

New Proposal

Date Submitted: 05/10/24 2:53 pm

Viewing: **: Art & Design: Studio Art,
MFA**

Last edit: 09/27/24 8:05 am

Changes proposed by: Nicole Turner

In Workflow

1. **U Program Review**
2. **1526 Head**
3. **KR Dean**
4. **University Librarian**
5. **Grad_College**
6. **COTE Programs**
7. **Provost**
8. **Senate EPC**
9. Senate
10. U Senate Conf
11. Board of Trustees
12. IBHE
13. HLC
14. DOE
15. DMI

Approval Path

1. 05/13/24 3:10 pm
Donna Butler
(dbutler):
Approved for U
Program Review
2. 05/14/24 7:09 am
Melissa Pokorny
(mpokorny):
Approved for 1526
Head
3. 05/14/24 7:30 am
Nicole Turner
(nicturn):
Approved for KR
Dean
4. 05/17/24 9:37 am
Claire Stewart
(clairest):
Approved for
University
Librarian
5. 09/11/24 3:07 pm
Allison McKinney

- (agrandly):
Approved for
Grad_College
- 6. 09/11/24 3:47 pm
Suzanne Lee
(suzannel):
Approved for
COTE Programs
- 7. 09/13/24 10:30
am
Brooke Newell
(bsnewell):
Approved for
Provost

Proposal Type

Proposal Type:
Concentration (ex. Dietetics)

Administration Details

Official Program Name	Art & Design: Studio Art, MFA	
Diploma Title	Master of Fine Arts in Art and Design, Studio Art Concentration	
Sponsor College	Fine & Applied Arts	
Sponsor Department	Art and Design	
Sponsor Name	Melissa Pokorny	
Sponsor Email	mpokorny@illinois.edu	
College Contact	Nicole Turner	College Contact Email
	nicturn@illinois.edu	
College Budget Officer	Greg Anderson	
College Budget Officer Email	gnandrs@illinois.edu	

List the role for rollbacks (which role will edit the proposal on questions from EPC, e.g., Dept Head or Initiator) and/or any additional stakeholders. Purpose: List here who will do the editing work if proposal needs rolled back. And any other stakeholders.

KR Dean

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

Proposal Title

Effective Catalog Term Spring 2025

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberals Art and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Establish a Concentration in Studio Art in the Master of Fine Arts in Art & Design in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College

Does this proposal have any related proposals that will also be revised during the next 6 weeks? Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently. Example: If you are revising the BS proposal and one related concentration within the next 6 weeks, "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)."

This MFA Art & Design Studio Art concentration proposal (key 1244) is related to the MFA major proposal (key 31).

Program Justification

Provide a brief justification of the program, including highlights of the program objectives, and the careers, occupations, or further educational opportunities for which the program will prepare graduates, when appropriate.

The MFA in Art & Design, Studio Art Concentration is a terminal degree in fine arts based in the practices of contemporary visual art. It is designed for artists looking to develop a documented, professional art practice that includes “traditional” mediums such as painting, sculpture, and photography along with more recent forms such as performance art, video, sound, and social practice. Candidates work intensively with a number of faculty mentors to develop bodies of work that reflect a deep understanding of both material technique and conceptual, historical understanding of that work. Further, through the successful execution of a capstone project and written statement, candidates articulate the intentions, motivations, and skills required to pursue and sustain a career as an artist.

As a terminal degree, the MFA in Art & Design, Studio Art concentration prepares successful candidates for a range of work in the arts. For those pursuing employment as faculty in higher education, the MFA is the standard educational qualification, and many of our graduates have successfully obtained faculty positions in institutions including community colleges, public universities, and private liberal arts and art schools. The MFA also facilitates dedicated time to developing the kind of discipline and rigor necessary for a self-employed practicing artist. Our students also adapt their skills and knowledge of art for roles in museums, galleries, design, and media production.

As a three-year Studio Art program, our curriculum is designed to offer intensive study in both studio production and experience with subject-oriented research methods that are appropriate to individual MFA candidates. By structuring our curriculum to include full-time course work each semester across the three years, we facilitate MFA students’ dedication to their creative practices while also ensuring engagement with the rich educational resources offered at a research institution. This concentration requires 87 total hours, which is beyond the 64 hours required for the MFA degree. According to the 23-24 Graduate College Handbook, "Because a concentration is intended to be within the major area of study, the hours required to fulfill the concentration should likewise apply toward completion of the degree. That is not to say, however, that completion of a concentration within a degree couldn’t require more hours than the degree itself, in that the student is earning an additional credential."

