The MFA program at the University of Guelph offers seven graduate students per year an ideal environment in which to challenge and develop their art practice. Exceptionally committed graduate faculty and limited student enrolment result in a community that is intensely engaged in contemporary art and its discourse. A vigorous program of visiting artists extends this community.

Coursework is structured over a period of four semesters (two academic years) of full-time study. In weekly studio art seminars, graduate students investigate issues central to contemporary practice. Seminars in art theory and criticism focus discussion and debate on significant ideas and influential writings. Recognizing that teaching is a complementary pursuit for many artists, innovative seminars in pedagogy prepare graduate students to teach.

Upon completion of coursework, degree candidates present a thesis to an external examiner and their faculty advisory committee. The thesis is comprised of a professional exhibition of artwork, a written support paper, and an oral examination; three components that represent a thorough and integrated art practice.

Facilities

Graduate students are provided with spacious individual studios. In addition, a range of technical labs, supported by specialized technicians, are available for student use. The university’s proximity to Toronto provides students with easy access to galleries and museums as well as to professionals and peers within the broader community.

Faculty

The faculty of the MFA program – all active artists with prominent reputations – offer a broad spectrum of aesthetic and theoretical perspectives. At an optimal size for student-faculty interaction, the program encourages graduate students to pursue their development as artists in an environment of stimulating intellectual, cultural and social exchange.

Program Highlights

- End-of-semester critiques are the culminating highlight of each semester. Faculty and students, as well as invited guest artists and art professionals, gather for two days of intensive formal critiques.
- Seminars in pedagogy complement an applied TA experience.
- The program is intimate and cross-disciplinary.
- Students are guaranteed funding for the four semesters of required enrolment.
- The program includes an excellent lineup of visiting speakers

To Apply:

Applicants submit a digital portfolio, a statement of intent, a c.v., and two letters of reference along with the application form and transcripts. The deadline for applications is January 15.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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