



# Department of Art and Art History

## Studio Art Graduate Handbook

Updated Fall 2023

Dept. of Art and Art History  
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It is the student's responsibility to meet all requirements for their degree including those outlined in this document and online as well as to observe all appropriate deadlines as graduate study progresses.

Students are responsible for checking their UA email regularly for notices from the faculty and the University. It is the student's responsibility to update the graduate school and the Director of Graduate Studies in Studio Art with personal information changes.

## MASTER OF ARTS in STUDIO ART (MA)

All new studio art graduate students progress through the requirements for the MA program before proceeding to the MFA program. The MA degree in studio art requires the completion of 30 semester hours of graduate work, including: at least 6 hours in art history; 15 hours in graduate studio courses, 3 hours of graduate seminar; 3 hours of graduate critiques; and 3 hours of graduate electives. All coursework must be successfully completed within 6 years of entering the studio graduate program.

At the end of the first semester students are responsible for scheduling the time and location for an open studio review during which faculty members may come and review current research. At the end of the second semester, candidacy for the MA degree is determined by a full faculty review.

An MA committee review, exhibition, research overview, written statement, and oral review are required for the successful completion of the degree. Students are required to submit a written research overview one week prior to their MA committee review. Students should arrive at their committee review prepared to deliver a five-minute introduction to their research and plans for progressing toward their MA exhibition. The introduction is followed by discussion and Q&A. The oral review entails a more formal five-minute introductory presentation, either by projected slideshow or installation, that reviews the student's MA exhibition and plans to continue into the MFA degree, if desired. Students should be prepared to defend the quality of the work presented in terms of concept and craftsmanship and discuss the quality of the written statement in regard to content, clarity, cohesion, research, and grammar.

### MA Requirements Checklist

<u>30 hours MA coursework</u>	course	semester /year
Art History (6 hours)	_____	_____/____
	_____	_____/____
Studio Art (15 hours)	_____	_____/____
	_____	_____/____
	_____	_____/____
	_____	_____/____
	_____	_____/____
Art 511 Graduate Seminar (3 hrs)	_____	_____/____
Art 525 Graduate Critiques (3 hrs)	_____	_____/____
Graduate level elective (3 hrs)	_____	_____/____

Semester #1 - Open studio review

Semester #2 - Full faculty review

Semester #3 - Selection of review committee, research overview, MA committee review

Semester #4 - MA exhibition, written statement, oral review

**MA PROCEDURE DEADLINES and SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES**

Semester #1	<b>Course work</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 – 12 hours of coursework</li> </ul>
	<b>Open studio review</b>	Last two weeks of semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheduled by student</li> <li>• Notify graduate faculty of dates and times</li> <li>• Minimum 10-hour availability</li> <li>• Distribute review statement (½ pg) one week prior to open studio by email or in mailboxes</li> </ul>
Semester #2 (12-24 hours)	<b>Course work</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 – 12 hours of coursework</li> </ul>
	<b>Full faculty review</b>	15th week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheduled by graduate director</li> <li>- Pass / Pass with conditions/Fail</li> <li>- Fail: review repeated following semester (1 repeat only)</li> </ul>
Semester #3 (18-30 hours)	<b>Course work</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 – 12 hours of coursework</li> </ul>
	<b>Selection of graduate committee</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student forms committee by contacting and receiving written confirmation from graduate faculty. (see page 11 guidelines)</li> <li>• Final committee composition is submitted to graduate director in writing.</li> </ul>
	<b>MA exhibition proposal</b>	Due 10/15 for Spring exhibition or 2/15 for Fall exhibition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One-page proposal outlining anticipated form and content of exhibition distributed to committee.</li> </ul>
	<b>MA Research Overview</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distributed to committee</li> </ul>

	<b>MA committee review</b>	15th week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled by graduate director</li> <li>Student presents current research</li> <li>Committee members meet/vote</li> <li>- Pass / Pass with conditions /Fail</li> <li>- Fail: review repeated following semester (one repeat only)</li> </ul>
Semester #4 (20-30 hours)	<b>Course work</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 – 12 hours of coursework</li> </ul>
	<b>Apply to graduate with MA</b> OR <b>Notice of intention to continue to MFA</b>	First week of the semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written request due to committee and graduate director</li> <li>If student is concluding studies with an MA an application to graduate must be submitted to graduate school.</li> </ul>
	<b>MA written statement</b> first draft	5 <sup>th</sup> week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributed to committee</li> </ul>
	<b>MA written statement</b> final draft	12 <sup>th</sup> week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributed to committee two weeks prior to oral review.</li> </ul>
	<b>MA exhibition</b>	Anytime during this semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled by student</li> </ul>
	<b>MA oral review</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled by graduate director</li> <li>Student presents and defends MA thesis work</li> <li>Committee members meet/vote</li> <li>Pass / Pass with conditions /Fail</li> </ul>

During any semester a student or the graduate committee may request a mid-term review. This may occur when member of the graduate committee express concerns about the strength of ongoing studio research which precedes the thesis exhibit.

