

# UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE FORMS

## Academic Program Approval

This form is a routing document for the approval of new and revised academic programs. Proposing department should complete this form. For more information, call the Faculty Senate Office at 831-2921.

**Submitted by:** René Marquez phone number x4314

**Department:** ART email  
address rmarquez@udel.edu

**Action:** Revision of the MFA program in Art  
(Example: add major/minor/concentration, delete major/minor/concentration, revise major/minor/concentration, academic unit name change, request for permanent status, policy change, etc.)

**Effective term** 07F  
(use format 04F, 05W)

**Current degree** MFA  
(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

**Proposed change leads to the degree of:** MFA  
(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

**Proposed name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Proposed new name for revised or new major / minor / concentration / academic unit (if applicable)

### Revising or Deleting:

**Undergraduate major / Concentration:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Example: Applied Music – Instrumental degree BMAS)

**Undergraduate minor:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Example: African Studies, Business Administration, English, Leadership, etc.)

**Graduate Program Policy statement change:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(**Must attach** your Graduate Program Policy Statement)

**Graduate Program of Study:** MFA  
(Example: Animal Science: MS Animal Science: PHD Economics: MA Economics: PHD)

**Graduate minor / concentration:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: all graduate studies proposals must include an electronic copy of the Graduate Program Policy Document, highlighting the changes made to the original policy document.**

**List new courses required for the new or revised curriculum. How do they support the overall program objectives of the major/minor/concentrations)?**

(Be aware that approval of the curriculum is dependent upon these courses successfully passing through the Course Challenge list. If there are no new courses enter “None”)

None

**Explain, when appropriate, how this new/revised curriculum supports the 10 goals of undergraduate education: <http://www.ugs.udel.edu/gened/>**

**Identify other units affected by the proposed changes:**

(Attach permission from the affected units. If no other unit is affected, enter “None”)

None

**Describe the rationale for the proposed program change(s):**

(Explain your reasons for creating, revising, or deleting the curriculum or program.)

Recognizing the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of contemporary art, the Department of Art proposes revisions to its MFA degree that provide students with a non-discipline-based and intellectually rigorous program of study. These revisions address two primary arenas: 1) simplification of the existing curriculum, 2) increased flexibility for interdisciplinary study. Emphasis is placed on a graduate student’s independent studio work and the conceptual considerations that may derive from scholarship outside of art.

Specifically, the proposed changes are as follows with accompanying rationales:

1) Increasing the minimum art concentration credits from 24 to 36

In the past, the art “concentration” referred specifically to a discipline such as painting. If a student in painting also wished to study sculpture, for example, s/he could take more credits in sculpture through electives, thereby decreasing the total “concentration” credits. However, our overall move to an interdisciplinary system precludes the need for prescribed disciplines and regards the full range of students' studio practice as their “concentration.” Therefore, the 36 total “concentration” credits reflect a deep commitment to personal investigation that is not impeded by categorical requirements.

2) Eliminating “cognate”

Admittedly, the "cognate" requirement dates back to a time before most of the present faculty joined the Art department; even senior faculty cannot actually recall its origins. As we understand it, however, "cognate" refers to coursework outside a student's area of specialization (formerly "concentration"), meant to insure some level of technical and creative breadth. Again the curriculum changes we propose embrace the value of breadth and infuse it with a directed, multidisciplinary approach. In other words, the spirit of the “cognate” requirement remains, but it is, in fact, absorbed into the nature of what we call “concentration.”

3) Eliminating free elective and studio elective courses

Again, the actual elimination occurs in name only. The spirit of elective courses is reflected in our view of the “concentration” as comprehensive studio practice. As with the “cognate,” electives are fully absorbed and valued in the overall number of “concentration” credits.

4) Combining separate supporting paper and exhibition courses into one course

We regard the supporting paper as students' verbal articulation of their visual investigations. One does not evolve without the other, and certainly the two exist as complementary parts to a whole. Therefore, we choose to acknowledge and value this relationship through a single course. Moreover, we have no need to award credit for the MFA exhibition alone as it is the presentation of work done for a student's "concentration." The presentation of work on its own does not merit credit.

5) Adding 12 credits of critique

In the past, critiques existed as components of individual studio courses. That is, painting students would critique each other's work as would sculpture students and so on. Those dialogues remained discipline specific, however, and do not reflect the ongoing discourse in contemporary art in general or in our department specifically. In its contemporary form, the graduate "critique" course brings together graduate students from all areas of the department to share and critique work, exchange ideas, and challenge one another. Teaching of the course rotates among faculty each semester and, coupled with an intensive advising structure, encourages thinking beyond conventional boundaries. The critique experience serves as the foundation for an MFA candidate's education every semester. Its ultimate goal is to encourage artists to create intellectually rigorous work that is conceptually sophisticated and not medium dependent.

6) Adding a non-art academic course

Just as we acknowledge that contemporary artists no longer need to work in conventional categories, we understand the vital connections artists must make with scholarship outside of art. In demanding intellectual rigor and sophistication from our students, we ask them to explore related ideas in other fields that will stimulate their thinking and, consequently, their studio practice. We recognize the importance of an MF. Program within a larger University and encourage our graduate students to take advantage of the breadth of knowledge offered.

