

DEPARTMENT OF CRAFT AND MATERIAL STUDIES

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Assistant professor and chair

arts.vcu.edu/craft (<http://arts.vcu.edu/craft/>)

The Department of Craft and Material Studies explores the language of ceramics, glass, wood, fiber and metal. The department offers both a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Craft and Material Studies and a Master of Fine Arts in Fine Arts degree with concentrations in five disciplines: ceramics, fiber, furniture design, glassworking and jewelry/metalworking.

Students are encouraged to learn and explore through the traditional craft media. Together, faculty and students hone, improvise and redefine ancient technologies with new technologies; they bend and blend concepts and materials.

The Department of Craft and Material Studies is housed in a state-of-the-art facility that provides a safe and excellent physical environment in which to work. Students have access to well-equipped studios in each of the five media areas. The department shares the facilities with the departments of Sculpture, Painting and Printmaking, and Kinetic Imaging.

- Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) with a concentration in ceramics (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-arts/craft-material-studies/fine-arts-mfa-concentration-ceramics/>)
- Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) with a concentration in fibers (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-arts/craft-material-studies/fine-arts-mfa-concentration-fibers/>)
- Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) with a concentration in furniture design (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-arts/craft-material-studies/fine-arts-mfa-concentration-furniture-design/>)
- Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) with a concentration in glassworking (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-arts/craft-material-studies/fine-arts-mfa-concentration-glassworking/>)
- Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) with a concentration in jewelry/metalworking (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-arts/craft-material-studies/fine-arts-mfa-concentration-jewelrymetalworking/>)

CRAF 591. Special Topics and Practicum. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 credits. May be repeated. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. A topical seminar/workshop offered in a variety of craft subjects or issues not included in the regular curriculum. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

CRAF 601. Graduate Studies in Metal. 3-9 Hours.

Semester course; 9, 18 or 27 studio hours. 3, 6 or 9 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 36 credits. Personal investigation of materials, processes and attitudes relating to the creative production of metal and/or jewelry forms.

CRAF 621. Graduate Studies in Wood. 3-9 Hours.

Semester course; 9, 18 or 27 studio hours. 3, 6 or 9 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 36 credits. Design, research and experimentation in wood and varied materials relating to a body of work demonstrating the student's mastery of ideation and material.

CRAF 641. Graduate Studies in Clay. 3-9 Hours.

Semester course; 9, 18 or 27 studio hours. 3, 6 or 9 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 36 credits. Problems in the design and production of functional and nonfunctional ceramic objects as well as study of experimentation in ceramic technology and kiln design.

CRAF 651. Graduate Studies in Glass. 3-9 Hours.

Semester course; 9, 18 or 27 studio hours. 3, 6 or 9 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 36 credits. This course is an intensive focus on glass experimentation and its associative properties with the expected outcome of the materialization and realization of each individual's original research into their studio practice.

CRAF 661. Graduate Studies in Fiber. 3-9 Hours.

Semester course; 9, 18 or 27 studio hours. 3, 6 or 9 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 36 credits. Work in contemporary and traditional textile techniques.

CRAF 680. Graduate Critique. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 9 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits. This course explores the meaning and application of critique as it relates to both students' own work and the work of others as preparation for thesis or candidacy exhibitions. There will be emphasis placed on the production and presentation of artwork and artist statements.

CRAF 681. Candidacy Research. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 9 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. This course will provide directed studio work and research. Students will take risks, hone skills, figure out what questions, issues and ideas direct creative work and receive guidance and support from their graduate committee. To be taken the first two semesters of graduate program; in the second semester the student will work with their graduate committee to prepare for candidacy review and exhibition.

CRAF 682. Thesis Research. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 9 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. This course will provide directed studio work and research. Students will take risks, hone skills, figure out what questions, issues, and ideas direct creative work and receive guidance and support from their graduate committee. To be taken the final two semesters of graduate program with approval of the department chair and graduate committee; in the second semester the student will work with their graduate committee to prepare for thesis exhibition and the written thesis according to the established written thesis timeline.

CRAF 690. Graduate Seminar. 1,3 Hour.

Seminar course; 1 or 3 lecture hours. 1 or 3 credits. May be repeated. Degree requirement for graduate students in the Department of Crafts. A weekly seminar for the purpose of discussing contemporary issues in the arts as they affect the artist-craftsperson.

CRAF 692. Directed Research. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits. Approval of supervising faculty member and department chair necessary prior to registration. This course will be limited to graduate students in the Department of Craft and Material Studies in high standing within the program. Learning experiences will be designed with the supervising faculty member in the form of a contract between student and instructor.