
MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE PROGRAMS

Master of Arts in Art Education

Master of Arts in Art History

REQUIRED ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

The **art history** faculty welcomes applications from students with degrees in art history and in areas other than art history. However, as academic preparation for the master's degree in art history, the faculty recommends strongly that students have demonstrated success in a minimum of 21 undergraduate semester hours of art history coursework. Those without the recommended 21 hours of art history may still be accepted; however, the applicant could be assigned undergraduate leveling courses in art history which must be completed prior to enrollment in graduate-level art history coursework.

The MA in **art education** offers three separate program options, and required background for admission depends upon the option the applicant intends to pursue. Option I is for **certified** art teachers wanting to enhance their knowledge and skills, Option II is for those who desire careers as educators in an art museum, and Option III is for those who wish to obtain EC-12 teacher certification in art while acquiring a graduate degree in art education.

All options require applicants to have completed a bachelor's degree in the visual arts or related field. Those applying for Option III (teacher certification option) must have taken at least 24 semester credit hours of studio work and at least 12 hours of art history of which 6 must be at the advanced level. Applicants without the recommended background for the option that they intend to pursue could be denied admission or accepted on a conditional basis, provided undergraduate coursework in art and/or art education, as assigned at time of acceptance, be completed prior to beginning any graduate-level work.

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

February 1 for FALL admission

October 1 for SPRING admission

The above deadlines assure adequate processing time and availability of faculty for application review. Applications that are not complete (including GRE scores) at the time of faculty review for the intended semester of entry may be pushed to the following semester. The art history faculty strongly suggests that new students begin their graduate art history coursework in the fall semester.

The above deadlines also align with scholarship, fellowship and assistantship application deadlines in the College of Visual Arts and Design. For more information on scholarships, fellowships and assistantships, please visit the CVAD website at www.art.unt.edu. Students who are not Texas residents and who receive a financial award through the College of Visual Arts and Design will be eligible to receive in-state tuition.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applying to a program in the College of Visual Arts and Design is a two-part process. An applicant must apply to both the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies and to the Department of Art Education and Art History, as detailed in Steps 1 and 2.

APPLICATION STEP 1 - Application to the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies (phone 940-565-2636)

Send the following items to: University of North Texas
Graduate Admissions
P.O. Box 305459
Denton, TX 76203 gradsch@unt.edu

1. **Completed application form and any fee required.** Applications are available from the Graduate School or its website at www.tsgs.unt.edu.
2. **Official transcripts of all college work.**
3. **Graduate Record Examination (GRE) test scores.** The faculty in art education and art history consider an applicant's scores on the Verbal and Analytical Writing sections (only) of the GRE as part of a holistic admission review processes. The Quantitative portion is not viewed. For information regarding locations of testing centers and testing dates, etc., visit the GRE website at www.gre.org. This is a very helpful website with study guides and sample test questions.

Graduate Admissions generally takes at least 2-4 weeks to process application materials. If the application meets minimum university requirements, the above materials are forwarded to the Department of Art Education and Art History to be included with the materials submitted by the applicant directly to the Department (see step 2 below).

APPLICATION STEP 2 - Application to the Dept. of Art Education and Art History (phone 940-565-4777)

Send the following items to: University of North Texas
College of Visual Arts and Design
Department of Art Education and Art History
1155 Union Circle #305100
Denton, TX 76203 aeah@unt.edu

1. **Sample of writing.** Preferably a recent research paper completed for an art course (graded is ok). If you do not have a research paper in art, you may submit a research paper from a course in another field, professional writing or write a completely new paper. Units of instruction (art education) are not appropriate samples or writing.
2. **Letter/statement of intent.** Details your intended major (art education applicants please specify the option you intend to pursue) and the goals that you hope to achieve by obtaining the degree for which you are applying.
3. **At least two (2) letters of recommendation.** Should be on recommender's university or company letterhead. **MUST** be submitted directly to the department by the recommender. There is no specific recommendation form required.

4. Professional résumé. (Optional) Should list all relevant work experience, affiliations, etc.

Once ALL required admission materials are received (including GRE scores), each faculty member in the field to which you are applying reviews your application. The faculty members then meet as a whole to formulate an admission decision. Their decision is communicated to you via letter.

PROGRAM STRUCTURES AND COMPONENTS

The student and the major advisor can plan programs of study so that individual interests, needs, and professional goals can be met. With each course counting as 3 hours, the candidate must earn a minimum of 30 semester hours for the MA degree.