<b>Midterm review</b> (optional)	7th week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled by student or committee</li> <li>Distribute review statement (one pg) one week prior to review</li> </ul>
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Details are outlined on pages 7-10 in *Academics - Department of Art and Art History, Studio Art*.

**MASTER of FINE ARTS in STUDIO ART (MFA)**

The MFA degree requires 60 hours of coursework: 30 hours already completed for the MA degree plus 30 hours of additional coursework. MA students may apply to continue into the MFA program by recommendation of the MA graduate committee during the student’s MA oral review. Required MFA coursework includes all MA requirements and: 3 hours of Art history, 15 hours in graduate studio classes, 3 hours graduate seminar, 3 hours graduate critiques, and 6 hours in graduate electives. Coursework not applied to the MA may be applied towards the MFA. All coursework must be successfully completed within six years of entering the studio graduate program.

At the end of semester #5 the student presents an MFA candidacy public lecture addressing research and upcoming exhibition. Committee determines whether the candidate passes or fails review.

During Semester #6 the student must presents an exhibition of work accompanied by a written statement. Committee determines whether the exhibition and written statement passes or fails through an oral review.

Students must apply for graduation through the Graduate School.

**MFA Requirements Checklist**

30 completed MA hours & requirements

Art History (3 hours)	_____	_____/____
Studio Art (15 hours)	_____	_____/____
	_____	_____/____
	_____	_____/____
	_____	_____/____
Art 611 Graduate Seminar (3 hrs)	_____	_____/____
Art 625 Graduate Critiques (3 hrs)	_____	_____/____
Graduate level electives (6 hours)	_____	_____/____

Semester #5 - MFA candidacy review public lecture

Semester #6 - Application for graduation

MFA exhibition

Written statement

Oral review

## MFA PROCEDURE DEADLINES and SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Semester #5 (30-48 hours)	<b>Course work</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 – 12 hours of coursework</li> </ul>
	<b>Selection of graduate review committee</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student may change committee composition OR continue with existing MA committee.</li> <li>Student forms committee by contacting and receiving written confirmation from grad faculty.</li> <li>Final committee composition is submitted to graduate director</li> </ul>
	<b>MFA candidacy review</b>  <b>Public Lecture</b>	14th week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled by graduate director, public invited</li> <li>Committee meets / votes - Pass / Pass with conditions / Fail Fail: review repeated following semester (1 repeat only)</li> </ul>
□			
Semester #6 (48-60 hours)	<b>Course work</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 – 12 hours of coursework</li> </ul>
	<b>Application to graduate with MFA</b>	Last day of registration for semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written request due to committee chair and graduate director</li> <li>Application sent to the graduate school.</li> </ul>
	<b>MFA exhibition proposal</b>	Due 2/15 for Spring exhibition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One page proposal outlining anticipated form and content of exhibition distributed to committee.</li> </ul>
	<b>MFA written statement</b> First draft	5 <sup>th</sup> Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributed to full committee</li> </ul>
	<b>MFA written statement</b> Final draft	13 <sup>th</sup> Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributed to committee two weeks prior to oral review.</li> </ul>
	<b>MFA exhibition</b>	Anytime during this semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled by student</li> </ul>
	<b>MFA oral review</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled by graduate director</li> <li>Committee members meet / vote</li> <li>Pass / Pass with conditions / Fail</li> </ul>

Details are outlined on pages 7-10 in *Academics - Department of Art and Art History, Studio Art*.

## **GRADUATE CLASSES OFFERED IN STUDIO ART**

A full list of graduate courses in Art and Art History can be viewed at the following link:  
<https://catalog.ua.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/art-and-art-history/>

Note: 400-level courses can be taken for 500/600-level credit. A written agreement between the professor and student is required and the arrangement must be approved using form available online at the Graduate School website. The completed form must be submitted to the Graduate School before the beginning date of the 400-level course in question. Only 6 hours of these courses may be applied to graduate coursework.

