

# GRADUATE GUIDE

2007-2008

GUIDE TO THE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM  
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF  
ART AND DESIGN

STUDIO ART

ART HISTORY

INTERIOR DESIGN

ART EDUCATION

California State University, Fresno ♦ Department of Art & Design  
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## GRADUATE GUIDE

The M.A. in Art program at Fresno State is the foremost program in the Central California Valley through which students can prepare for positions of leadership and professional careers in the visual arts, including careers in studio art, art historical research and writing, teaching at the community college level, further graduate study in M.F.A. and Ph.D. programs, and careers in museums, galleries, and in the field of interior design. The Master of Art in Art program is designed to provide for advanced studies in the visual arts for students who wish to extend their education beyond the baccalaureate degree, by creating opportunities for creative achievement and intellectual discovery in a selected area of emphasis. Areas of emphasis include Studio Art (ceramics, sculpture, painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, crafts/design and computer-based art), Art History, Interior Design, and Art Education. Currently, we do not offer an M.A. in Art in Graphic Design.

Admission to the M.A. in art program requires the prior completion of an undergraduate major in art at California State University, Fresno or its equivalent. Graduate students with an undergraduate major other than art should contact the Graduate Coordinator for an evaluation to determine the coursework required to complete the *Undergraduate Art Major Equivalency* (see page 14). Interior design students should meet with the Interior Design graduate advisor for an evaluation to determine coursework required to complete the *Undergraduate Interior Design Equivalency* (see page 15). The courses required for equivalency must be completed before engaging in the Departmental Screening for Classified Standing status. Such prerequisite coursework cannot be included in the 30-unit master's degree program.

This document is meant to serve as a guide to our program. In reading the material that describes terminology, program sequences, limitations and other aspects of the M.A. program, the need for clarification with regard to individual interests and assignments are expected. To meet the need for these and other issues of individual concern, students are encouraged to contact the Graduate Coordinator or an advisor in a specific area of interest to explore and explain more thoroughly areas of concern that this guide cannot fully address.

Students are encouraged to read all graduate related information in the current General Catalog. The purpose of the Graduate Guide is to describe the program within the Art and Design Department and is offered as an aid for pursuing the program leading to a Master's Degree in Art. It is a supplement to the General Catalog, which contains the current requirements of the University and the Division of Graduate Studies. The "Check List for the Master's Degree," is in the "Graduate Studies" section of the catalog.

## SCREENING FOR CLASSIFIED STANDING

### Classification Overview

There are two levels of graduate standing in the Graduate Program, referred to as *Conditionally Classified* and *Classified* graduate standing. The applicant granted *Conditionally Classified* graduate standing has been admitted to the university for graduate-level work by the Division of Graduate Studies, but has not yet satisfied all program admission and/or departmental requirements for full admission to the departmental program. The applicant granted *Classified* graduate standing has been admitted to the university and the department, having fulfilled all program and departmental admission requirements. Prompt attainment of *Classified* status is important because the master's degree program of coursework may include no more than ten units of approved course credit earned prior to achieving Classified standing status. Work taken during the semester of classification is considered to be completed in Classified Standing.

**NOTE:** All prerequisite course work is to be completed while a student is in Conditionally Classified Standing. Students must complete all prerequisite coursework before engaging in Graduate Level (200) coursework or beginning their 30-unit program of study.

### Departmental Screening Review

Once admitted by the university for graduate studies, students who apply to the M.A. in Art program are admitted to the department with *Conditional Classification* pending successful completion of prerequisite coursework (see NOTE above and the *Undergraduate Art Major*, or *Interior Design Equivalencies*, pp. 10 & 11 respectively) and of the *Departmental Screening Review for Classified Standing*. Classified Graduate Standing is obtained through the Screening Review.

The Screening Review is considered the most significant indicator of a student's quality, interest, ability, and ambition. In the Screening Review, a committee of three graduate faculty members from the student's intended area of study meet with the student to review his/her portfolio/written work and to ascertain the theoretical, historical, and formal issues relevant to the student's art and/or written work and the intended future direction of study. The faculty committee renders a decision of 'pass' or 'fail' based upon the criteria of a Scoring Rubric for the M.A. in Art Screening For Classified Standing Review that is particular to each area (see below for Screening Rubrics according to Area). Interior Design and Art Education may have additional requirements. See an area advisor for details.

Students interested in scheduling a Screening Review should contact the Graduate Program Coordinator for a screening appointment. The Graduate Coordinator will then contact an advisor in the desired area of emphasis (students must choose one area of emphasis from the following: ceramics, sculpture, painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, crafts/design or computer-based art) to arrange for the appointment. A current list of area advisors and the criteria for evaluation may be obtained in the department office. Undergraduate students who expect to continue with graduate study may undergo the screening in the last semester of their senior year. (Requires petition approval—see Graduate Coordinator.)

### Screening Requirements & Limitations:

- Completion of all prerequisite coursework with a 3.0 G.P.A. before screening (submit a completed & signed Undergraduate Equivalency form to the Graduate Coordinator—See Graduate Coordinator for details.)
- The Screening review must be scheduled during the semester in which the student completes no more than 10 units to be used toward his/her master's degree program.
- All students who do not pass their first Screening, will be given only one additional opportunity to screen again before being dismissed from the program.

**NOTE:** Admission to the university for graduate studies and completion of prerequisite coursework in Art & Design does not guarantee acceptance by the M.A. in Art program.

