HANDBOOK FOR THE
STUDIO ART MFA

Director of MFA Graduate Studies

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update 07/2019
The MFA Program in Studio Art welcomes applicants with an outstanding record of creative activity. We expect that you will have a BFA degree in Art or a cognate discipline such as architecture or design and a sincere commitment to the demands of graduate study. In our program, you can specialize in Community-Based Art Education, Ceramics, Graphic Design, Painting / Drawing, Photography / Digital Imaging, Printmaking and Sculpture Intermedia.

The two-year residential MFA program in studio art is intended for those individuals who are fully committed to their lives as artists through superior creative work, discipline, and self-motivation. You will be expected to demonstrate mature and intelligent conceptualization of your work and a general understanding of the different perspectives in contemporary art. In the program, you will have the opportunity to master the techniques and technologies needed to realize your career goals.

The department has a broad range of excellent facilities with specialized equipment. The Art and Sculpture Buildings include a woodshop and tool room, a print shop, spray booths, thermoforming and plastic fabrication, digital imaging and audio computer labs, darkrooms, plaster room, metal fabrication, and foundry rooms, photography lighting studio, ceramic wheel and glaze rooms, and a variety of kilns, including a car kiln. The bookmaking and letterpress studio is located in the adjacent Marriott Library. In the Art Building are located the Alvin Gittins Gallery, a departmental exhibition venue, and the D. Ray Owen Reading Room with its collection of books, magazines on contemporary art, videos, and CD/DVDs. The Katherine W. Dumke Fine Arts and Architecture division at the Marriott Library is a large art resource, including an extensive collection of artists’ books and a large-format scanner. The campus Utah Museum of Fine Arts is home to art from around the globe with concentrations in Asian, American, and 20th c. / Contemporary Art.

Our graduate students benefit enormously from meeting and working with artists invited to our department as part of the Carmen M. Christensen Visiting Artist / Scholar Lecture Series. Faculty selects a slate of individuals annually for their contribution to the disciplines of the visual arts.
MFA PROGRAM IN STUDIO

Application Process:
The application to the MFA Program in Studio Art is divided into two parts with one deadline of January 15.

PART 1

The University of Utah has institutionalized an online graduate application process through “Apply Yourself.” Please click the button to the right to begin your application process.

When filling out the information in Apply Yourself, you will upload the following items.

1. A letter of intent and a detailed artist statement that addresses the following:
   - Describe current artistic interests, the direction of your work, preferred area of study influences and why.
   - Write about any relevant experiences that have prepared you as an artist and describe why this is the right time for you to go to graduate school.
   - Describe your professional goals and how you plan to actively achieve them while in school and after.
   - Describe what you can contribute, initiate, and risk as a member of our community.
   - Why is this program a good fit for you?

   Please be aware that the committee most often recommends for admissions those individuals with a studio art background, which normally includes 41 undergraduate credits and a minimum of 12 credits in art history (quarter equivalents apply).

2. Application form + applicable fee, official transcripts from each college or university attended (min. GPA 3.0), and an official TOEFL score (if required).

   An official TOEFL score for international students is required per the international graduate’s admission office. Beginning with the Fall 2013 semester, applicants must have a minimum TOEFL score of 80 iBT (550pBT) or a minimum IELTS band score of 6.5 or better. (Minimum score requirements are subject to change.)

3. Upload resume that includes your full contact information, your educational background, any honors or awards and/or teaching experience as well as the names of your references and the coursework you did with them.

4. Three (3) letters of recommendation that speak to your creative talent and to your ability to succeed in a rigorous academic program (academic references from former or current professors are preferable to those from employers), sent separately by your evaluators. They will upload their letters through the Apply Yourself website.

Deadline January 15.
PART 2

SUBMIT MFA PORTFOLIO FILES VIA BOX

Applicants do not need to sign up for a subscription in order to make a submission. You will submit the portfolio through the Box upload widget at https://www.art.utah.edu/programs/graduate/mfa-in-art/mfa-application/.

The MFA Portfolio should reflect a strong, self-directed involvement in your intended emphasis and supporting fields.

Drop a zipped folder titled with your first and last name in the Box. The folder should include the following:

- 20 jpg images (recommended size: 72 PPI, no larger than 1800 pixels at the longest dimension), for sound and video files, one three-minute maximum .mov or mp4 file.
- An image/video information list in a PDF document.