MA ART HISTORY

15-21 hours (5-7 courses) Major – Art history seminars
6 hours (2 courses) Minor (Optional, with approval from major professor)
3 hours (1 course) Research methods
6 hours Research Project
30 hours TOTAL (plus foreign language requirement– see foreign language below)

MA ART EDUCATION

Option I - for certified art specialists

12 hours (4 courses) Major – Art education profession courses
3 hours (1 course) Research methods
9 hours (3 courses) Graduate electives
6 hours Thesis*
30 hours TOTAL (36 hours with tool subject – see foreign language below)

Option II - art museum education certification

12 hours (4 courses) Major – Art education profession courses
9 hours (3 courses) Art museum education courses
3 hours (1 course) Research methods
6 hours Thesis*
30 hours TOTAL (36 hours with museum internship)

Option III - EC-12 art teacher certification

12 hours (4 courses) Major – Art education profession courses
6 hours (2 courses) Professional development courses in Education
3 hours (1 course) Art education technology issues
3 hours (1 course) Research methods
6 hours Research Project*
6 hours Electives
36 hours TOTAL (42 hours with student teaching)

*Option I above has a non-thesis option that allows a student to replace the 6 credit hours of thesis with 12 credit hours of graduate electives, chosen in consultation with the student's major advisor. Option II above has a research project option that allows a student to replace the 6 credit hours of thesis with 6 hours of electives and 6 hours of a research project. Option III has a non-thesis option that allows a student to replace the 6 hours of electives and the 6 hours of the research project with 12 credit hours of graduate electives.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

All candidates for the Master of Arts degree must present evidence that they have a reading knowledge of at least one foreign language. ** The language requirement may be satisfied in one of three ways:

1. By passing the Foreign Language Proficiency Examination administered by the UNT Department of Foreign Languages.
2. By submitting an acceptable score on one of the foreign language tests of the Educational Testing Service.
3. By submitting a transcript of undergraduate credit showing completion of at least 12 hours of a single foreign language with at least a C average with all courses having been completed within the last ten years.

**Art education majors may complete a 6 credit hour tool subject in lieu of a foreign language requirement. This would be *in addition to* the normal requirements for the MA degree. Those pursuing Option II may use the museum internship as their tool. Students pursuing Option III may utilize the semester of student teaching as their tool.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

Those seeking an MA in Art Education, **non-thesis option**, must successfully complete a comprehensive written examination during the final semester of coursework. All other students pursuing the MA degree must write either a thesis (art education) or scholarly paper (art history) after all coursework towards the degree has been completed.

THESIS / SCHOLARLY PAPER

Students working toward the MA in art education, who are not pursuing the non-thesis option, must write a thesis or research project. Students working toward the MA in art history must write a scholarly paper. A thesis, research project and a scholarly paper consist of the written report of an investigation or scholarly research and are conducted after students have completed all other coursework towards the degree. The difference between the three lies primarily in the length of time granted to complete the paper and the process by which each is proposed, supervised and approved.

Department of Art History and Art Education
Suggested Graduate Admissions Timeline

Since admission to Graduate School involves submission of materials not only from the applicant, but testing services (official GRE scores), other colleges and universities (official transcripts), and outside professionals (letters of recommendation), the application process is very time consuming. Start early so that your materials are all received by the departmental application deadline. The following are suggested dates to keep applicants on track:

For entry in the:	Fall or Summer Semester	Spring Semester
Date by which you should have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) to have the official scores received by UNT in time to be included with your application. (The Analytical Writing section is hand-graded, so receipt of scores usually takes 2 weeks.)	Dec. 15	Aug. 15
Date by which you should submit online graduate application, official printed transcripts, and application fee to the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies (On average, the Graduate School takes one full month to fully process an application and forward it to the department for review by the faculty in the intended major.)	Jan. 1	Sept. 1
Department of Art Education and Art History Application Deadline (Date by which <u>all required materials</u> must be in your file for review by the faculty in your intended major, including GRE scores and the forwarded application packet from the Graduate School.)	Feb. 1	Oct. 1
Date by which you will likely hear from the Department of Art Education and Art History regarding your admission status.	Mar. 15	Nov. 15
Date by which those who have been accepted into the program should respond in writing regarding their intent to attend.	Apr. 1	Dec. 1

Should your application not be complete by the Departmental deadline and/or by the time the faculty collect the applications to review them, your application will be held for review at the next application deadline.