**Program Requirements:**

(Show the new or revised curriculum as it should appear in the Course Catalog. If this is a revision, be sure to indicate the changes being made to the current curriculum and **include a side-by-side comparison** of the credit distribution before and after the proposed change.)

See attached revised catalog text.

**REQUIREMENTS CREDIT HOURS**

**OLD:**

Art Concentration (max. 36 credits)...	24 (min.)
Cognate .....	9
Free Electives .....	9
Studio Electives .....	6
Graduate Seminar in Art .....	6
M.F.A. Supporting Paper .....	3
M.F.A.Exhibition. ....	3
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>60</b>

**NEW:**

Art Concentration. ....	36
Critique .....	12
Graduate Seminar in Art .....	6
Non-Art Academic. ....	3
M.F.A.Exhibition and Supporting Paper .....	3
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>60</b>

**ROUTING AND AUTHORIZATION:** (Please do not remove supporting documentation.)

Department Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dean of College \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, College Curriculum  
Committee \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Senate Com. on UG or GR Studies \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Senate Coordinating Com. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary, Faculty Senate \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Senate Resolution \_\_\_\_\_ Date to be Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Registrar \_\_\_\_\_ Program Code \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Provost for Academic Programs & Planning \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Provost \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Trustee Notification \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Revised 5/02/06 /khs

**Charles Mason**

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**From:** "Charles Mason" <mason@udel.edu>  
**To:** "Rene Marquez" <rmarquez@udel.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2007 4:14 PM  
**Subject:** Results of Grad Committee Review #2

ART Revise MFA in Fine Arts- Prof. René Marquez

Dear Professor Marquez:

My apologies again for using a form letter.

The Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Committee recently met and went over your graduate program proposal. This is a summary of notations from that meeting.

Similar to your proposal to disestablish the MA in Art, the Academic Program Approval Form of the proposal for revision of the MFA in Fine Arts needs some editing. 1) Please state the action as "Revision of MFA program in Fine Arts." Since there is an MFA program in Theater, it is important to specify the program. 2) For each of the categorical changes you are proposing, provide more detail in the rationale to justify the changes. You are increasing the minimum art concentration credits from 24 to 36; eliminating cognate, free elective, and studio elective courses; going from separate supporting paper and exhibition courses to one combined course; adding 12 credits of critique; and adding a non-art academic course. These all need to be addressed in the rationale and justified. 3) We ask that you come to our next meeting on January 24 and join us at 10:00 a.m. to address our questions and receive any additional recommendations. The meeting will be held in the Arts and Sciences Conference Room located in the house at 164 S. College Ave. near the intersection with Kent Way.

Please make the changes or incorporate the suggestions stated above. If the changes or suggestions seem to be out of order, please specify why in your response. If necessary, I will take your response back to the committee for reconsideration. After completing these, send any updated electronic file or files if necessary of your updated academic approval form and any updated companion documents if appropriate as attached files accompanying an email to me

Thank you.

Chuck Mason

Charles E. Mason, Professor  
Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Committee Chair  
Dept. Entomology and Wildlife Ecology  
University of Delaware  
Newark, DE 19716-2160  
Phone: 302 831-8888, Fax 831-8889

1/12/2007

Hi, Chuck--

Thanks again to you and your committee for your help with our curriculum revisions. As requested, below is our new curriculum with corresponding course numbers and titles. As far as I know, all our course revisions and deactivations have been approved and are noted in the current course inventory.

Please let me know if I can answer any more questions or if the committee needs more information. I'm actually going to be out of town until next week, but I should have periodic internet access.

Thanks again for everything, Chuck.

Take care--  
Rene

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### **MFA in Art: 60 credits**

**Art Concentration** . . . . . **36 credits** [choice of *ART 632 Painting*, *ART 641 Printmaking*, *ART 651 Sculpture*, *ART 683 Photography*, *ART 691 Ceramics*--all repeatable for credit; these courses all currently exist and will continue]

**Critique** . . . . . **12 credits** [*ART 600 Graduate Critique* - repeatable for credit; this course has been revised for this requirement]

**Graduate Seminar in Art** . . . . . **6 credits** [*ART 677 Critical Issues Seminar* and *ART 678 Research Seminar*; both courses have been revised for this requirement]

**Non-Art Academic** . . . . . **3 credits** [these credits to be taken outside the Art department, will be selected by the student in conjunction with her/his advisors]

**M.F.A. Exhibition and Supporting Paper** . . . . . **3 credits** [*ART 698 MFA Exhibition and Supporting Paper*; this course has been revised for this requirement]

The following graduate courses have all been deactivated in concert with the overall curriculum revision:

ART 601 Applied Photography Tutorial  
 ART 602 Drawing Tutorial  
 ART 603 Painting Tutorial  
 ART 604 Printmaking Tutorial  
 ART 605 Sculpture Tutorial  
 ART 608 Photography Tutorial  
 ART 609 Ceramics Tutorial  
 ART 610 Advanced Applied Photography  
 ART 611 Advanced Applied Photography  
 ART 630 Drawing Studio  
 ART 633 Painting Studio  
 ART 640 Printmaking Studio  
 ART 650 Sculpture Studio  
 ART 684 Photography Studio  
 ART 692 Ceramics Studio  
 ART 699 MFA Supporting Paper

2/16/2007