Therefore, this concentration reflects the additional time and the rigorous engagement of the studio art concentration within the MFA in Art & Design, whether that engagement is in structured studio practices or complimentary areas of study. The core studio aspect of this concentration is ARTS 595, which counts as the MFA A&D studio requirement minimum of 6 hours, but is required for 36 hours in this concentration.

A sample sequence has been uploaded to demonstrate the breakdown of credit hours across the three years. The same document also includes an explanation of the elective options.

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

Yes

Please describe:

The MFA in Art & Design currently has six concentrations: Industrial Design, Design for Responsible Innovation, Photography, Printmaking, Painting, and Sculpture. Four of the current concentrations are within the program area of Studio Art in the School of Art & Design: Photography, Printmaking, Painting, and Sculpture. These four concentrations (Photography, Printmaking, Painting, and Sculpture) will be deactivated and replaced with the current proposal of a Studio Art concentration. Additionally, a non-transcriptable specialization in New Media will also be replaced with the current proposal of a Studio Art concentration. The learning outcomes have been previously shared among the four concentrations and will remain the same with the new proposed concentration. Additionally, the minimum 500-level hours and minimum GPA will not change.

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

Yes

If yes, choose program(s) being replaced

Programs Being Replaced
Art & Design: Painting, MFA
Art & Design: Photography, MFA
Art & Design: Printmaking, MFA
Art & Design: Sculpture, MFA

If yes, which program(s), what is the anticipated impact on faculty, students, and instructional resources?

Students will have the opportunity to graduate with their current concentration or switch their concentration to the proposed studio art concentration or continue in the MFA in Art & Design with no concentration.

There is no anticipated impact on faculty due to the collaborative efforts among these four concentrations and one specialization within the studio art program area in the school of art and design.

Instructional resources are expected to decrease with ease of having one concentration rather than four, which we expect to have less of a burden on administrative resources.

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program?

No

Program Regulation and Assessment

Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.

List the program's student learning outcomes. Each outcome should identify what students are expected to know and/or be able to do upon completing this program.

1. Demonstrate a practical and theoretical understanding of contemporary art and related practices.
2. Articulate studio and conceptual concerns orally and in writing that makes critical connections between individual works and practices and the larger contexts that inform them.
3. Produce and exhibit a comprehensive body of artwork that demonstrates conceptual rigor and appropriate technical skill.
4. Demonstrate the intention, motivation and skills required to pursue and sustain a career as an artist.
5. Acquire practical pedagogical and technical skills necessary for employment in the field.

Describe how, when, and where these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Describe here:

Every semester, there are two primary forms of program-level evaluation: 1) Formal critiques that involve our graduate faculty and guest critics in our graduate exhibition spaces and 2) formal evaluations of student progress that results in a written report for each graduate student. The first allows for an assessment of the quantity and quality of student work each semester, while the second involves both reflective self-assessments by the students and a faculty-produced record of the learning outcomes for each student. These two activities together allow our graduate faculty to develop a comprehensive picture of learning outcomes at the program-level.

A further culminating assessment occurs through the capstone document and written statement. The capstone project is presented in a formal MFA exhibition in the Krannert Art Museum every April. The capstone document is submitted to the candidate's capstone committee, composed of a minimum of three graduate faculty in the School of Art & Design, for approval.

Identify faculty expectations for students' achievement of each of the stated student learning outcomes. What score, rating, or level of expertise will signify that students have met each outcome? Provide rating rubrics as necessary.

LO #1 Rating Rubric

Students are expected to be knowledgeable regarding artistic methods relevant to their self-defined artistic practice. This is primarily measured by the quality of the work relative to expectations found in the professional sphere and is communicated to the student through instruction as well as formal end-of-semester evaluations.

Similarly, students are expected to be reasonably conversant in the field of contemporary art as it relates to their specific work. This is measured through the student's ability to orally relate their work to that of others in the field during critiques and in one-on-one discussions with faculty. Students' performance in this area is similarly documented and communicated in end-of-semester evaluations. These evaluations use a linear scale rubric that ranks their performance from "unsatisfactory" to "exemplary."

LO #2 Rating Rubric

Students are expected to be able to situate their own creative work within the broader field of contemporary art. While this field is too large to account for in its totality, students are expected to define segments of it that are most relevant to their creative work and be able to articulate such connections in writing and oral defense/critique. The primary site for the performance of this outcome is the capstone document. There is no standard rubric for this, and evaluative feedback is communicated from the capstone committee to the candidate, with the committee's approval being the ultimate desired outcome.