Once you have submitted your Portfolio to the Department of Art & Art History, you can check the status of your submission by contacting info@art.utah.edu or (801) 581-8677.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACULTY</th>
<th>Studio Faculty:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edward Bateman</td>
<td>Photo/Digital Imaging  <a href="mailto:e.bateman@utah.edu">e.bateman@utah.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alison Denyer</td>
<td>Painting/Drawing  <a href="mailto:a.denyer@utah.edu">a.denyer@utah.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Diggle</td>
<td>Printmaking  <a href="mailto:justindiggle@hotmail.com">justindiggle@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Evans</td>
<td>Graphic Design  <a href="mailto:dan.evans@utah.edu">dan.evans@utah.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Hirshon</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Painting/Drawing  <a href="mailto:kim.martinez@art.utah.edu">kim.martinez@art.utah.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jaclyn Wright</td>
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<tr>
<th>Art History Faculty:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lela Graybill, PhD</td>
<td>19th Century  <a href="mailto:lela.graybill@utah.edu">lela.graybill@utah.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessen Kelly, PhD</td>
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</tbody>
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### Career-Line Studio Faculty:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Dewitte</td>
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<td>Martin Novak</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maureen Ohara Ure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy Brunvand</td>
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<tr>
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### RESIDENCY STATUS

The Graduate School urges students classified as out of state to apply for residency upon completion of 40 hours. Residency status does not affect a graduate student's eligibility for TA or GA payment; a TA award will convert out-of-state tuition to in-state rates. For the complete Code on Utah residency, revised 2002, see [www.sa.utah.edu/admiss/appdownload/Residenct.pdf](http://www.sa.utah.edu/admiss/appdownload/Residenct.pdf).

### FINANCIAL AID

The Department of Art and Art History offers some scholarship assistance to incoming students. There are also opportunities for students to serve as graduate assistants or teaching assistants during the two-year program. Graduate students in good standing are eligible to apply for a graduate research fellowship ($12,000 plus tuition) for their second year. You may consult the Graduate School website ([https://gradschool.utah.edu/graduate-financial-resources/](https://gradschool.utah.edu/graduate-financial-resources/)) for further information on this and other financial aid resources.

The Graduate School Research Supplemental Travel Award is available to graduate students who will present their creative research at a professional conference. Application is made through the Graduate School up to $500 may be granted, to be matched by department funding. The online form is available through the Graduate School web site.
**EARLY FACULTY MENTORING**

For the first semester of your program, the Director of Graduate Studies will form your initial mentoring committee of three department studio art faculty members, chaired by one of the faculty in your area of specialization. You are required to formalize a permanent Supervisory Committee at the end of the first semester. You may invite the members of your mentoring committee to become your Supervisory Committee with their on our Request to Form/Change Supervisory Committee form (available online or from the department graduate secretary). The same form is used to request changes to the membership of the committee. More information on the role of the Supervisory Committee follows below.

We strongly recommend that you convene a meeting of your initial mentoring committee within the first few weeks of the semester. At the first meeting, you and the committee should discuss your background and artistic direction and decide on any remedial coursework. We invite you to take full advantage of the mentoring we offer as you begin your first semester of graduate study.

**INDIVIDUAL STUDIO SPACE**

The Department attempts to provide to all MFA graduate students an individual studio space in the Art Building. Space is currently at a premium, and you may be required to share or to relinquish your studio if it is insufficiently used. The Director of Graduate Studies reviews studio assignments each August. Students in good standing may retain their studio for the length of the 2-year MFA program.