### Screening Review Requirements by Area:

**Studio Art:** Applicants should prepare the following for the evaluation presentation:

- Portfolio: 8-10 examples of recent, original artwork. Slides and/or digital examples are accepted if originals are not available or if the originals are in digital form.
- Artist's Statement / Program Goals /Research Goals: A written statement (maximum 3 pages, 12-point type, double-spaced) submitted to the selected area advisor at least one week in advance of the appointment for screening.
- Current Curriculum Vita: including educational background/degree(s) awarded/school attended/year, list of art exhibitions and/or art-related activities, awards/grants, and any other professional/work experience.
- Oral critique / assessment: candidates must be able to offer an oral critique of his/her own work in the interview, including an indication of the intended future direction that he/she wishes to pursue within the program.
- Digital version of Portfolio (CD) to be kept on file by the department, including:
  - 10 digital images of artwork from Screening (jpeg images, max size of 1200 X 1200 pixels, 72 dpi, RGB)
  - List of images, including titles, media, dimensions, year completed
  - Artist's Statement / Program Goals /Research Goals
  - Current curriculum vita

**Art History:** Applicants should prepare the following for the evaluation presentation:

- Portfolio: Examples of recent written work and research in Art History.
- Statement of Program Goals /Research Goals: A written statement submitted to the selected area advisor at least one week in advance of the appointment for screening. The statement is to include an educational resume with a list of coursework and experience in art historical research.
- Oral critique / assessment: A critique or assessment of the student's own work, including an indication of the intended future direction that the student wishes to pursue within the program.
- Current Curriculum Vita: including educational background/degree(s) awarded/school attended/year, list of publications or related activities, awards/grants, and any other professional/work experience.
- Digital version of Portfolio (CD): to be kept on file by the department, including:
  - 2-3 papers/samples of written work/research in Art History
  - A Statement of Scholarly Research Goals in Art History
  - A current curriculum vita.

**Interior Design:** Applicants should consult with the faculty in that area for specific Screening Review requirements.

**Art Education:** Applicants should consult with the faculty in that area for specific Screening Review for Classified Standing requirements; the Screening Rubric for Art Education can be found below. The Graduate Program in Art with an emphasis in Art Education at California State University, Fresno, is based upon the belief that an art educator should fully understand the communicative and expressive power of the visual art, and the capacity of art education to develop literate citizens in our society. Art educators should be educated broadly and deeply in the making of art, art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and the connections among the arts and other disciplines; they should have a personal sense of enthusiasm and lifelong commitment to the study of these components of art; and they should be educated, highly motivated, and sensitive practitioners of the teaching of art to a multi-cultural population in the California Public Schools.

It is our belief that the visual art offer several unique values to the education of young adults, including communication, expression, cultural understanding, and critical thinking. We are committed to a graduate program that develops an appreciation of each of these values in art educators, and trains them in methods of conveying these values to students.

#### Screening Results

At the conclusion of screening interview, the chair of the screening committee will promptly forward the completed screening form with the Committee's decision, to the Graduate Coordinator along with the proposed courses program form. The department will notify each student of his/her screening results (in writing, by mail) with one of the following outcomes:

- **Classified Standing:** Full acceptance into the program effective immediately, subject to approval by the Division of Graduate Studies.
- **Conditionally Classified Standing:** Recommendation for continuation of *Conditionally Classified* standing, pending the satisfactory completion of specified requirements and/or prerequisites.
- **Unclassified:** Recommendation against classification at present time.

Students who are classified and who subsequently desire to change their areas of concentration must apply to the Graduate Coordinator for such a change. This requires a new proposed program area advisor, a re-screening by the new area utilizing their criteria, and may include additional coursework in the new area of focus.

Students not enrolled at California State University, Fresno may request screening before applying for admission to the University if they have met the normal criteria, i.e., Art or Interior Design major completion or completion of equivalency, and G.R.E. (Graduate Record Examination) test scores.

#### Screening Scoring Rubric by Area

## Studio Art Scoring Rubric for the M.A. in Art Screening Review for Classified Standing

Score	Portfolio: Form & Content	Interview	Artist's Statement
<b>4</b> Exceptional	Quality of artwork is exceptional, showing expertise in handling of media/tools, technical skills, & understanding of formal/conceptual issues related to work & medium; work exhibits inventiveness, verve & risk; intellectual engagement with work is clear, showing evidence of independent research & informed decision-making; work successfully addresses complex visual/conceptual issues; personal direction & artistic voice are clear; a unifying visual/conceptual framework underlies work.	Candidate communicates ongoing commitment to creative development, production & independent research in art; articulates a clear understanding of own creative work, process, and/or research; articulates a direction of study he/she wishes to pursue as graduate student; conceptualization & articulation of related ideas reveals a thorough knowledge-base of art issues / histories / theories; content-related ideas expressed are congruent with work; ability to evaluate aesthetic principles of art & critically self-assess artwork is strong; is able to articulate an understanding of historical precedents/current art issues related to work.	Artist's statement addresses relevant issues with sophistication, clarity & depth, demonstrating ability to communicate ideas in written form; writing successfully addresses complex issues, and shows inventiveness, creativity; writing is error-free, organized & follows accepted conventions of spelling & grammar throughout; ideas flow smoothly & logically.
<b>3</b> Accomplished	Quality of artwork is accomplished, showing proficiency in handling of media/tools, technical skills & understanding of formal/conceptual issues related to work & medium; work shows creativity & some risk; intellectual engagement with work is present, showing evidence of independent research & informed decision-making; work successfully addresses complex visual & conceptual issues; a sense of personal direction & artistic voice present; one or several unifying concepts evident.	Candidate communicates commitment to creative development, studio production & engages in independent research in art; articulates a good understanding of own creative work, process, & research; articulates a direction of study he/she wishes to pursue as graduate student; conceptualization & articulation of related ideas reflects a understanding of significant art issues/ histories/ theories or potential for growth; content-related ideas expressed are often congruent with artwork; ability to evaluate aesthetic principles of art & critically self-assess artwork is good or shows potential; is able to articulate some awareness of historical precedents/current art issues related to work.	Artist's statement addresses relevant issues in a focused, clear manner, demonstrating ability to communicate ideas in written form; writing may have minor errors, but these do not interfere with comprehensibility; flow of ideas is mostly smooth & logical; paper is well organized.
<b>2</b> Developing	Quality of artwork is inconsistent, revealing a lack of competence in handling of media/tools, technical skills & understanding of formal /conceptual issues related to work & medium; work lacks creativity and/or risk; work may show a sense of real effort but visual/conceptual issues appear unresolved; evidence of independent research /informed decision-making is inconsistent or lacking; work addresses visual/conceptual issues that are simplistic; a sense of personal direction is not clear; one or several unifying concepts are not present.	Candidate communicates inconsistent involvement in creative development & production & may lack independent research in art; reveals difficulty with articulating and/or understanding of own creative work, process or research; reasons for pursuing masters work unclear or poorly conceived; conceptualization & articulation of related ideas reveals a lack of awareness of basic art issues /histories /theories or are overly simplistic; ideas expressed are often incongruent with the artwork; ability to evaluate aesthetic principles of art & critically self-assess artwork still developing; shows minimal awareness of historical precedents / current art issues related to work.	Content of artist's statement addresses related ideas in overly simplistic manner, lacks focus, and/or is poorly conceived; ability to communicate ideas in written form is weak; frequent errors in spelling, grammar, sentence structure and/or other conventions that interfere with comprehensibility, does not flow smoothly & lacks organization.
<b>1</b> Does not meet expectations	Quality of artwork is weak overall, revealing a misunderstanding of technique/tools/media or lack of skill in their application, as well as a lack of understanding of formal & conceptual issues related to work & medium; work exhibits use of trite or overly simplistic solutions to visual problems; visual & conceptual issues appear unresolved or incongruent with work; sense of personal direction not evident in work; lacks evidence of unifying concepts.	Candidate communicates lack of involvement in artistic development, production & independent research in art; does not articulate awareness or understanding of own creative work, process, research; conceptualization & articulation of ideas reveals a lack of awareness or misunderstanding of significant art issues /histories/ theories; ideas expressed are incongruent with the work or poorly conceived; ability to evaluate aesthetic principles of art & to critically self-assess artwork are not present; awareness of historical precedents and /or current art issues related to work are not present.	Artist's statement does not address ideas relevant to artwork, or lacks a clear topic or focus; addresses concepts that are trite or not fully realized; ability to communicate ideas in written form is very weak; contains numerous errors in spelling, grammar, and/or sentence structure which make following the logic of the paper extremely difficult.

