

# FINE ARTS, MASTER OF FINE ARTS (M.F.A.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN SCULPTURE

## Program accreditation

National Association of Schools of Art and Design

## Program goal

Formal and informal contact with faculty is designed into the program. Along with the Department of Sculpture's faculty, graduate students are exposed to a vigorous visiting artist schedule. Through studio reviews, seminars and research, students are expected to build an awareness of contemporary and historical definitions of art that will influence their creative work. In addition to their own investigations, graduate students participate in and contribute to the undergraduate program.

While the graduate program is generally a two-year, four-semester in-residence program, students are expected to continue studio pursuits either on campus or at an alternative site throughout the calendar year.

## Student learning outcomes

1. Advanced studio practice: Students engage in rigorous research as they definitely recognize and deploy the tools and materials needed to advance their practice.
2. Group critique: Students are expected to present their work through a brief oral articulation of the intentions of their studio practice. In addition, they are expected to be able to articulate a critique of their peers' work.
3. Applied criticism and theory: Students understand historical and contemporary theories and are able to apply and investigate those ideas in their work. Students can define their practice in relationship to other media and culture.
4. Advanced professional engagement: Students demonstrate the ability to understand, engage and generate professional contexts for their work.

## VCU Graduate Bulletin, VCU Graduate School and general academic policies and regulations for all graduate students in all graduate programs

The VCU Graduate Bulletin website documents the official admission and academic rules and regulations that govern graduate education for all graduate programs at the university. These policies are established by the graduate faculty of the university through their elected representatives to the University Graduate Council.

It is the responsibility of all graduate students, both on- and off-campus, to be familiar with the VCU Graduate Bulletin as well as the Graduate School website (<http://www.graduate.vcu.edu/>) and academic regulations in individual school and department publications and on program websites. However, in all cases, the official policies and procedures of the University Graduate Council, as published on the VCU Graduate Bulletin and Graduate School websites, take precedence over individual program policies and guidelines.

Visit the [academic regulations section](https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/) for additional information on academic regulations for graduate students. (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/>)

## Degree candidacy requirements

A graduate student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for continuing master's or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy requirements of the student's graduate program. Admission to degree candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student's faculty regarding the student's academic achievements and the student's readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Visit the [academic regulations section](https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/candidacy/) for additional information on degree candidacy requirements. (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/candidacy/>)

## Graduation requirements

As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the Graduate Bulletin for a complete list of instructions and a graduation checklist.

Visit the [academic regulations section](https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info/) for additional information on graduation requirements. (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info/>)

Apply online today. (<https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/>)

## Admission requirements

Degree:	Semester(s) of entry:	Deadline dates:	Test requirements:
M.F.A.	Fall	Jan 15	

## Special requirements

- See the School of the Arts website for details on the application process (<http://arts.vcu.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/>).

Applicants must meet the **general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School**. They must:

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution
2. Have completed a minimum of 36 credit hours of art at the undergraduate level or have equivalent experience. The Department of Sculpture and Extended Media may waive this requirement as identified through a holistic review of an application.

The application to the M.F.A. program must include:

1. An artist statement submitted in the "Statement of Intent" section of the application. This 700-1000 word essay sheds light on practice

and research interests, while also addressing goals with respect to graduate school and expectation of accomplishments at VCU.

2. Three letters of recommendation from instructors or professional references in the applicant's intended field of study
3. Academic transcripts
4. Curriculum vitae/resume
5. Portfolio for review. The portfolio should include 20 still and/or moving images. Moving images should be edited to no more than three minutes. Please include the date, materials, and dimensions for each image submitted. Each image can be accompanied by a brief written description that may articulate relevant information about the work.

**Additional information for international applicants** can be found on the International Admissions website.

## Degree requirements

In addition to general VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info/>), the M.F.A. in Fine Arts with a concentration in sculpture requires 60 credit hours and is usually completed in two years of full-time study. Program course work consists of graduate studio and research, graduate seminars, group critique, and other studio/academic electives.

Graduate students must meet regularly with committees composed of three graduate faculty members, both individually and as a group, during each semester. At the end of the second semester students must present and defend their work for candidacy review. At the end of the fourth semester students must participate in the thesis exhibition, defend their work for thesis review and submit a written thesis.

## Curriculum requirements

Course	Title	Hours
SCPT 510	Issues in Contemporary Visual Art	3
SCPT 600	Graduate Studio (six credits taken for four semesters)	24
SCPT 681	Candidacy Research (three credits taken for two semesters)	6
SCPT 682	Thesis (three credits taken for two semesters)	6
SCPT 690	Graduate Seminar (three credits taken for four semesters)	12
Studio elective <sup>1</sup>		3
Additional electives (500-level or higher in any subject area) <sup>2</sup>		6
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>60</b>

1

Select credits from CRAF 683, CRAF 691, KINE 671, KINE 692, KINE 695, PAPR 683, PAPR 691, PHTO 691, PHTO 692, SCPT 691 or SCPT 692.

2

Electives may be chosen from among all university courses listed as 500-level or higher and require approval from a faculty adviser.

**The minimum number of graduate credit hours required for this degree is 60.**

## Course sequence/plan of study

Semester 1		Hours
SCPT 510	Issues in Contemporary Visual Art	3
SCPT 600	Graduate Studio	6
SCPT 681	Candidacy Research	3
SCPT 690	Graduate Seminar	3
<b>Term Hours:</b>		<b>15</b>
Semester 2		
SCPT 600	Graduate Studio	6
SCPT 681	Candidacy Research	3
SCPT 690	Graduate Seminar	3
Studio elective <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Term Hours:</b>		<b>15</b>
Semester 3		
SCPT 600	Graduate Studio	6
SCPT 682	Thesis	3
SCPT 690	Graduate Seminar	3
Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Term Hours:</b>		<b>15</b>
Semester 4		
SCPT 600	Graduate Studio	6
SCPT 682	Thesis	3
SCPT 690	Graduate Seminar	3
Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Term Hours:</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Total Hours:</b>		<b>60</b>

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### Contact

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### Additional contact

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**Program website:** [arts.vcu.edu/sculpture-extended-media/](https://arts.vcu.edu/sculpture-extended-media/) (<https://arts.vcu.edu/sculpture-extended-media/>)