## **ACADEMICS, Department of Art and Art History, Studio Art**

The following descriptions apply to a student following a standard two-or three-year track through the MA and MFA studio programs. A part-time student should plan a schedule with credit hours rather than by semester or year recommendations.

### **Pre-MA**

During their first year, a student completes coursework and meets with department faculty throughout each semester. At the end of the first semester the student is responsible for scheduling time and location for an open studio during which faculty members come and review current research. The student prepares a short statement that is distributed to graduate faculty one week prior to open studio.

### **Full Faculty Review**

At the end of their second semester (18-24 hours), a student undergoes a 40-minute candidacy review by the full graduate studio faculty. The student presents a selection of recent work along with a brief (one-half to one page) artist statement. The work is reviewed through a discussion between the student and all members of the graduate studio faculty. Following the discussion, the student is excused and the faculty assess the quality of the research/creative activity. After a period of discussion, the faculty votes to determine whether or how the student will continue in the program. Students are informed of the decisions of the faculty immediately following the review.

Students who pass this review will form an MA committee with the assistance of the Graduate Director, and prepare for a final oral review by producing an exhibition of artwork and a written statement. A passing review may result in conditions being placed upon the student's coursework or the withdrawal of GTA or other support. Any stipulations will be communicated to the student in person and in writing.

Students who do not pass the review may be allowed to repeat their candidacy review the following semester or may be immediately dismissed from the graduate program in studio art. If the student is allowed to repeat the candidacy review, they will form an ad-hoc committee, with the assistance of the Graduate Director, to guide them through the process of preparing for the second review. A failed initial review may also result in conditions being placed upon the student's coursework or the withdrawal of GTA or other support. Any stipulations will be communicated to the student in person and in writing.

Students who pass the second review will form an MA committee and prepare for a final oral review by producing an exhibition of artwork and a written statement. A passing review may result in conditions being placed upon the student's coursework or the withdrawal of GTA or other support. Any stipulations will be communicated to the student in person and in writing.

Students who do not pass the second review, will be dismissed from the graduate program in studio art. Such dismissal also results in suspension from the Graduate School. Students will be informed of the results of the review in person and in writing. The Graduate Director will inform the Graduate School of dismissal in writing.

**Initial review votes by faculty:**

(votes are by simple majority)

Pass without stipulations

Student continues through the program, forms a committee, and prepares for an exhibition.

Pass with stipulations as described

Student continues in the program, forms a committee, and prepares for an exhibition of a body of work. Any stipulations are communicated to the student in person and in writing.

Fail / Not Pass without stipulations

Student continues in the program, forms an ad hoc committee and prepares for a second review at the end of the following semester.

Fail / Not Pass with stipulations as described

Student continues in the program forming an ad hoc committee and preparing for a second review at the end of the following semester. Any stipulations are communicated to the student in person and in writing.

Fail / Not Pass with immediate dismissal from program

Student is dismissed from program and suspended from the Graduate School. They are no longer allowed to enroll in graduate classes.

**Second review votes by faculty:**

Pass without stipulations

Student continues through the program, forms a committee, and prepares for an exhibition.

Pass with stipulations as described

Student continues in the program, forms a committee, and prepares for an exhibition of a body of work. Any stipulations are communicated to the student in person and in writing.

Fail / Not Pass with immediate dismissal from program

Student is dismissed from program and suspended from the Graduate School. They are no longer allowed to enroll in graduate classes.



### **MA Candidacy: Formation of Committee**

If student passes MA full faculty review, the student selects their MA review committee at the beginning of the third semester. The committee should be formed by the second week of the semester following candidacy and the student must inform the graduate director, in writing, of the committee's composition. The committee must have a minimum of three members and must include at least one non-studio art university faculty member. An art historian is recommended for the non-studio art member but not required. The selected members require approval of the graduate director. The committee must have a committee chair. The committee chair is usually the major advisor, the faculty member with whom the student works most closely in the studio. All committee members are considered readers, offering guidance and proposing edits to the student's written statement. In the event of a dispute about the content or style of the statement, the committee chair's edits will take precedence. The student must secure written permission from the faculty members indicating their willingness to serve in these roles. The committee may have more than three members and may include faculty from outside the Department of Art and Art History. Faculty members who serve on graduate committees must have 'graduate faculty status'.