The purpose of the interview is to evaluate the candidate's portfolio of artwork & artist's statement, and to address the theoretical, historical, and formal issues relevant to the student's artwork and ideas. Candidates are expected to demonstrate evidence of continuing dedication to their art & research. Candidates are expected to articulate an understanding of their own creative work, process, and/or research, as well as articulate a direction of study that they wish to pursue as a graduate student.

To pass the Departmental Screening review in Studio Art, students must earn a score of "3" or higher in all categories of the Rubric.

## Art History Scoring Rubric for the M.A. in Art Screening Review for Classified Standing

Scoring	Writing Sample	Interview or Written Statement of Purpose
4 Exceptional	The paper raises significant issues or ideas which may not have been represented in the literature cited. Writing flows smoothly from one idea to another. Transitions help establish a sound scholarly argument and aid the reader in following the writer's logic. The paper models the language and conventions used in related scholarly/professional literature.	Candidate communicates ongoing commitment to scholarly development, writing & independent research in art history; articulates a clear understanding of own scholarly writing and/or research; articulates a direction of study he/she wishes to pursue as graduate student; conceptualization & articulation of related ideas reveals a thorough knowledge-base of art issues / histories / theories.
3 Accomplished	The topic is timely and carefully focused. Major points related to the topic are clearly outlined and ideas are logically arranged to present a sound scholarly argument. While there may be minor errors, the paper follows normal conventions of spelling and grammar throughout. Models the discipline's overall journalistic style.	Candidate communicates commitment to scholarly development, writing & engages in some independent research in art history; articulates a good understanding of own scholarship, writing, and/or research; articulates a direction of study he/she wishes to pursue as graduate student; conceptualization & articulation of related ideas reflects an understanding of significant art issues/histories/theories or potential for growth.
2 Developing	While the paper represents the major requirement, it is lacking in substantial ways. The content may be poorly focused or the scholarly argument may be weak or poorly conceived. Frequent errors in spelling, grammar (such as subject/verb agreements and tense), sentence structure and/or other writing conventions make reading difficult and interfere with comprehensibility. Writing does not flow smoothly from point to point; lacks appropriate transitions.	Candidate communicates inconsistent involvement in scholarly development and writing and may lack independent research in art; reveals difficulty with articulating and/or understanding of own writing or research; reasons for pursuing masters work unclear or poorly conceived; conceptualization & articulation of related ideas reveals a lack of awareness of basic art issues /histories /theories or are overly simplistic.
1 Does not meet expectations	Content is poorly focused and lacks organization. The paper's topic is unclear. Paper contains numerous errors in spelling, grammar, and/or sentence structure which make following the logic of the paper extremely difficult.	Candidate communicates lack of involvement in scholarly development, writing & independent research in art; does not articulate awareness or understanding of own scholarly writing or research; conceptualization & articulation of ideas reveals a lack of awareness or misunderstanding of significant art issues /histories/ theories.

To pass the Departmental Screening review in Studio Art, students must earn a score of "3" or higher in both categories of the Rubric.