**BUILDING ACCESS AND SHARED FACILITIES**

The Art and Sculpture Buildings are wired for security and controlled access. Department staff members code students into the C-cure system (pronounced “secure”) on presentation of a student ID card (available from the University Student Union Bldg.). Graduate students are granted access to exterior doors and several shared shops/labs in the Art and Sculpture Buildings, including a computer lab (ART 169), darkroom (ART 264), print shop (ART 252), dry mount /copy stand / FAB room (ART 160G), woodshop and tool room (SCULP 184-185), plaster room (SCULP 181), kilns (SCULP 195), foundry (SCULP 182), sandblasting booth (ART 180), three spray booths (painting, woodshop, ceramics).
Woodshop and sandblasting access is granted after learning safety and equipment operation procedures in a Fall Semester orientation led by the Facilities Supervisor. The Dumke Documentation Studio (ART 053) is installed with cameras, lights, backdrops to document portable work, and digital images can be downloaded to the computer in the room. The Facilities Supervisor is charged with maintaining specialized machines and equipment (excepting Dumke and computer labs) and should be informed immediately of theft or damage. The custodial staff does not clean these spaces, so all graduate students are expected to clean up after themselves and store their materials away from public areas. Graduate students have access to the Owen Reading Room (ART 365), a supplement to the Katherine W. Dumke Fine Arts and Architecture Division in the University’s Marriott Library. The Reading Room has a collection of books and videos/CDs/DVDs along with subscriptions to current issues of some art and art history periodicals. Back issues of all periodicals in the Reading Room are housed at Marriott Library. Checkout of materials in the Reading Room for short periods is restricted to faculty and TAs as the instructor of record for a class.

REQUIRED COURSEWORK
The Master of Fine Arts degree in Studio Art is composed of 60 semester credit hours of coursework. This includes 26 hours in the primary area of studio art specialization, 9 hours of ART 6810 Graduate Seminar, 3 hours of ART 6180 Graduate Critique, 10 hours of classes in allied fields, and 6 hours of art history coursework. A minimum of 6 hours of ART 6975 Final Project is required as preparation for the Final Project and the MFA Exhibition. Coursework must be taken for a letter grade (no grade below B- will count for the MFA degree.) In order to graduate a B average must be maintained. Further explanations of the credit requirements follow; see also the Forms section for a semester-by-semester chronology of activity.

Students normally enroll in 12-15 credit hours each Fall and Spring Semester; some graduate students also take courses during the Summer Term to complete the program in two years. Students who have been awarded a graduate assistantship or a teaching assistantship are required to register for a minimum of 9 credit hours. The Graduate School’s tuition benefit program for a teaching assistantship or graduate assistantship
applies only to the first 12 hours of a student’s course during the academic year; tuition for the remaining hours, as well as full tuition in the Summer Term, is the obligation of the student; see the TA Handbook.

**Studio Art Specialization**

You will complete 26 hours with the faculty in your primary area of specialization. You will enroll in the 6000-level Graduate Project courses as directed studies. Before the semester begins, you must meet with the faculty member you wish to work with and formulate the goals of the class. Your Graduate Study Contract (available on-line or from the department graduate secretary) should include a description of the objectives, an outline of the frequency and scheduling of critiques, and be signed by you and the faculty member before returning it to the department graduate secretary. When you pay the course fee to the department, the graduate secretary will issue you the class number/permission number to enroll in the course. All graduate coursework, except for a few classes such as ART 6810 Graduate Seminar (3 credits), have variable credit, generally from 2 – 6. You and the faculty member will decide on how many credits for the 6000-level Graduate Project in the semester.

**ART 6810 Graduate Seminar & ART 6180 Graduate Critique**

You must take ART 6810 for a total of 9 hours & ART 6180 Graduate Critique for 3 hours. The courses are offered Fall and Spring Semester of the two-year MFA program. The course rotates among full-time faculty who bring a different perspective each time they teach the class. The class is taught in conceptual issues to practical matters of preparing a teaching portfolio.

**Allied Studio Credits**

Allied fields are defined as work outside your particular studio specialization perhaps in another discipline. With the approval of your Supervisory Committee, you may take a graduate course in another department (5000 level or above), Coursework from elsewhere in the University should enrich your studio work or increase your awareness of the arts and humanities.
**Art History Credits**

The Art History Program has established ARTH 6000-60005 for the required 6 hours of art history coursework. The art history faculty member uses one of the numbers in conjunction with one of their 4000-level lecture courses. You should consult the online class schedule to find the 4000 to fine the 4000-level course in which you are interested and request the class number/permission number for the appropriate ARTH 6000-level number from the art history faculty member.

**ART 6975 Final Project: MFA**

The course gives credit for studio work and Final Project Paper research and writing that leads to the MFA Exhibition. It has variable credit of 1-6 hours, and you have the option of taking the course once or multiple times for a total of 6 hours. The department chair serves as the instructor of record and will issue a “T” grade (signifying continuing work) until the final requirements are completed (MFA Exhibition, Final Oral Examination, Final Project paper, and MFA Exhibition Documentation).