### **Exhibition**

All students present an exhibition as a requirement of both MA and MFA degrees. The exhibition is scheduled by the student in a venue of their choice and may be a solo, two-person or group show. Exhibitions in the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art and Sella-Granata Art Gallery require written permission from their respective gallery director and the student's committee. These requests should be submitted as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that requests can be met.

### **Written Statements**

The purpose of the research overview and written statement is to demonstrate an ability to articulate ideas inherent in one's studio research and to place that research into a broader context in written form. The overview and paper should follow the formalized guidelines appropriate for a research-based paper with recommended lengths: 1-2 pages (Research Overview) 5-10 pages (MA written statement) and 7-15 pages (MFA written statement). Papers should follow the MLA writing style. Included in your paper there should be appropriate citations of footnotes, bibliographical references, and an index of images contained in the document.

The statement should develop a conceptual framework that supports the student's practice and engage in a discussion that reveals their position about the materials and processes used. Students must develop a discourse that is clear and well-executed in grammar, spelling, and punctuation. The UA Writing Center is a great resource available to all students seeking to produce sound written documents.

The electronic form of your written submission should be in PDF format. Images that accompany your written statement should be integrated into the document so that it is all contained within the single PDF file. This file should be able to be shared via email or via a cloud-share venue.

Graduate students who receive fellowships or take 12 hours per semester will advance more quickly toward fulfillment of course hour requirements. In such cases, it is possible to form a graduate committee and produce the MA thesis exhibition in the third semester of study.

### **Graduation/Continuance to MFA**

Students may conclude their studies with the MA degree or request permission continue in the studio art program to the MFA degree. Students planning to graduate with the MA degree must apply for graduation through the Graduate School no later than the registration period for the semester or the first session of the summer term in which requirements for the degree are to be completed. The form "Application for Degree" (available online) is required for this purpose and must be completed in duplicate. Students seeking an MFA degree must submit a written request to their MA degree committee chair and the graduate director. Once permission to proceed toward the MFA degree is granted, the graduate student may modify membership to their graduate committee, a process that is to be done in writing and conveyed to the graduate director.

### **MFA Candidacy Review**

Each candidate for the MFA degree is reviewed by the full graduate faculty. During the fifteenth week of the fifth semester, as scheduled by graduate director, each candidate presents a 15-20 minute public lecture outlining his or her research and creative activity. This lecture is followed by a 10-minute question and answer session. Following the Q&A, the public and the students are excused, and the MA committee assesses the quality of the research/creative activity, informing the student of their decision at that time. Students passing this review re-confirm their MFA committee and prepare for a final oral review by producing a body of work for exhibition, accompanied by a written statement. Students who fail this review repeat their candidacy review the following semester. A failed review may result in the faculty placing conditions upon the student's coursework or withdrawing GTA support. If a student fails the candidacy review a second time, it is recommended that they leave the program.

### **MFA Candidacy/Formation of Committee**

Students continuing in the program to the MFA degree may change the composition of their committee OR continue with the existing MA committee. In either case students must confirm that faculty are willing to serve on the committee and inform the graduate director in writing to receive approval for committee composition. A new body of work, distinct from that of the MA, is expected of the student.

## **ACADEMICS, The Graduate School**

While you are considered to be a student in the Department of Art and Art History you are officially enrolled in the Graduate School and are subject to its policies.

For current information about Graduate School policies, requirements, and degree programs go to [www.graduate.ua.edu](http://www.graduate.ua.edu).

The UA Graduate School, 102 Rose Admin, Box 870118, Tuscaloosa,  
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0400

### **Plan of Study**

The student's plan of study is determined in consultation with the chair of the major department, the graduate director, or the chairperson of the graduate committee and is approved by that person and the dean of the Graduate School.

### **Course Loads**

The normal course load for a fall or spring semester is 12 credit hours; the maximum course load for a semester is 15 credit hours. Full-time enrollment for graduate students is 9–15 hours per regular semester.

Students may register for a maximum of 6 semester hours in a summer term or 12 hours during an entire summer dual session. No more than 3 semester hours may be taken during the Interim session. Taking more than 12 semester hours in a summer dual term requires a petition from the department regarding the extraordinary circumstances for approval by the Graduate School. A student who is employed part-time is expected to take a reduced load. The course load of a fully employed student will be evaluated according to the individual graduate program. It is recommended that fully employed students should register in no more than one course plus thesis or dissertation research.

### **Failure to Register for Three Years**

If a student fails to register for three consecutive years, the student must reapply for admission. If readmission is granted, previous credit earned may be out of date and therefore not applicable toward a degree. See sections titled "Time Limits" for each degree in this catalog.