## Scoring Rubric for the M.A. in Art Screening Review for Classified Standing in Art Education and for the Art Credential Program

Scoring	Portfolio: Form & Content	Interview
4 Exceptional	Quality of art work is exceptional, showing expertise in handling of media/tools, technical skills, and understanding of formal & conceptual issues related to work & medium; work exhibits inventiveness, verve & risk; intellectual engagement with work is clear, showing evidence of independent research & informed decision-making; work successfully addresses complex visual/conceptual issues; personal direction & artistic voice are clear; a unifying visual/conceptual framework underlies work.	Candidate communicates ongoing commitment to creative development, production & independent research in art; articulates a clear understanding of own creative work, process, and/or research; articulates a direction of study he/she wishes to pursue as graduate student; conceptualization & articulation of related ideas reveals a thorough knowledge-base of art issues / histories / theories; content-related ideas expressed are congruent with work; ability to evaluate aesthetic principles of art & critically self-assess artwork is strong; is able to articulate an understanding of historical precedents/current art issues related to work.
3 Accomplished	Quality of artwork is accomplished, showing proficiency in handling of media/tools, technical skills & understanding of formal/conceptual issues related to work & medium; work shows creativity & some risk; intellectual engagement with work is present, showing some evidence of independent research/informed decision-making; work successfully addresses complex visual/conceptual issues; a sense of personal direction & artistic voice are present; one or several unifying concepts evident.	Candidate communicates commitment to creative development, production & engages in some independent research in art; articulates a good understanding of own creative work, process, and/or research; articulates a direction of study he/she wishes to pursue as graduate student; conceptualization & articulation of related ideas reflects an understanding of significant art issues/histories/theories or potential for growth; content-related ideas expressed are often congruent with artwork; ability to evaluate aesthetic principles of art & critically self-assess artwork is good or shows potential; is able to articulate some awareness of historical precedents/current art issues related to work.

<p>2 Developing</p>	<p>Quality of art work is inconsistent, revealing a lack of competence in handling of media/tools, technical skills &amp; understanding of formal /conceptual issues related to work &amp; medium; work lacks creativity and/or risk; work may show a sense of real effort but visual / conceptual issues appear unresolved; evidence of independent research /informed decision-making is inconsistent or lacking; work addresses visual /conceptual issues that are simplistic; a sense of personal direction is not clear; one or several unifying concepts are not present.</p>	<p>Candidate communicates inconsistent involvement in creative development &amp; production &amp; may lack independent research in art; reveals difficulty with articulating and/or understanding of own creative work, process or research; reasons for pursuing masters work unclear or poorly conceived; conceptualization &amp; articulation of related ideas reveals a lack of awareness of basic art issues /histories /theories or are overly simplistic; ideas expressed are often incongruent with the artwork; ability to evaluate aesthetic principles of art &amp; critically self-assess artwork still developing; shows minimal awareness of historical precedents / current art issues related to work.</p>
<p>1 Does not meet expectations</p>	<p>Quality of artwork is weak overall, revealing a misunderstanding of technique/tools/media or lack of skill in their application, as well as a lack of understanding of formal/conceptual issues related to work &amp; medium; work exhibits use of trite or overly simplistic solutions to visual problems; visual &amp; conceptual issues appear unresolved or incongruent with work; sense of personal direction not evident in work; lacks evidence of unifying concepts.</p>	<p>Candidate communicates lack of involvement in artistic development, production &amp; independent research in art; does not articulate awareness or understanding of own creative work, process, research; conceptualization &amp; articulation of ideas reveals a lack of awareness or misunderstanding of significant art issues /histories/ theories; ideas expressed are incongruent with the work or poorly conceived; ability to evaluate aesthetic principles of art &amp; to critically self-assess artwork are not present; awareness of historical precedents and /or current art issues related to work are not present.</p>

Candidates are expected to articulate an understanding of their own creative work, process, and/or research.

**Candidates must earn a score of “3” or higher in both categories of the Portfolio Review.**

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**Graduate Writing Requirement Policy  
Master of Arts Degree Program  
Department of Art & Design**

All students enrolled in Master’s degree programs at California State University-Fresno are required to demonstrate competence in written English before applying for Advancement to Candidacy. In the Department of Art & Design, this requirement will be fulfilled as a component of one of the following courses: ART 230: *Graduate Seminar in Art Theory* or ART 260: *Graduate Seminar in Art History*. The Department of Art & Design understands the significance of recognizing writing competency as early as possible in their program. Thus, students will be advised to complete either ART 230 or ART 260 within the first or second semester of admission into the program.

**Overview**

All candidates for the Master of Arts Degree will demonstrate graduate-level writing proficiency by satisfactory completion of a scholarly paper given as an assignment in either ART 230: *Graduate Seminar in Art Theory* or ART 260: *Graduate Seminar in Art History*. The written work will be evaluated using a 4-point scoring rubric, where writing proficiency is recognized by a score of a “3” or higher in each of the following areas: Style and Format, Mechanics, and Content and Organization. Students who are not successful in demonstrating writing competency will be advised in remediation methods by the Graduate Writing Requirement Review Committee. Remediation methods may include, but are not limited to, enrollment in a developmental writing program, tutoring at the CSUF Writing Center, additional course work, and/or independent study, as a way of bringing writing skills up to graduate standards in a timely fashion.

**The Graduate Writing Requirement**

According to university policy, graduate students are expected to develop writing skills that are commensurate with society’s expectations of persons who hold advanced degrees and to develop the ability to write in formats and styles appropriate to their discipline. Graduate students will reflect these goals by selecting, in collaboration with their instructor, an original academic theme to investigate on a topic relating to course content, and by writing a scholarly analysis on the chosen topic that is 10-12 pages in length. The paper will follow conventions for style and format that are chosen by the instructor of the course (MLA or chosen equivalent). The student’s writing sample should demonstrate:

- a) Comprehensibility;
- b) Clear organization and presentation of ideas;
- c) An ability to arrange ideas logically so as to establish a sound, scholarly argument;
- d) Thoroughness and competence in documentation;
- e) An ability to express in writing a critical analysis of existing scholarly/professional literature in the student’s area of interest; and
- f) An ability to model the discipline’s overall style as reflected in representative journals.

## Writing Proficiency

The following Scoring Rubric (attached) has been developed to be used a guide for students and faculty with regard to expectations for the GWR:

4 – Exemplary

2 – Developing

3 – Accomplished

1 – Beginning

Writing proficiency is demonstrated by a score of a “3” or higher in each category. Since the Graduate Writing Requirement serves as a course component in either ART 230 or ART 260, it is possible for a student to pass the course while failing the Graduate Writing Requirement, and vice versa.

