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# Art

In the School of Art, Design, and Art History  
In the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts

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## Faculty

Arthur L. Ollman, M.F.A., Professor of Art, Design, and Art History,  
Director of School  
Richard A. Burkett, M.F.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Janet L. Cooling, M.F.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Walter E. Cotten, M.F.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Joanne Hayakawa, M.F.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Wendy L. Maruyama, M.F.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Helen Z. Shirk, M.F.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History, Emeritus  
Susan C. Merritt, M.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Kerry Ann Nelson, M.S., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Gail C. Roberts-Fields, M.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Tina Marie Yapelli, M.A., Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Jo-Anne Berelowitz, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History (Graduate Adviser, Art History)  
Hiroko Johnson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Richard C. Keely, M.F.A., Associate Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History (Graduate Adviser, Studio Arts)  
Robert A. Mansfield, M.F.A., Associate Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Kotaro Nakamura, M.A., Associate Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Sondra Sherman, M.F.A., Associate Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Mark J. Siprut, M.F.A., Associate Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Nancy Deffebach, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Saied Farisi, M.F.A., Assistant Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History  
Kim Stringfellow, M.F.A., Assistant Professor of Art, Design,  
and Art History

## Assistantships and Tuition Waivers

Graduate assistantship and teaching associate positions in art are available to a limited number of qualified students. Application forms and additional information may be secured from the graduate adviser. Tuition waivers and scholarships for out-of-state and international students are also available on a limited basis. Applicants should contact the graduate coordinator for more information.

## General Information

The School of Art, Design, and Art History offers graduate study leading to the Master of Fine Arts degree in art and the Master of Arts degree in art. The objectives of the graduate program in all areas of specialization are to provide the essential education, technical training and creative experience necessary for professional activity or college-level teaching in the visual arts.

The Master of Arts degree is a 30-unit graduate program requiring one to two years to complete. The M.A. concentration in studio arts is designed to prepare students for proficient and successful practice as professional artists and is offered in the following areas: ceramics, furniture, graphic design, interior design, jewelry/metalsmithing, multimedia, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. The M.A. degree with a concentration in art history is designed to prepare students for professional positions in galleries and museums and for doctoral degree programs.

The Master of Fine Arts degree requires an additional 30 units in the area of specialization and professional seminars, with the expectation that the student will achieve a higher level of excellence and distinction in the chosen area of specialization. The M.F.A. degree requires 60 units and can be completed in three years. The degree is offered in ceramics, furniture, graphic design, interior design, jewelry/metalsmithing, multimedia, painting, printmaking, and sculpture.

The Art building has expansive facilities offering the student excellent studio space and equipment. In addition, the San Diego Museum of Art, the San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, the Putnam Foundation collection in the Timken Gallery, and the Museum of Man in Balboa Park offer valuable original materials as well as specialized libraries for research. There are also numerous community college galleries and commercial galleries with a wide variety of offerings.

## Admission to Graduate Study

Students applying for admission should electronically submit the university application available at <http://www.csumentor.edu> along with the \$55 application fee by February 1.

All applicants must submit admissions materials separately to SDSU Graduate Admissions and to the School of Art, Design, and Art History by the February 1 deadline.

### Graduate Admissions

The following materials should be submitted as a complete package directly to:

Graduate Admissions  
Enrollment Services  
San Diego State University  
San Diego, CA 92182-7416

- (1) Official transcripts (in sealed envelopes) from all postsecondary institutions attended;

Note:

- Students who attended SDSU need only submit transcripts for work completed since last attendance.
- Students with international coursework must submit both the official transcript and proof of degree. If documents are in a language other than English, they must be accompanied by a certified English translation.

- (2) GRE scores (<http://www.ets.org>, SDSU institution code 4682);
- (3) TOEFL score, if medium of instruction was in a language other than English (<http://www.ets.org>, SDSU institution code 4682).

**Master of Fine Arts Degree in Art  
Master of Arts (Studio Arts) Degree in Art**

The following materials should be mailed or delivered by February 1 for admission for the fall semester to:

Graduate Coordinator  
School of Art, Design, and Art History  
San Diego State University  
5500 Campanile Drive  
San Diego, CA 92182-4805

- (1) School of Art, Design, and Art History application form. Contact the School of Art, Design, and Art History to obtain application form and instructions or refer to <http://www.sdsu.edu/art> to download the information;
- (2) Statement of purpose addressing your professional goals and reasons for selecting the School of Art, Design, and Art History at SDSU for your pursuit of these goals;
- (3) Artist statement which describes the nature or content of the work shown in the portfolio;
- (4) Slides, photos or digital images of your work. All slides must be accompanied by a corresponding slide description sheet. All digital images must be accompanied by a printed thumbnail index. Digital images should not exceed 1024 x 768 pixels, and should be presented either as a collection of JPEG files in a folder along with a caption list, or as captioned images contained within a single PDF or with PowerPoint. Printed digital image samples are encouraged, but must be accompanied by disc in the above stated formats;
- (5) Two letters of recommendation from art instructors (or others) who are able to comment on your artistic potential in the area of specialization. Letters can be sent separately or included with your application in sealed and signed envelopes;
- (6) Any other materials required specifically in the instructions by your chosen discipline;
- (7) Return envelope with sufficient postage for the return of your portfolio.