**Final Oral Examination**

The examination occurs at the time of the MFA Exhibition and is held in the space where the show is installed. You will be asked to discuss your conceptual insight and technical proficiency concerning your own studio work as well as a general professional awareness of contemporary art. You must be registered for a minimum of 3 hours of ART 6975 MFA Final Project during the semester of the MFA Exhibition and Final Oral Examination.

**Final Project Paper**

In consultation with your Supervisory Committee, you will write a comprehensive essay, approximately 10-20 pages in length, that reveals the state of your creative research. The paper is designed to represent formally the culmination of two years of graduate work. A revised draft should be submitted to your Supervisory Committee before the Final Oral Examination as the written counterpart to the MFA Exhibition. An official bound copy will be cataloged in the department Owen Reading Room, and you may purchase additional copies of the bound paper for your own collection. See the Appendix for a fuller description of the contents of the final project paper and the “Final Responsibilities” section in this handbook for the procedure on submission of the final version to the University.
**MFA Exhibition Documentation**

You must document your complete MFA Exhibition either in 35mm slide format or digital format burned to CD / DVD. Twenty or more images become the property of the department and will be housed in its Visual Resources Collection.

**ROLE OF THE SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE**

Your committee is crucial to your graduate program. It is responsible for helping you shape an effective course of study, guiding the installation of the MFA exhibition, administering the Final Oral Examination, reading and approving the Final Project paper. The committee serves as your chief advocate the department, the College of Fine Arts, and to the Graduate School. All first-year students must request a permanent three-member committee at the end of the first semester and no later than the beginning of the second semester. In consultation with the Director of MFA Graduate Studies, you should approach full-time regular faculty to discover their willingness and availability to serve. The chair of the committee must be in your area of specialization, and at least one member must be from an area outside your specific discipline. You may consider a faculty member from the Art History Program or from another department as the third committee member, invited because of special expertise in your area of specialization. You will complete a Request to Form / Change Supervisory Committee form (available from the department graduate secretary) for the signatures of your Supervisory Committee and the Director of MFA Graduate Studies. The graduate secretary will deliver to you a copy of the final approved form.

Upon appointment of the Supervisory Committee, the chair of the committee will convene a planning meeting with you and the members of your committee. At this time, the committee will review your academic performance and progress, advise on the remainder of the coursework, and discuss your artistic direction. You may also at this time petition the Supervisory Committee to recommend acceptance of a maximum of nine semester credit hours of non-matriculated graduate coursework, subject to Graduate School conditions. Once your coursework is approved, any changes must receive a unanimous vote by your committee. It is your responsibility to inform your Supervisory Committee chair regularly of your progress through the program.
MINIMUM REGISTRATION
By University policy, you must maintain minimum registration (Fall and Spring) of three semester hours per semester until you complete all requirements for the MFA degree, including the semester in which you schedule your MFA Exhibition and Final Oral Examination. Summer terms are not included in this requirement. You are not obligated to register for any course after you have defended your final project but will not graduate until all Department, College, and Graduate School requirements described in this handbook are satisfied. If you do not maintain minimum registration or submit an official Graduate Student Request for Leave of Absence (www.gradschool.utah.edu/students/forms/leave.pdf) for College of Fine Arts approval, your Supervisory Committee will be terminated and you will be put on inactive status by the Graduate School. You would need to reapply to the Graduate School Admissions Office to reactivate your file. According to University policy, four consecutive calendar years are the maximum length for the completion of MFA degree requirements. Your permanent record is maintained in the College of Fine Arts.

Department of Art and Art History MFA Family Leave Policy
Graduate students have an option to get affordable health insurance coverage through the Graduate School as part of the Tuition Benefit Program. The details of the program can be found at http://gradschool.utah.edu/tbp/insurance-information/

Students who need time off for caregiving can take a period of up to 16 weeks for a Family Leave of absence. Students who experience a medical condition associated with their pregnancy and need accommodations recommended by their medical provider should contact Sherrie Hayashi, Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, University of Utah, 135 Park Building 201 South Presidents Circle Salt Lake City, UT 84112. Telephone: (801) 581-8365, FAX: (801) 585-5746, sherrie.hayashi@utah.edu

The Title IX Coordinator will work with the student, cognizant faculty, and administration, to determine what accommodations are reasonable and effective. The student will be ineligible for financial support and may be required to relinquish individual studio space during the semester of familial leave.
Please talk with the Director of MFA Graduate Studies if you wish to apply for Family Leave.