### Evaluation of Writing Proficiency

Evaluation of graduate writing proficiency will be determined by the instructor of the course according to the scoring rubric. Students who demonstrate writing proficiency with a score of “3” or higher in each category will have fulfilled the requirement, and the process will be considered complete. The instructor of the course will forward a list of all graduate students enrolled in the course and their status (pass or fail) with regard to the GWR, to the program coordinator, who will be responsible for verifying the information before the student advances to candidacy. The instructor of the course will notify the students as to whether or not they have satisfied the requirement.

Students who are not successful in demonstrating writing competency at the graduate-level by scoring lower than a “3” in any category, will have their writing sample forwarded to the Graduate Writing Requirement Review Committee (a committee of three, chaired by the instructor of the course and composed of two other full-time graduate faculty in the Department of Art & Design) for further review. The GWR Review Committee will advise the student in remediation methods, which may include, but are not limited to, enrollment in a developmental writing program, tutoring at the CSUF Writing Center or privately, additional course work, and/or independent study, as a way of bringing writing skills up to graduate standards in a timely fashion.

After steps have been taken by the student to develop his/her writing ability, the student may request (in writing to the Graduate Coordinator) the opportunity to revise the original submission, with guidance from the instructor of the course, and to be evaluated once more by the GWR Review Committee. If the student passes after the second attempt, then the results will be forwarded to the program coordinator and the process will be considered complete. If the student does not pass the second attempt, further remediation will be recommended by the committee, but the student will be granted no further opportunities to submit that written sample to the Review Committee. Rather, the student will be required to enroll in the alternate course (either ART 230 or ART 260) and to successfully complete the GWR as part of that course.

### Appeals

Students may appeal the decision of the committee after their second attempt by making a request in writing to the Graduate Coordinator, no later than 2 weeks after receiving official notice of the decision of the GWR Review Committee. The Graduate Coordinator will then present the request to the Graduate Faculty in Art & Design as a whole, who will render a final decision with regard to the dispute raised by the student.

### Scoring Rubric for the Master of Arts in Art Graduate Writing Requirement

Scoring Level	Style and Format	Mechanics	Content and Organization
4—Exemplary	In addition to meeting the requirement for a “3,” the paper is consistent with MLA throughout. The paper models the language and conventions used in related scholarly/professional literature. It would meet guidelines for MLA publication	In addition to meeting the requirements for a “3,” the paper is essentially error free in terms of mechanics. Writing flows smoothly from one idea to another. Transitions help establish a sound scholarly argument and aid the reader in following the writer’s logic.	In addition to meeting the requirements for a “3”, the paper excels in organization and presentation of ideas related to the topic. It raises significant issues or ideas which may not have been represented in the literature cited. Would serve as a good basis for further research on the topic.
3—Accomplished	While there may be minor errors, MLA conventions for style and format are used consistently throughout the paper. Demonstrates thoroughness and competence in documenting sources; the reader would have little difficulty referring back to cited sources. Style and format contribute to the comprehensibility of the paper. Models the discipline’s overall journalistic style.	While there may be minor errors, the paper follows normal conventions of spelling and grammar throughout. Errors do not interfere significantly with comprehensibility. Transitions and organizational structures such as subheadings are used which help the reader to move from one point to another.	All requirements for the paper are followed. The topic is timely and carefully focused. Major points related to the topic are clearly outlined and ideas are logically arranged to present a sound scholarly argument. The paper is interesting and holds the reader’s attention. Does a creditable job summarizing related literature.

2—Developing	While some MLA conventions are followed, others are not. The paper lacks consistency of style and/or format. It may be unclear which references are direct quotes and which are paraphrased. Based on the information provided, the reader would have some difficulty referring back to cited sources. Significant revisions would contribute to the comprehensibility of the paper.	Frequent errors in spelling, grammar (such as subject/verb agreements and tense), sentence structure and/or other writing conventions make reading difficult and interfere with comprehensibility. Writing does not flow smoothly from point to point; lacks appropriate transitions.	While the paper represents the major requirement, it is lacking in substantial ways. The content may be poorly focused or the scholarly argument may be weak or poorly conceived. Major ideas related to the content may be ignored or inadequately explored. Overall, the content and organization needs significant revision to represent a critical analysis of the topic.
1—Beginning	MLA Conventions are not followed. Fails to demonstrate thoroughness and competence in documentation. Lack of appropriate style and format make reading and comprehensibility problematic.	Paper contains numerous errors in spelling, grammar, and/or sentence structure which make following the logic of the paper extremely difficult.	Analysis of existing scholarly/professional literature on the topic is inadequate. Content is poorly focused and lacks organization. The paper's topic is unclear.

**REVIEW FOR PETITION FOR  
ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY**

After completing twelve units, including satisfying the Graduate Writing Requirement, students may apply to *Advance to Candidacy*. This step consists of submitting an *Advancement to Candidacy Petition* (obtained in the Graduate Division Office) and passing an *Advancement to Candidacy Review*.

Before application is made for the *Advancement to Candidacy Review*, complete the following:

- Attain *Classified* graduate standing.
- Complete the *Graduate Writing Requirement* of either Art 230 or Art 260.
- Complete a minimum of 12 units.
- Maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in all courses.
- Schedule an *Advancement to Candidacy Review* (see *ATC Review* below for details).
- Submit a completed and approved *Petition for Advancement to Candidacy* form to the Graduate Coordinator at least two weeks before graduate division posted deadline.
- Submit a signed *Exhibition Clearance Form* to the Graduate Coordinator.
- If courses (up to nine semester units) are to be considered for transfer from another university, full documentation must accompany the petition: date taken, grade earned, course description, and verification that the course is at graduate level from the institution. A photocopy of the college catalog page describing the course along with the page explaining the course numbering system will be required. Transfer credits are subject to the approval of the Graduate Coordinator and Graduate Faculty.