**Master of Arts (Art History) Degree in Art**

The following materials should be submitted by February 1 for admission for the fall semester to:

Art History Graduate Adviser  
School of Art, Design, and Art History  
San Diego State University  
5500 Campanile Drive  
San Diego, CA 92182-4805

- (1) School of Art, Design, and Art History application form. Refer to <http://www.sdsu.edu/art> to download application form and instructions;
- (2) Statement of purpose addressing your professional goals and reasons for selecting the School of Art, Design, and Art History at SDSU for your pursuit of these goals, what you plan to accomplish at SDSU (in which areas do you plan to specialize), and what your long range career goals are;
- (3) A copy (it will not be returned) of your best term paper or seminar report, or reprint of a published article, accompanied by a statement explaining how you came to your topic, your method of research, and the facilities available;
- (4) Three letters of recommendation from instructors who can assess your academic performance (you may include one museum reference). Letters can be sent separately or included with your application in sealed and signed envelopes.

**Master of Fine Arts Degree in Art**

**Admission to the Degree Curriculum**

Admission to the Master of Fine Arts degree program is limited to the fall semester. Applications and portfolios for the annual graduate review must be submitted to the graduate coordinator by February 1.

All students must satisfy the general requirements for admission to the university with classified graduate standing, as described in Part Two of this bulletin. In general, the student must have completed a bachelor's degree in studio art or the equivalent from an accredited institution, including twelve units of art history, six units of which comprise a survey of the history of Western art. A grade point average of 3.25 or better in upper division art courses is required.

Students must also be able to show that they are adequately advanced to carry out projects which measure up to graduate standards. This requirement will be measured by a formal presentation of a portfolio of work to the graduate faculty in the area of emphasis.

**Advancement to Candidacy**

In addition to meeting the requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Two of this bulletin, all students must have (1) completed a minimum of 30 units on the official program with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 [B]; and (2) been reviewed by the graduate faculty of the emphasis area and received approval of an acceptable body of graduate work completed since classified standing fulfilling the requirements of the area of emphasis.

**Specific Requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree**

**(Major Code: 10022)**

Candidates for the M.F.A., in addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing, must complete a 60-unit graduate program which includes a minimum of 45 units at the 600- and 700-level. Art 694, 760, 791, and 792 are required. Normally, a student will focus on one of the studio art fields (applied design, painting, graphic design, interior design, multimedia, sculpture, and printmaking). With approval of the director and graduate coordinator a student may focus on a program of study combining two studio art fields. Six units must be included in art history, art criticism, and aesthetics courses. Nine units must be included on the program from studio electives outside the area of emphasis or electives in other departments. Art 799A, Thesis must be included on the program. In addition, there will be an oral examination of each candidate by the graduate faculty of the School of Art, Design, and Art History. This examination will occur at the time of the candidate's master's exhibition, and will encompass an in-depth discussion of the candidate's thesis project.

No more than 15 units of graduate work may be transferred from another institution. Requests for more than six units must be approved by a committee of representatives from the area of emphasis. Applicants holding an M.A. degree in studio art from an accredited institution may transfer up to 30 units upon review and recommendation of the faculty in the area of emphasis, and approval of the graduate coordinator of the School of Art, Design, and Art History. Candidates must be prepared to spend at least two semesters (24 units) in residence as full-time students. Coursework taken as a graduate student to fulfill undergraduate deficiencies may not be used to satisfy any unit requirement for the M.F.A. degree program. A 3.0 grade point average must be maintained at all times. Continuation in the program will be determined by a review of each candidate by the graduate faculty in the emphasis area. This review will be held upon completion of 30 units in the M.F.A. program, or at any time upon request of the graduate coordinator.

## Master of Arts Degree in Art

### Admission to the Degree Curriculum

#### Studio Arts

Admission to the Master of Arts degree program in studio arts is limited to the fall semester. Applications and portfolios for the annual graduate review must be submitted to the graduate coordinator by February 1.