**Department of Art & Art History MFA Retention Policy**

At the end of both Fall and Spring semesters of every year, a student Supervisory Committee evaluation/review will result in one of the following actions:

- Positive Supervisory Committee reviews, allowing one to progress on with their graduate studies.
- Counselled Out. If a student’s ongoing work in any area of the curriculum or in consultation with the Supervisory Committee is unacceptable, they will be irrespective of grades received while in the program remain on probation or be advised out of the program as per the decision of the eligible department studio faculty who serve on MFA Committees.

Students must maintain all of the following standards to stay in the MFA Program:

- Candidates for a Masters of Fine Arts Degree are required to maintain a 3.0 or higher GPA (B average or higher). Failure to maintain a 3.0 GPA places that student on Graduate School probation and will trigger an immediate and mandatory review of the student by the Supervisory Committee and the eligible department studio faculty who serve on MFA Committees. This review may result in the removal of that student from the MFA Program. Once placed on probation, failures to raise one’s GPA or satisfy other retention requirements in subsequent semesters will result in that student being removed from the MFA Program.
- A grade below B- for any course work taken within the Department will place that student on probation and trigger an immediate and mandatory review by the Supervisory Committee and eligible department studio faculty who serve on MFA Committees, that student will be required to justify their continuance within the program. This review may result in the removal of that student from the MFA Program. Two grades below B- for course work taken within the Department will result in the automatic removal of that student from the MFA Program. A grade below B- in a
required graduate course cannot be applied towards an MFA degree and that course will have to be repeated.

Candidates must receive a grade of CR (credit) for credit/no-credit courses taken in the Department. If a student receives a grade of NC (no-credit), that course will have to be repeated. An NC grade will place that student on probation and trigger an immediate and mandatory Supervisory Committee and eligible department studio faculty who serve on MFA Committee's review of that student who will be required to justify their continuance within the program. This review may result in the removal of that student from the MFA Program. Two NC grades for course work taken within the Department will result in the removal of that student from the MFA Program.

- Probationary Review/Comprehensive Exams will be administered by the Supervisory Committee who will review studio and academic work in the Spring Semester at the end of the first year of residency. The results of the review will be presented in a written memorandum (available on-line or from the department graduate secretary) that declares whether the student has permission to apply for candidacy, continue in the second year with recommendations, or must have a second review. Any incomplete course work not satisfied before the probationary review will prevent the removal of probationary status. If the Supervisory Committee decides a second probationary review is required, it will be scheduled one week prior to the beginning of the Fall semester to allow sufficient time to produce the work required to lift probation. While registration for summer semester courses is permitted, students will not be allowed to enroll for the second year courses until probation is lifted. Because of class schedule deadlines, the action of the second review makes the student ineligible for departmental merit-based scholarship support and Tuition Benefits until they again meet departmental academic standards. Once a student meets departmental academic standards, the student is then considered in good standing; however, their probation will remain on their record.
Students Not Removed from Departmental Probation

Candidates will be informed of their probationary status through a letter from the Department Chair and Director of MFA Graduate Studies. Probationary candidates wishing to continue their program of study in the department will be invited to articulate a justification in writing to be presented formally to their Supervisory Committee, the Department Chair, Director of MFA Graduate Studies and eligible department studio faculty who serve on MFA Committees. After a period of questioning from the faculty, the candidate will be dismissed for the remainder of the faculty deliberation. Candidates will then be notified of the results of the faculty review and any change to their probationary status in a formal letter from the Department Chair, and Director of MFA Graduate Studies.

