

Carnegie Mellon University

School of Art

MFA Curriculum 2013-17

While the School of Art is the cultural home base of the MFA Program, the degree is designed to connect art-making to both the university and greater Pittsburgh communities.

The MFA curriculum is structured on a foundation of seminars and individual Studio practice with options for School of Art or University electives to encourage interdisciplinary study and/or other disciplines to supplement the art practice.

Structured course work dominates the first year; the second year is a mix of structured and independent work; and the final year is characterized by independent work culminating in a thesis exhibition and paper. Experimentation during the first part of the program is expected to develop into integrated activity during the final phase of the program.

First Year			Spring	Units: 45-48
Fall	Units: 45-48		MFA Studio	12 or 24
MFA Studio	12		Academic Seminar	12
Academic Seminar	12		Integrative Seminar	12
Integrative Seminar	12		SOA Studio Option	12*
University Elective	9-12		or University Elective	9-12*
Second Year			Spring	Units: 45
Fall	Units: 45-48		MFA Studio	24
MFA Studio	12 or 24*		Integrative Seminar	12
Integrative Seminar	12		Writing Seminar	9
Contextual Practice	12			
SOA Studio Option	12*			
or University Elective	9-12*			
Third Year			Spring	Units: 48
Fall	Units: 48		MFA Project	36
MFA Project	36		Integrative Seminar	12
Integrative Seminar	12			

Total Units: 276-285

Academic Advisor:

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www.cmu.edu/art

All students must take two University Electives for a total of 18-24 units. All students **may take only one SOA Studio Option either in the spring semester of year one or the fall semester of year two. If a student elects to take a SOA Studio Option in the spring of year one or fall of year two, the MFA Studio units in the corresponding semester are reduced to 12 units.*