All students must satisfy the general requirements for admission to the university with classified graduate standing, as described in Part Two of this bulletin. In general, students must have completed an undergraduate major in art with a minimum of 24 upper division units, including two semesters of work in the general history of art, before they will be permitted to enter the graduate program. Students must also be able to show that they are adequately advanced to carry out projects which measure up to graduate standards. In studio areas this requirement will be measured by a formal presentation (the Graduate Review) to the emphasis area faculty of a portfolio of examples of the candidate's undergraduate or postbaccalaureate work. The range should be great enough to give the committee a knowledge of the candidate's strengths and weaknesses. A statement of the candidate's objectives in the graduate program should accompany this presentation. If it is determined that the student is capable of doing graduate art work, he/she may be permitted to begin such work even though he/she has not completed an appropriate undergraduate major in art. Those students whose work is insufficiently advanced for classified graduate standing may enroll for courses through Open University, in order to meet the standard requirements. In addition to meeting the requirements for admission to the university, students wishing to be admitted to the art history graduate program with a classified graduate standing must complete the equivalent of the graduation requirements as specified in the current *General Catalog* (a minimum of 39 units of art history to include Art 593).

Students who do not meet the requirements for admission to the graduate program in art history but meet the requirements for graduate admission to the university, may, at the discretion of the art history faculty, be accepted with conditional standing.

#### Art History

Art history applications, obtainable from the School of Art, Design, and Art History, are due on February 1 for the fall semester. Transcripts of all undergraduate or postbaccalaureate work must be sent to Enrollment Services.

In addition to meeting the requirements for admission to the university, students wishing to be admitted to the art history graduate program with a classified graduate standing must complete the equivalent of the graduation requirements as specified in the current *General Catalog* (a minimum of 39 units of art history to include Art 593).

Students who do not meet the requirements for admission to the graduate program in art history but meet the requirements for graduate admission to the university, may, at the discretion of the art history faculty, be accepted with conditional standing.

### Advancement to Candidacy

#### Studio Arts

In addition to meeting the requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Two of this bulletin, all students will be required to pass a comprehensive examination covering the fields of history of art of western civilization, the principles of art appreciation, and the techniques and materials of the artist, or to have completed a year course in the history of art of Western civilization and six undergraduate units of art history.

Students with a concentration in studio arts must have: (1) completed at least 12 units listed on his/her official program with a minimum grade point of 3.0 (B); and (2) been reviewed by the tenured and tenure-track faculty of the emphasis area and received approval of an acceptable body of graduate work completed since classified standing fulfilling the requirements of the area of specialization.

#### Art History

Classified graduates should contact the graduate adviser to discuss their individual graduate programs before the third week of their first semester.

Before advancement to candidacy, classified graduate students working for the Master of Arts degree with a concentration in art history must pass a qualifying examination in art history. Classified graduate students must have completed three semesters of college level French or German or, on the advice of the art history faculty, the language necessary for thesis research. Alternately, with the consent of the art history faculty, students may demonstrate a reading knowledge of the appropriate language by passing the Graduate School Foreign Language Examination (the French MLA examination is given by the Student Testing, Assessment and Research Office during the beginning of each semester; contact the School of Art, Design, and Art History for permission to take the examination). The language requirement must be met before the add/drop date of the student's first semester as a classified graduate student, or the student must enroll for appropriate language courses.

### Specific Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master's degree as described in Part Two of this bulletin, all students must complete a graduate program of a minimum of 30 units which includes at least 24 units in art from courses listed below as acceptable on master's degree programs in art, of which at least 16 units must be in 600- and 700-numbered courses.

#### Studio Arts (Major Code: 10021)

Those electing studio arts must complete a minimum of 18 units in the area of specialization. Art 694, 760, and 799A are required. Not more than a total of six units in Art 798 will be accepted. A creative project accompanied by a written report is required as fulfillment of Art 799A. In conjunction with this project, each candidate for the degree must present an exhibition of representative graduate work.

#### Art History (Major Code: 10031)

Those electing art history must complete at least 15 units from the 600- and 700-numbered courses in art history to include Art 799A, selected in consultation with the art history adviser. Students may select up to 15 units of 500-level courses in art, 12 units of which must be in art history and approved by the graduate adviser. The additional three units must be selected in consultation with the graduate adviser, to include Art 578 and 593 if these courses are not already completed. A written thesis is required as fulfillment of Art 799A. Master's candidates in art history will also be required to give an open lecture on their thesis subject, to be scheduled with the approval of the thesis chair.

### Thesis and Projects in Art

The thesis required for the master of arts degree in art history is a written document; the project required for the Master of Arts degree with a concentration in studio arts and the Master of Fine Arts degree is an original body of work of creative art accompanied by a written report. All theses and written reports accepted in satisfaction of a requirement for the master's degree are cataloged and maintained in the library. Color slides or digital images of thesis exhibitions must be provided by the candidate and are retained in the School of Art, Design, and Art History's slide library. One copy of art history theses must be given to the School of Art, Design, and Art History.