LO #3 Rating Rubric

Similarly, this learning outcome has its primary expression in the capstone project and exhibition. Again, there is no standard rubric for this, and evaluative feedback is communicated from the capstone committee to the candidate throughout the process of completing the work for exhibition, with the committee's approval being the ultimate desired outcome.

LO #4 Rating Rubric

Through student progress each year, faculty evaluate MFA candidates' ability to consistently respond to the demands typical of a self-directed studio art practice. While there is no singular model that exemplifies a successful studio artist, our faculty are representative of, and familiar with, a broad range of professional practices.

Expectations are that the student exhibits a progressive development of practices necessary to succeed and sustain professional-level work relative to their specific trajectory within the arts. This is communicated to students through formal critique, individual mentoring, and in end-of-semester reviews where the linear scale rubric.

LO #5 Rating Rubric

All our MFA candidates serve as Teaching Assistants during at least some portion of their three years in the program, with many of them doing so all three years. We have a recently adopted course specifically focused on pedagogy and best-practices in teaching art in higher education. We also assign all MFA students to a faculty mentor to introduce classroom management and other aspects of teaching in a studio setting. We

also perform teaching observations every semester for each Teaching Assistant, providing them notes and feedback based on those observations.

Explain the process that will be implemented to ensure that assessment results are used to improve student learning.

Our graduate faculty meets regularly to discuss student progress and curriculum development. Based on end-of-semester evaluations, and the outcomes of specific courses, we identify potential areas of improvement to course delivery and our facilitation of mentorship.

Program

[Re_MFA in Art & Design.pdf](#)

Description and

Requirements

Attach Documents

Is the career/profession for graduates of this program regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

Baccalaureate degree requires at least 120 semester credit hours or 180 quarter credit hours and at least 40 semester credit hours (60 quarter credit hours) in upper division courses" (source: <https://www.ibhe.org/assets/files/PublicAdminRules2017.pdf>). For proposals for new bachelor's degrees, if this minimum is not explicitly met by specifically-required 300- and/or 400-level courses, please provide information on how the upper-division hours requirement will be satisfied.

Attach Program of

[Studio_MFA_CourseSequence.docx](#)

Study-related

information such

as sample

sequences (for

undergraduate

programs) or

college-level

forms.

Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

Description of program for the catalog page. This is not official content, it is used to help build the new catalog page for the program. Can be edited in the catalog by the college or department.

Admission

Applications are considered for Fall Semester admissions only. International applicants need to submit a recent English Proficiency test score of 96 (TOEFL) or 6.5 (IELTS) (or an exemption) for admissions.

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience for master and doctoral students.

Facilities and Resources

Resources for graduate students in art and design include the Krannert Art Museum’s excellent permanent collections and changing exhibitions; the Ricker Library of Art and Architecture, one of the largest art and architecture libraries in the nation; the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts; School of Art and Design facilities, which include extensive computer laboratories, digital photography and video editing equipment, wireless networking, ink-printing facilities, ceramic, woodworking, and metal shops, rapid prototyping and laser cutting, black/white and color darkrooms, shooting studios, and a wide selection of production and presentation equipment via reservation and checkout facility. A variety of lectures, symposia, musical programs, dramatic productions, and other cultural events associated with a large and progressive university complement the Art and Design Facilities.

Financial Aid

Fellowships, assistantships, and tuition and service fee waivers are awarded each year on a competitive basis, with consideration given to the applicant’s grade point average and, in the case of applicants for the M.F.A. programs, quality of creative work.

Statement for
Programs of
Study Catalog

Master of Fine Arts in Art and Design, Studio Art Concentration

Course List

Code	Title	Hours
<u>ARTS 591</u>	Graduate Studio	6
<u>ARTS 593</u>	Seminar: Methods Criticism	12
<u>ARTS 594</u>	Capstone Writing Workshop	8
<u>ARTS 595</u>	Graduate Laboratory	36
<u>ART 594</u>	Art & Design Graduate Teaching Assistant Pedagogy Seminar	1
Elective Courses		24

Electives must be graduate-level courses (either 5xx or 4xx courses with a graduate-specific section) that are offered as 3- or 4-credit courses. These should be taken based on the specific research interests of the student and under the advising of a Studio Art Graduate Faculty member. Suitable courses may include those offered in Art Studio (ARTS), Art Education (ARTE), Art History (ARTH), Design (ARTD), as well as courses offered in FAA or across the broader University.