*Advancement to Candidacy Review*: In the *Advancement to Candidacy Review*, the student meets with a committee of three self-selected graduate faculty members, the chair of which must be a full-time/tenure or tenure-track faculty member from the student's area of emphasis. The A.T.C. committee meets to review the student's current artwork (a portfolio review is required—see below for details) or written work and to assess readiness to enroll in Art 298: *Project* or Art 299: *Thesis*. The A.T.C. Review must be successfully completed no later than the semester before the student plans to enroll in Art 298 or Art 299. The student is required to bring the following to the A.T.C. Review:

- Portfolio: 8 –10 (or equivalent) examples of current, original artwork.
- Artist's Statement(Statement of Research) & Project/Thesis proposal: artist's statement, summary of research and outline of objectives for completion of the Project or Thesis to the Advancement to Candidacy committee members for discussion during the interview.
- Completed A.T.C. Petition (download from the DGS website); obtain A.T.C. chair's signature at A.T.C. Review. Submit to Graduate Coordinator for review and signature.
- Exhibition Clearance Form: pick up from Graduate Program Coordinator; obtain committee members signatures at A.T.C. Review. Obtain Gallery Director's signature.
- Art 298: Project Committee Assignment Form or Art 299: Thesis Committee Assignment Form: see below, Selection of Thesis/Project committee, for details.

## SELECTION OF THESIS/PROJECT COMMITTEE

The thesis or project requires the forming of a committee of three self-selected faculty members in the student's area of emphasis, consisting of a chairperson (who must be the student's graduate area advisor and a full-time tenure-track faculty from the area of study) and two other members of California State University, Fresno Art & Design Department faculty.

Selected by the student in consultation with the chairperson of the committee, the thesis or project committee may (or may not) be a continuation of the Advancement to Candidacy committee. Interior Design students may choose one committee member from another department with advisor's approval. The student must meet with the project or thesis committee members to review the proposed work and come to an agreement regarding its nature and scope as well as the form and quality of the ultimate presentation of the project exhibition or thesis expected. A schedule of committee meetings shall be planned and conducted by the chairperson to monitor progress.

The student then files a completed **Thesis Committee Assignment Form** in the Graduate Division Office for Art 299, *Thesis*, or a **Project Committee Assignment Form** in the department office for Art 289, *Project*. A course schedule number is given to the student at this time for registration.

If a member of a committee is unavailable during completion of the project or thesis, then arrangement must be made by both the student and that professor in consultation with committee chairperson to find a replacement. See Guidelines for Thesis Preparation by the Division of Graduate Studies, California State University, Fresno.

## APPLICATION FOR CULMINATING EXPERIENCE

### Art 298, Project

Prior approval is required before registration in Art 298 is allowed. The course work consists of the production, design, and installation of original works of art or equivalent interior design project of the highest quality produced while engaged in the graduate program. The project committee must evaluate and approve both the work exhibited and the quality of the presentation. The planning, design, and execution of a printed announcement, in consultation with the Gallery Director is considered part of the exhibit.

Space for exhibitions in the Conley Art Gallery are to be reserved for the following Fall/Spring academic year by the previous April 1. If an alternative space is to be used (other than the Conley Gallery), approval must be given at least 6 months in advance by the Project Committee Chair, as well as the Graduate Coordinator, and arrangements must be made with the project committee and the Gallery Director. It is possible to arrange for exhibition space off campus in some instances with special permission of the Project 298 committee.

The exhibition will open not later than four weeks prior to the last day of classes for a degree to be awarded that semester. The project report will be submitted to the graduate committee chair no later than two weeks prior to the last day of classes. The graduate coordinator must receive the project report at least one week before the last day of classes. Missing these deadlines or submitting a report of unacceptable quality will delay the granting of the degree by at least one semester.

### Project Report

The Project Report, the written aspect of the project, is required to support the exhibition and is meant to explore such issues as the significance of the work, objectives, methodology, evaluation, and conclusions. The Project Report is to be no less than 15 pages in length (of text), and in addition, must include illustrations and documentation of the exhibition, and a complete bibliography. The recommended stylebook for footnotes and punctuation is the MLA Handbook (or equivalent-see graduate coordinator or advisor). The report is to be bound, *Velo-bind* or hardbound, which are both available at the Kennel Bookstore. NOTE: The approval page should be

signed before the Project Report is bound. At least two bound copies should be made: one original report to remain on file in the Slide Library of the art department and one for the student. The project report will include the following sections:

- **Title Page:** Title of Project Report.
- **Approval Page:** Faculty signature page approving completed report (see Sample, p. 15).
- **Significance:** Significance of the Project, including a description and detailed analysis of the exhibition work; context of work, most notably the relation to contemporary and historical art forms, issues, ideas; intended meaning of the work and how that meaning is conveyed.
- **Objectives:** Purpose of work; intentions in conveying meaning; what is to be achieved.
- **Methodology:** Explanation of research, including influences (artistic, historical, other), origins, materials, techniques, and process and how these inform the work.
- **Evaluation:** Evaluation of exhibition, artwork, and research; final outcomes: what was achieved, what was learned as a result, significance of audience responses, additional findings or unexpected results, etc.
- **Conclusions:** Summary of ideas examined; possible avenues opened as a result of project.
- **Illustrations:** Documentation (photographic or digital) of representative works and the installation of the exhibit as a whole. Illustrations are to be bound with the report.
- **Bibliography:** complete listing of all source materials.

Additional Departmental Requirements for Culminating Event:

- **Exit Portfolio:** For Art 298: Project students only. Complete digital documentation of the Art 298 Project Exhibition (on a CD) and/or video of the Project exhibition to be produced by the student and submitted (to the Art Office) to become property of the department (stored in Slide Library).
- **Project Report:** For Art 298: Project students only. A bound and complete copy of the Project Report is to be submitted in the Art Office to become the property of the department.
- **Thesis Copy:** For Art 299: Thesis students only. A bound and complete copy of the Thesis is to be submitted in the Art Office to become the property of the department.
- **Exit Survey:** All students in the M.A. in Art program must complete a brief Exit Survey evaluating the M.A. in Art Program. All information will be kept confidential and use solely for purposes of self-evaluation of the program and future improvements.