The focus of the MFA Program is mature, in-depth artistic and scholarly research. Success in completing the Master of Fine Arts degree requires self-directed thought as well as sustained and completed efforts in all coursework and departmental responsibilities. It also requires responsibility, accountability, and collegiality in one’s dealings with the faculty, other students and the department at large. If the eligible department studio faculty who serve on MFA Committees agrees at anytime during ongoing study that the candidate’s citizenship is counterproductive to sustaining the collegial dynamics necessary to complete all endeavors and maintain the social fabric that those endeavors require (which include but are not limited to classroom seminars, studio classes, and TA responsibilities) that student will be called in for discussions with the Department Chair, Director of MFA Graduate Studies and any other relevant faculty for the sake of due process. In the case that the student is found at fault and unable or unwilling to implement the correctives discussed and agreed upon in writing from the Department Chair, and Director of MFA Graduate Studies, the candidate may be dismissed from the MFA Program.

Department of Art and Art History MFA Dismissal Policy

If a students’ probation is not lifted after the formal Probationary Review/Comprehensive Exams period, and retention policy standards are not sustained, it is the prerogative of the Supervisory Committee and eligible department studio faculty who serve on MFA
Committees to terminate the students standing in the program. The dismissal procedure will be:

a. To notify the student in writing, stating the reasons for dismissal, indicating a formal termination date at least 15 days after the date of the letter. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Department Chair and Director of MFA Graduate Studies.

b. If the student is being paid as a T.A., the department will continue the current T.A. support until the end of the termination semester, contingent on the T.A. duties being carried out conscientiously.

c. The student will vacate the assigned studio in good condition; return all keys to the Art Office room 161 and any departmental equipment at the end of the termination semester.

FORMS

Completing a series of one-or two-page forms marks your progress through the MFA program. Explanations and recommended deadlines of the forms are presented here, along with a checklist to keep you on track. They are put in chronological order in which they should be completed. All forms, save one (Leave of Absence) are available online or from the department graduate secretary, and copies of the forms are added to your permanent file. Sample unofficial copies of the forms are provided to first-year students upon arrival on campus; official copies are generated by the department graduate secretary or online.

Graduate Information Sheet

Graduate Mentoring Committee

You should complete the Graduate Information form as soon as your arrival on campus. It verifies your mailing address, your educational background, and your anticipated graduation date. Within the first week of the first semester of residency, you will receive a copy of the Graduate Mentoring Committee form with a list of the faculty members who can advise you on graduate study and prepare you to form a Supervisory Committee.

MFA Graduate File Checklist

Graduate Study Contract
You will complete one of the forms for each studio class you take. You must obtain the permission of the regular faculty member by planning the objectives of the study and the arrangements for periodic review of the studio work. The completed, signed form and the appropriate course fee must be submitted to the department graduate secretary before you receive a class number/permission number to enroll in the course.

**Grad Committee Preference Sheet**
You will complete the form at the end of your first semester to formalize the committee who will guide you through the MFA program. You may invite the members of your first-semester mentoring committee to serve as the Supervisory Committee, or you may invite other regular faculty members to serve.

**Program of Study Worksheet**
You complete this preliminary plan for your 60-credit hour course of study at the first meeting of your permanent Supervisory Committee at the end of the Fall Semester or the beginning of the Spring Semester in your first year. The full committee must agree to the sequence of courses and sign the form before returning it to the department graduate secretary.

**Probationary Review / Comprehensive Exam**
The Supervisory Committee will review with you your studio and academic work in the Spring Semester towards the end of your first year of residency. The results of the review will be presented to you in a written Memorandum that declares whether you have permission to apply for candidacy, continue in the second year with recommendations, or must have a second review. If the committee decides a second probationary review is needed, it is generally scheduled at the end of the Summer Term to give you sufficient time to produce the work required to lift probation. While you may register for Summer Term Classes, you will not be allowed to enroll for the second year until your status is restored. Because of class schedule deadlines, the action of the second review makes you ineligible for a graduate or teaching assistantship until one full semester after probationary status is lifted.
**Finalization of Program of Study**
You will convene a meeting of your Supervisory Committee at the beginning of your third semester in residency to critique your studio work and discuss the scope, direction, and format of the proposed MFA Exhibition and the Final Project paper. At that meeting, you will complete this formal version of the Program of Study. It should record, in chronological order, all your courses taken to complete degree requirements and the grades earned. No grade below B- will count towards the MFA degree, and all incompletes must be satisfied before graduation. The form should be turned into the graduate secretary to verify your online course-tracking schedule. At the same time, you will work with the chair of your Supervisory Committee and the department graduate secretary to schedule the dates of your MFA Exhibition. If you elect to delay your graduation beyond the fourth semester, you bear the responsibility of notifying the Graduation Office of the change to your academic plan.

