

ART 660 Intermedia Studio
3-12 hrs.
Advanced work in a combination of media of the student’s choice. May include two- or three-dimensional media; may incorporate motion, light, sound, film, television, and live performances. Emphasis on experimental possibilities of related media. 3-6 hours per semester.

ART 670 Painting Studio
3-30 hrs.
Advanced painting in the medium and direction of the student’s choice. Emphasis on creative development and technical competence. 3-6 hours per semester.

ART 680 Special Problems
3-18 hrs.
Problems in area of student’s special interest, as advised by instructor. 3 hours per semester.

ART 690 Seminar
3-18 hrs.
Research and presentation of art topics ranging from history to contemporary concerns of the artist, to interdisciplinary courses or courses consisting of an organized sequence of guest speakers. May be repeated under various topics for a maximum of 18 hours or 3 hours per semester.

ART 699 Thesis
3-6 hrs.

Supportive Courses

CFA 500 Research Methods in Speech and Theatre Arts
3 hrs.
Problems and principles in conducting original and creative research, investigation, and reporting in rhetoric and public address, theatre arts, and oral interpretation. Prerequisite: consent of division director.

CFA 604 Independent Study
1-3 hrs.
Independent research or creative production problems not leading to a thesis. Repeatable to a maximum of 6 credit hours with permission of the graduate advisor. Prerequisite: consent of division director.

Communication

COM 507 Directing the Forensics Program
3 hrs.
Philosophy, development, and administration of forensic programs. Trends and standards in educational and public debating; problems in research.

COM 678 Seminar in Communication
3-6 hrs.
Varying topics examining the role of discourse in business, political, or social settings.

Music

MUS 540 Basic Concepts in Music Education
3 hrs.
Fundamental concepts for design of education and training in music; critical examination of historical and current trends. Emphasis on development of philosophical consistency in formation of objectives and standards for music education in public schools.

MUS 550 Seminar in Music History
3 hrs.
History of music and stylistic development; emphasis on ability to discuss music in historical perspective. Research assignments and music analysis of representative compositions and composers from various musical periods.

MUS 555 The Teaching of Music Literature
3 hrs.
Solo, ensemble, and training materials related to the student’s performing area, emphasizing methods of teaching and performing music literature. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

MUS 562 Studies in Music History
3 hrs.
Detailed study of music history in one of the following periods: Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Twentieth Century.

MUS 580 Vocal Pedagogy
2 hrs.
The vocal mechanism and its application to the technique of healthy singing; textbook sources, films, demonstrations, and practical applications. Prerequisite: senior or graduate standing.