## CURRENT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Refer to this information when forming the proposed program for *Screening, Review for Petition for Advancement to Candidacy*, and for program adjustment requests.

Required Courses for All Graduate Students in the M.A. in Art Program:

- Art 230: *Seminar in Art Theory* or Art 260: *Seminar in Art History*, and the Graduate Writing Requirement (a component of the course).
- Art 298: Project or ART 299: Thesis (6 units).

Specific Program Limitations

- A minimum of 21 units at the 200 level.
- A maximum of 6 units of 190/290 Independent Study.
- A maximum of 9 approved units at the 100 level of courses in art. These are courses beyond the BA degree requirements.
- The minimum grade point average expected is 3.0 for all coursework applied to the approved program.
- There is a five-year limit on completing the program. Courses complete prior to five years before completion of the program normally will be deleted from the program.
- A minimum of 21 units of the program must be taken at California State University, Fresno.

**NOTE:** A student must obtain prior permission from the Graduate Coordinator and the Area Advisor to take **Summer Arts** (must be 600-level graduate courses) courses for credit to be used toward the student's 30-unit program of study.

Other limitations

- Work for one course is not to be submitted for credit in another course.
- There is no foreign language requirement.
- Credit by examination will not apply toward the program requirements but may be used to fulfill deficiencies prior to classification.
- Extension coursework and student teaching credit is not normally accepted for the program.

**The following courses are specifically excluded from the degree program.**

- Weekend University classes.
- 1-99 series and 300 series courses or their equivalent.
- Courses required for classification, such as remedial, undergraduate major coursework, or equivalency coursework.

**Note:** Art 298/299 may not be limited or concluded in the department during the summer or winter recess.

## GRADUATE COURSES

Art 220T: Topics in Studio Processes (3; max total 9)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Investigation of advanced studio topics selected by the department. Coursework includes studio productions, their critiques and evaluations.

Art 230: Seminar in ArtTheory (3; max total 9)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Theories of the visual arts as developed by artists, critics, and philosophers, and their application to art criticism in our time. Oral presentation and defense of critical papers required. Meets the graduate writing skills requirement.

Art 240: Seminar in Art Studio (3 max; total 15, max 9 in one area)

Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Work individually with selected staff in chosen area of concentration. Concurrent obligation to meet regularly scheduled seminars for group progress reports and critiques.

Art 241: Graduate Painting (3; max total 6)

Prerequisite: Art 141 or Portfolio for review. Studio courses in painting for graduate students. Selected concepts and problems in contemporary painting. Emphasis on individual exploration and development of personal direction. (6 lecture-lab areas)

Art 253: Graduate Sculpture (3; max total 9)

Prerequisite: Art 153 or submission of portfolio review. Faculty guided independent research and studio practice. Includes consultation, critiques, and portfolio development. Relates sculptural form to ideas, aesthetic concepts, and contemporary issues. Emphasis on professionalism and personal direction. (6 lecture-lab hours)

Art 260: Seminar in Art History (3; max total 9)

Prerequisites: 6 units of upper-division art history and permission of instructor. Research problems applicable to art history student or studio artists. Meets the graduate writing skills requirement.

Art 290: Independent Study (1-3) max total 6)

See *Academic Placement – Independent Study*. Approved for SP grading. (Course fee variable.)

Art 298: Project (2-6; max total 6)

Prerequisite: permission of the Art and Design Department graduate coordinator; see Criteria for Thesis and Project, Preparation, production, design, and installation of original design project works produced while engaged in the graduate program. Exhibit committee must approve of the work, location, and quality of installation. Abstract required. Approved for SP grading. (Course fee variable.)

Art 299: Thesis (2-6, max total 6)

Prerequisite: permission of the Art and Design Department graduate coordinator; see *Criteria for Thesis and Project*. Preparation, completion, and submission of an acceptable thesis for the master's degree. Approved for SP grading.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY—FRESNO

DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

**UNDERGRADUATE ART MAJOR EQUIVALENT**

Students with non-art undergraduate degrees are required to complete the Undergraduate Art Major Equivalency consisting of 33 units. The Equivalency is a prerequisite to the Screening Review and these courses are not to be counted toward the 30-unit graduate degree program of study.

**Lower Division: 15 Units**

	<b><u>Units</u></b>	<b><u>To Take/Taken</u></b>	<b><u>Spring</u></b>	<b><u>Fall</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>
• Art 13: <i>Design</i>	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
• Art 20: <i>Drawing</i>	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
• Art History 10: <i>The Ancient &amp; Primitive World</i>	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
• Art History 11: <i>The Modern World</i>	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
• Lower Division Art Elective	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year

**Upper Division: 9 Units**

	<b><u>Units</u></b>	<b><u>To Take/Taken</u></b>	<b><u>Spring</u></b>	<b><u>Fall</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>
• Art 101: <i>Content &amp; Form</i>	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
• Art History 132: <i>20<sup>th</sup> Century Modern Art</i>	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
<b>or</b>					
• Art History 136: <i>Contemporary Art</i>	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
• Art 112: <i>Gallery Techniques*</i>	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year

\*Not required for Art History emphasis

**Upper Division Art Electives: 9 Units**

	<b><u>Units</u></b>	<b><u>To Take/Taken</u></b>	<b><u>Spring</u></b>	<b><u>Fall</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>
• _____	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
• _____	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year
• _____	3	___/___	__Spring	__Fall	__Year

There are 9 art elective units which must be from **one** of the following areas: ceramics, crafts, design, drawing/painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, art history, art education, or computer design. (Those with an interest in Art History, please contact an Art History faculty member before choosing electives.)

