

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

## Program accreditation

National Association of Schools of Art and Design

## Program goals

The Department of Kinetic Imaging is committed to the artistic exploration of video, animation and sound. The M.F.A. program emphasizes the extension of these practices into the arts and their connection to contemporary issues in visual culture.

Graduate students in the M.F.A. program are exposed to a vigorous visiting artist schedule. Through studio reviews, seminars and research, the 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 pursuits either on campus or at an alternative site throughout the calendar year.

## Student learning outcomes

1. 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.
2. Students will demonstrate critical thinking and conceptual problem-solving, with the ability to contribute to and challenge the rapidly evolving dialogue in media arts.
3. Students' creative work will demonstrate an engagement with critical thinking and conceptual problem-solving.
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to carry their work and critical inquiry to professional platforms such as public exhibitions, performance and/or scholarly publication. This includes knowledge of the various venues available to support and enhance their professional careers and the ability to accurately communicate what their work is addressing and who they are as artists.

## 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** for additional information on academic regulations for graduate students. (<http://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** for additional information on degree candidacy requirements. (<http://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** for additional information on graduation requirements. (<http://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	None

## Special requirements

- See [arts.vcu.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/](http://arts.vcu.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/) (<http://arts.vcu.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/>) for details on the application process.

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/admission-graduate-study/admission-requirements/>), applicants must meet the requirements listed on the website above.

## Degree requirements

In addition to general VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info/>), students are required to complete 60 credit hours total, which includes studio, seminar and elective courses. While seminar and studio courses are

offered through the kinetic imaging program, these credit hours can include other courses from within the fine arts degree program with the approval of the graduate program director. Additional elective courses are drawn from approved courses in participating units.

To graduate, degree applicants must achieve an overall grade point average of 3.0 (B) on a 4.0 scale with a grade of C in no more than two courses. The GPA for graduation will be based on all graduate courses attempted after acceptance into the program.

The M.F.A. in Fine Arts with a concentration in kinetic imaging will be a 60-credit hour program consisting of eight credit hours of graduate studio, four credit hours of graduate seminar and three credit hours of electives<sup>1</sup> (15 credit hours) each semester. The program will typically take two years of full-time study to complete.

The M.F.A. in Fine Arts with a concentration in kinetic imaging is consistent with national standards established by the accrediting National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

The curriculum for the M.F.A. in Fine Arts with a concentration in kinetic imaging is built on the understanding that incoming students will exhibit high levels of ability and quickly demonstrate a serious commitment to their work and artistic development. Students accepted into the graduate program will possess a competitive portfolio and a minimum 3.0 grade point average, with a B.A., B.F.A., B.S. or M.A. from an accredited university. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of these media arts disciplines, applicants with degrees in other disciplines will be encouraged to apply. At the end of the first year, students will go through an advanced candidacy review, where they will present and defend their work before their graduate committee, which will be composed of members from the Department of Kinetic Imaging and other fine arts departments, following the current M.F.A. model. During the final semester, graduates will be required to complete a body of work resulting in an M.F.A. exhibition and written thesis, which will serve as the capstone elements of the degree program and be evaluated by the student's graduate committee.

1

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

## Curriculum requirements

Course	Title	Hours
Take 32 credits in the following course:		32
KINE 600	Graduate Studio <sup>1</sup>	
Take 16 credits in the following course:		16
KINE 692	Graduate Seminar <sup>2</sup>	
Select 12 credits of approved graduate electives <sup>3</sup>		12
Total Hours		60

1

An exhibition will be required as a prerequisite for graduation.

2

Enrollment in the graduate seminar is mandatory for the duration of the student's study in the graduate program.

3

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

### Department electives

Course	Title	Hours
KINE 510	Foundations in Media	3
KINE 591	Topics in Contemporary Media	3
KINE 691	Independent Study	1-4
KINE 695	Advanced Sound	3

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

## Suggested plan of study

Each semester the student enrolls in 15 credit hours as follows:

Course	Title	Hours
KINE 600	Graduate Studio	8
KINE 692	Graduate Seminar	4
Approved graduate elective		3
Total Hours		15

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

### Contact

Orla Mc Hardy  
Assistant professor and graduate program director  
omchardy@vcu.edu  
(804) 828-7204

**Program website:** [arts.vcu.edu/kineticimaging/mfa](http://arts.vcu.edu/kineticimaging/mfa) (<http://arts.vcu.edu/kineticimaging/mfa/>)