### **Assistantships: Admission Status, Class Hours, and FTE Level**

Students with regular or conditional admission status may hold graduate assistantships. A minimum graduate GPA of 3.0 must be maintained while holding any assistantship, except during the first 12 graduate semester hours earned at UA. Students who have earned academic warning or are in non-degree status may not hold graduate assistantships of any kind.

A conditionally admitted student whose graduate GPA falls below 3.0 at any time during the conditional status will not be allowed to hold a graduate teaching

assistantship until such time as the graduate GPA has increased to 3.0 or better. A student with provisional language admission status may hold only an assistantship that is externally funded through a contract or grant; he or she may not hold a permanently budgeted UA assistantship. The FTE from **all** assistantships, plus any other on-campus employment, must be combined when determining FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) status.

Each graduate assistant must be a full-time graduate student. Full-time status for assistantships means 12 or more graduate semester hours of classes. However, the FTE level of the assistantship assignment is converted to equivalent credit hours and combined with actual class hours in order to meet the full-time requirement. A quarter-time assistantship (0.25 FTE) equates to 3 class hours and a half-time assistantship (0.50 FTE) equates to 6 class hours. This means that a student who has, for example, the typical 0.50 FTE assistantship needs to register for only 6 class hours in order to meet the full-time requirement (6 assistantship equivalent hours plus 6 actual class hours).

### **Overloads Involving Coursework Hours**

The Graduate School must approve all overloads involving just courses when the number of course hours exceeds 15. Taking more than 15 semester hours in fall or spring semester requires a petition from the department regarding the extraordinary circumstances for approval by the Graduate School.

### **Overloads Involving Assistantship FTE Plus Coursework Hours**

The Graduate School does not need to approve combined FTE + course hour loads that are within the table guidelines below.

The table below includes the Graduate Council's maximum recommended combinations of FTE plus course hours, as modified by the University in 2013 in accordance with Health Care Reform Act requirements. Combinations of assistantship FTE in excess of 0.50 are prohibited.

<b>Combined FTE of All Assistantships</b>	<b>Recommended Range of Graduate Course Hours the Student is Taking;</b>
.25	9-15
.50	6-12

The Graduate School continues to urge caution when considering large course loads and will continue to monitor overloads even though prior approval is not needed. We especially monitor whether academic warnings and suspensions increase and, if they do, we track the student's and department's overload history for signs of a correlation. We hope and expect that student loads will be designed intelligently to provide meaningful yet not burdensome GTA and GRA experiences, while allowing students to move efficiently through their degree programs.

Caution also is urged when considering an underload, i.e., course hours below the recommended minimum for a particular FTE level in the previous table. Under-loads

risk the student's not making adequate progress toward degree completion. Underloads typically occur only in the final semester and only to avoid taking needless extra course hours to meet the minimum number of hours normally expected for a particular FTE level.

### **Part-Time Temporary Instructors**

A graduate student employed as a part-time temporary instructor (PTTI) to teach a credit-bearing course must meet the SACS 18-hour requirement. Such PTTIs do not receive tuition waivers, must pay taxes on the income they earn as PTTIs, and must comply with Personnel Policies for Student Employees of The University of Alabama. These policies may be obtained by contacting the Human Resources Service Center or calling 205-348-7732.

### **Class Attendance**

Graduate students are subject to the same rules regarding class attendance, the performance of assigned tasks, and course examinations as undergraduate students. Since graduate work presupposes specialization and thorough investigation, students will not be permitted to overload themselves with courses.

### **Graduate Credit**

A student must be admitted to the Graduate School and must register as a graduate student in order to receive graduate credit. Approval for graduate registration must be obtained from program advisors prior to registration.

### **Noncredit Experiences for Graduate Credit**

All course credit used toward a UA graduate degree must be taught at the graduate level. No graduate credit may be earned by correspondence study or for experiential learning not conducted under the direct supervision of graduate faculty of The University of Alabama. UA does not offer graduate credit for noncredit workshops, seminars, continuing education experiences, professional development, internships, work/life experience, and so forth.

### **Satisfactory Academic Progress Requirements for Federal Financial Aid Recipients**

All students at The University of Alabama who receive federal financial aid must make satisfactory academic progress toward completion of their degrees within a reasonable period of time. Satisfactory academic progress criteria may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Financial Aid at 106 Student Services Center or calling 205-348-6756.