Undergraduate Art Major Equivalent  
**TOTAL NUMBER OF UNITS = 33**

I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ has completed the requirements for the Undergraduate Art Major Equivalent with a minimum G.P.A. of 3.0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduate Program Coordinator or Area Graduate Advisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY—FRESNO

DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

Masters Degree Program in Art—Interior Design

**UNDERGRADUATE ART EQUIVALENT FOR INTERIOR DESIGN**

Students who have an undergraduate degree in Interior Design are required to complete an undergraduate art equivalency consisting of 30 units. These classes are a prerequisite for the Screening Review for graduate studies in Interior Design. Students who have an undergraduate degree that is not in interior design will be required to meet with faculty in Interior Design for a complete evaluation and may be required to take additional prerequisites.

**Lower Division**

**Units To Take/Taken Spring Fall Year**

- |   |   |         |          |        |        |
|---|---|---------|----------|--------|--------|
| • Art 13: <i>Design</i>   | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |
| • Art 20: <i>Drawing</i>  | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |
| • Art History 10: <i>The Ancient &amp; Primitive World</i>            | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |
| • Art History 11: <i>The Modern World</i>                             | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |
| • Lower Division Art Elective<br>(See Upper Division Electives Below) | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |

**Lower Division Total**

**15**

**Upper Division**

**Units To Take/Taken Spring Fall Year**

- |   |   |         |          |        |        |
|---|---|---------|----------|--------|--------|
| • Art 101: <i>Content &amp; Form</i>  | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |
| • Art History 132: <i>20<sup>th</sup> Century Modern Art</i><br>or                        | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |
| • Art History 136: <i>Contemporary Art</i>  |   |         |          |        |        |
| • ID 114: <i>History of Architecture &amp; Interiors</i><br><i>Ancient to Renaissance</i> | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |
| • ID 115: <i>History of Architecture &amp; Interiors</i><br><i>Renaissance to Modern</i>  | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |
| • Upper Division Studio Elective<br>(This may require a Lower Division prerequisite)      | 3 | ___/___ | __Spring | __Fall | __Year |

**Upper Division Total**

**15**

Undergraduate Art Equivalent—I.D.  
**TOTAL NUMBER OF UNITS = 30**

**SAMPLE SIGNATURE FORM**  
**To be placed at the beginning of the Project Report**

**APPROVED**

Department of Art and Design  
California State University—Fresno

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(Project Committee Chair)

---

(Project Committee Member)

---

(Project Committee Member)

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Department of Art & Design Graduate Coordinator

**SAMPLE SIGNATURE FORM**

## TERMINOLOGY & DEFINITIONS

### ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY

Please refer to the Division of Graduate Studies in the current General Catalog for guidelines. Admission into the University does not guarantee admission into the Master's Degree Program in Art.

### GRADUATE STANDING

**Conditionally Classified** The applicant granted *Conditionally Classified* graduate standing

- has been admitted to the university
- has not yet satisfied all program admission requirements.

**Classified**

The applicant granted *Classified* graduate standing

- has been admitted to the university
- has fulfilled all program admission requirements.

### POSTBACCALAUREATE STANDING

**Unclassified**

Also known as "undeclared," the applicant granted *unclassified postbaccalaureate* standing has

- been admitted to the university
- not been admitted to a graduate degree, certificate, or credential program.

### PROGRESS TO DEGREE

**Advancement to Candidacy**

Advancement to Candidacy is a procedure that provides the student with a program of study that has been officially reviewed and approved by both the student's program faculty and by the graduate dean. Students who have been advanced to candidacy have official permission to proceed toward qualifying for the degree.

"Petitions of Advancement to Candidacy" forms are available in the Division of Graduate Studies.

### REPETITION OF COURSES/ GRADE SUBSTITUTION

Students pursuing a graduate degree program may repeat a course; however, grade substitution is not allowed.

### REQUIRED G.P.A.

For graduation, a 3.0 minimum on all coursework listed on his or her approved degree program. **Note:** No courses with grades below "C" may be listed on the "Petition for Advancement to Candidacy."

### UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLEMENT

Last-semester undergraduate seniors

## **IN 200-LEVEL COURSES**

wanting to enroll in 200-level courses must meet all criteria listed on the “Undergraduate Petition to Enroll in Graduate (200-Level) Courses” form, available from the Division of Graduate Studies.

## **THE PROJECT**

### **Catalog Definition**

A project is a significant undertaking of a pursuit appropriate to the fine and applied arts or to professional fields. It must evidence originality and independent thinking, appropriate form and organization, and a rationale. It must be described and summarized in a written abstract that includes the project’s significance, objectives, methodology, and a conclusion or recommendation.

### **Paperwork**

- A project committee form, signed by the committee members and the graduate coordinator, is required.
- The “Masters Degree Clearance” form, signed by the graduate coordinator and the project chair, must be submitted to the Division of Graduate Studies by the posted deadline at the end of the semester/term.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

“Petition of Advancement to Candidacy” must have been filed one semester previous to signing up for units in the department.

### **Procedure**

- Project committees consist of three committee members.
- Format and content are determined by the program.
- Signatures on the project approval page attest to the approval of committee members regarding form and content of the project.

## **THE THESIS**

### **Catalog Definition**

A thesis is the written product of the systematic study of a significant problem. It clearly identifies the problem, states the major assumptions, explains the significance of the undertaking, sets forth the sources for and methods of gathering information, analyzes the data, and offers a conclusion or recommendation. The finished product must evidence originality, critical and independent thinking, appropriate organization and format, clarity of purpose, and accurate and thorough documentation. Normally, an oral defense of the thesis will be required.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

A “Petition of Advancement to Candidacy” form must have been filed with the Division of Graduate Studies one semester previous to signing up for thesis units in the department.

### **Paperwork**

- Signatures of all committee members and the graduate coordinator.
- “Masters Degree Clearance” form. The grade for thesis units is registered on this form by Coordinator for final processing.

### **Procedure**

The committee consists of three members; the chair and at least one other committee member are expected to be members of the graduate faculty in the student’s program.