**Fourth Semester Plan**
No form. In the first month of the fourth semester, you will convene a meeting of your Supervisory Committee to finalize the specific content of the MFA Exhibition and to review a first draft of the Final Project paper, in consultation with the committee, you should set the date of the Final Oral Examination.

**Application for Graduate Degree**
The Application for Graduate Degree is available online and should be filled out and faxed or delivered to the Graduation Office

**Oral Examination Preparation**
No form. You will distribute a draft of the Final Project paper to each committee member at least one week before the date of the Final Oral Examination. The graduate secretary will print out for the chair of the supervisory committee the required copies of the Supervisory Committee Approval and Final

**Final Orals / Comprehensive Examination**
The form should be obtained online or from the Graduate Secretary before your Final Oral Examination. It is completed and signed by the Supervisory Committee at the conclusion of your orals and returned to the department graduate secretary. If your committee
recommends changes to the Final Project paper, you must complete these soon after the oral Examination for final approval by the committee members.

**Supervisory Committee**

**Final Reading Approval**

Supervisory Committee Approval and Final Reading Approval Forms – see below under Final Responsibilities

**MFA Exhibition Documentation Sign off form**

You will prepare a portfolio of your exhibition including an image of the full space along with images of each piece. The completed documentation form must be submitted at the same time as the sheet of 20 slides or a CD / DVD of high-resolution raw, TIFF, or jpg files. The department retains copyright to the images.

**FINAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

If your draft was not approved as is, submit your final version of your Final Project paper to the chair of your Supervisory Committee for approval.

Print two copies of the approved Final Project paper for binding by the University Bookstore. One bound volume will be cataloged in the Owen Reading Room, and the other volume is yours to keep.

Attached to each copy the completed and signed Supervisory Committee Approval & Final Reading Approval forms available online or from the department graduate secretary. Deliver both copies with the forms and a binding fee of $59 a piece ($118 total) to the University Campus Store. You must order a red cover with white lettering for the copy required by the department. Since pickup and delivery occur every other Tuesday morning, it is helpful to bring your manuscripts to the Store on Monday afternoon. You may obtain the bound copies two weeks from the Tuesday delivery date. Deliver one bound copy to the department graduate secretary, who will submit the change of grade forms for ART 6975.
Submit to the graduate secretary the documentation of your MFA Exhibition as described above in the Forms section of the handbook.

Make arrangements to vacate your studio and return keys to the department office.

The entire process from Final Oral examination to graduation approval by the Graduate School generally lasts six to eight weeks. Please plan accordingly to provide sufficient time before your graduation date (May, August, December)

APPENDIX

The Final Paper must adhere to the guidelines in the Graduate School.

Handbook for Theses and Dissertations (www.gradschool.utah.edu/thesis/handbook.pdf), using the templates when possible. You are welcome to review previous theses and final project papers already cataloged in the Owen Reading Room. The paper should communicate genuine, searching introspection; it should be insightful and cohesive. The images included should support the main points of your paper. All images must be in color and can be color photocopies, inkjet prints, or color photographs (latter are always dry mounted on acid-free white paper). Please arrange no more than two images per page and make allowances on the left side for the binding.

Accepted order:

- Title page (change “Thesis to “Final Project paper”)
- Copyright notice (not listed in Table of contents)
- Supervisory Committee Approval and Final Reading Approval forms (not listed in Table of contents)
- Abstract
- Table of contents
- List of images
- Acknowledgments or Dedication (optional)
- Title of Exhibition / Document (use half-title page, all caps0

- Introduction
- Chapters—normally, several written pages of thoughtful expression explain in artistic directions and unique problems or ideas encountered:
  - goals, objectives both past and present and relationship to work_history of conceptual development_sources of imagery_process and methodology_historical and/or contemporary context for your work_poetic or literary counterpoint to your visual work, if applicable_technical information about your work, if applicable_self-critique.

Conclusion Bibliography (list of works researching the project) Images (sufficient to illustrate the points made in the paper; images may be included in the body of the text.