In addition to the previous requirements, all applicants must submit:

- A portfolio of his/her work to illustrate his/her preparation for graduate study. A portfolio of digital images, rather than actual work, is required. A selection of no fewer than twenty examples should be presented. The majority should be in the area of the applicant’s interest.
- A statement of professional aims. This statement should include the applicant’s intentions for his/her proposed study. Some indications of his/her philosophy, beliefs, and goals in regard to education and art should give evidence that he/she is prepared to undertake the work outlined for the Master of Fine Arts program.
- Three letters of reference attesting to the applicant’s scholarship and ability to work independently.

## Degree Requirements

### Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Requirements (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies).

The School of Visual Arts requires a minimum total of 60 credits at the 400, 500, or 800 level, with a minimum of 24 credits at the 500 level, for the Master of Fine Arts degree. Not more than 10 credits may be transferred from other accredited graduate institutions, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-309/transfer-credit). Of the 60 credits required for graduation, candidates are expected to complete the following distribution of credits: 30 credits in a major area of concentration, 12 credits in art history and critical studies, 10 credits in related areas, and 8 credits in graduate seminar (ART 505).

In addition to course work, M.F.A. candidates must pass a candidacy review, which is usually held at the end of the second semester of study, submit an artist’s statement, pass the M.F.A. comprehensive oral examination and produce an M.F.A. exhibition. The approval of the M.F.A. exhibition by a candidate’s committee represents the culminating experience of the program.

### Student Aid

Graduate assistantships available to students in this program and other forms of student aid are described in the Tuition & Funding (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-funding) section of The Graduate School’s website. Students on graduate assistantships must adhere to the course load limits (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gsad/gsad-900/gsad-901-graduate-assistants) set by The Graduate School.

### Courses

Graduate courses carry numbers from 500 to 699 and 800 to 899. Advanced undergraduate courses numbered between 400 and 499 may be used to meet some graduate degree requirements when taken by graduate students. Courses below the 400 level may not. A graduate student may register for or audit these courses in order to make up deficiencies or to fill in gaps in previous education but not to meet requirements for an advanced degree.

Art (ART) Course List (https://bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/graduate/art)
# Contact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>University Park</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Program Head</td>
<td>Booker Stephen Carpenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) or Professor-in-Charge (PIC)</td>
<td>Jean Sanders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Program Contact            | Tracie L Mehalick  
210 Patterson Building  
MFA in Studio Art  
University Park PA 16802  
tlm250@psu.edu  
(814) 863-0010 |
| Program Website            | View (http://sova.psu.edu) |