Total Hours

87

Other Requirements

Grad Other Degree Requirements

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall	12
Minimum GPA	2.75
MFA Research/Project/Thesis Hours (fulfilled by ARTS 594)	minimum of 2
MFA Studio Hours (fulfilled by ARTS 595)	minimum of 6

Program Relationships

Corresponding

Program(s):

Corresponding Program(s)

Art & Design, MFA

Program Features

Academic Level Graduate

Is This a Teacher Certification Program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

Yes

Describe the plans for seeking specialized accreditation:

We completed an accreditation review by NASAD in 2023 based on existing MFA concentrations and with the explicit goals of consolidating these concentrations into a singular MFA in Studio Art concentration. NASAD accreditation is based on this plan.

Additional concentration notes (e.g., estimated enrollment, advising plans, etc.)

MFA students are admitted directly into specific concentrations, which will continue with this new, consolidated concentration of Studio Art (replacing previous concentration designations of Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Printmaking and specialization in New Media). Students are assigned a faculty mentor for their first year, which is replaced by a capstone advisor in the middle of their second year. We typically admit 3-5 new MFA students each year, with a maximum of 15 in the 3-year cohort. We currently have 12 enrolled.

Delivery Method

This program is available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

Number of Students in Program (estimate)

Year One Estimate

3-5

5th Year Estimate (or when
fully implemented)

12-15

Budget

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.)
beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget
Information

No change to staffing is required as this is simply a consolidation of existing
concentrations into a new, singular concentration that better reflects our curriculum.

Attach File(s)

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

Current financial resources in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the School of Art
and Design will support this new concentration. Again, there is no material or curricular
change involved with this concentration proposal, and no expected change in
enrollment and funding. Currently, our MFA students are funded through Teaching
Assistantships and Fellowships, and that is also expected to continue.

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of
support

Is this program requesting self-supporting status?

No

Faculty Resources

Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size,
teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.

The implementation of this proposal will result in no change to faculty resources,
teaching loads, student-to-faculty ratios, or class size, as it represents a formalization
in name of our curriculum as it exists currently. We currently have 17 graduate faculty
that will be part of this concentration, 13 of which are tenured or tenure-track.

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

Library collections, resources and services are sufficient to support the proposal for a new MFA Art & Design concentration in Studio Art.

The studio art program area chair and school of art and design associate director will work with Emilee Mathews, Art Subject Specialist Librarian, Ricker Library of Architecture & Art, on an ongoing basis regarding library needs for MFA students in the studio art concentration.

HLC Section

Credit Hours

Existing or repackaged curricula (Courses from existing inventory of courses):	Number of Credit Hours: 77	67 Percent of Total:
Revised or redesigned curricula (Courses for which content has been revised for the new program):	Number of Credit Hours: 13.8	12 Percent of Total:
New curricula (Courses developed for the new program that have never been offered):	Number of Credit Hours: 9.2	8 Percent of Total:
Total Credit Hours of the Program: 100	Number of Credit Hours:	87 Percent of Total:

New Faculty Required

Will new faculty expertise or new faculty members be needed to launch this program?

No

Please explain
existing coverage:

No new faculty or expertise are required to launch this program.

Additional Funds

Will the proposed program require a large outlay of additional funds by the institution?

No

Institutional Funding

Please explain institutional funding for proposed program:

Current financial resources in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the School of Art and Design will support this new concentration. Again, there is no material or curricular change involved with this concentration proposal, and no expected change in enrollment and funding. Currently, our MFA students are funded through Teaching Assistantships and Fellowships, and that is also expected to continue.

EP Documentation

EP Control Number EP.25.015

Attach
Rollback/Approval
Notices

This proposal No
requires HLC
inquiry

DMI Documentation

Attach Final
Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook
Name

Program Code:

Minor Code	Conc Code	Degree Code	Major Code
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Senate Approval
Date

Senate
Conference
Approval Date

BOT Approval
Date

IBHE Approval
Date

HLC Approval
Date

DOE Approval
Date

Effective Date:

Attached
Document
Justification for
this request

Program Reviewer **Mary Lowry (lowry) (03/08/24 9:09 am):** Rollback: Please see email dated 3-8-24
Comments **Mary Lowry (lowry) (05/10/24 2:43 pm):** Rollback: Please see email dated
5-10-24

Key: 1244