## **FORMS OF SUPPORT**

### **Graduate Teaching Assistantship**

#### **Application**

Only academically superior students are eligible for teaching assistantships, research assistantships, or the other awards listed; an eligible student must also hold regular or conditional admission to a degree program. Conditionally admitted students whose graduate GPAs fall below 3.0 at any time during their conditional status will not be allowed to hold graduate teaching assistantships until such time as the GPA has increased to 3.0 or better.

Non-degree students or students on academic warning may not hold assistantships.

Students enrolled in degree programs in the Graduate School are also eligible to apply for federally supported financial aid. Further information can be obtained from the Office of Student Financial Aid, 106 Student Services Center, Box 870162, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0162; telephone (205) 348-6756. <https://financialaid.ua.edu/>

### **Teaching Assignments**

*General Guidelines:* Teaching and GTA assignments are made by the department chair and graduate director. During pre-registration advising periods, students can notify the graduate director of legitimate time conflicts other than their schedule of courses. Teaching assignments are based on a student's performance, schedule of courses and needs of the department.

### Workshop for New Graduate Teaching Assistants

Each August, the Graduate School hosts a workshop for all new graduate teaching assistants (GTAs). Details can be found here: <https://graduate.ua.edu/events/gta/>. The program is mandatory for all U.S. and international GTAs. All GTAs who are non-native speakers of English must also successfully complete the International Teaching Assistant Program (ITAP), conducted by the University's English Language Institute, before they will be allowed to teach.

At the Workshop for New GTAs, faculty and staff who have been recognized for their superior teaching provide formal presentations on topics such as syllabus and course preparation, the advantages and disadvantages of the lecture format for college teaching, using multimedia and the Internet in teaching, effective communication by classroom and laboratory instructors, and the effective use of active and collaborative learning techniques in both small and large classes.

Experienced GTAs recognized for superior teaching in their respective colleges lead one day of sessions at the workshop. These "Graduate Teaching Fellows" videotape new GTAs who each prepared a short presentation. Each GTA receives both written and oral analyses of teaching strengths and areas for improvement. The new GTAs then have the opportunity to analyze videos that show some of the most frequently occurring problems in the classroom. The Fellows conclude the day with the new GTAs by discussing

important University policies such as services for students with disabilities, sexual harassment, academic misconduct, academic grievances, and the confidentiality of student records.

### **Emily Irene Thames Endowed Fine Arts Fellowship Fund**

This fund was established in 1986 to recruit and support graduate students studying ceramics, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture. Department faculty makes nominations.

### **Graduate Council Fellowships**

Graduate Council Fellowships: The University of Alabama awards approximately 80-85 non-renewable Graduate Council Fellowships each year. The fellowships carry a stipend of \$20,000 for the academic year and a scholarship to pay full tuition for up to 15 hours for fall and spring semesters in each academic year, according to the basic UA schedule for in-state/out-of-state tuition and fees. The Graduate School will provide single health insurance coverage for each recipient. At least one-half of these fellowships are awarded to beginning graduate students at the University. Academic departments make nominations. Interested students should contact their departments for more information about the nomination process and deadlines.

### **Graduate Council Research/Creative Activity Fellowships**

Graduate Council Research/Creative Activity Fellowships with stipends of \$20,000 per academic year are available to support graduate students in their own thesis/dissertation work or those working on faculty projects. The Graduate School will provide single health insurance coverage for each recipient. Recipients for the coming academic year are selected once a year, in January. Academic departments make nominations. Interested students should inquire at their department offices. Students who are awarded Graduate Council Research/Creative Activity Fellowships also receive scholarships equal to their full in-state and out-of-state tuition charges. Normally, 80 to 85 Graduate Council Fellowships (including regular Graduate Council Fellowships and Research/Creative Activity Fellowships) are awarded each year.

### **Graduate Student Travel and Research Support Fund**

These awards are available to all graduate students on a competitive basis and are based on departmental nominations. For more information, students should contact their department offices.

### **McNair Graduate Fellowship**

The University of Alabama Graduate School awards a limited number of McNair Graduate Fellowships. These fellowships are specifically for entering graduate students who have either completed a McNair Scholars program as an undergraduate or who are McNair eligible (low income AND first-generation college student or from minority groups underrepresented in graduate education). Preference is given to students who have completed a McNair program and have applied to a PhD program at The University of Alabama. The service-free stipends for these fellowships are \$20,000 for the academic year and carry a scholarship to pay full tuition for up to 15 hours for fall and spring semesters in each academic year, according to the basic UA schedule for in-state/out-of-state tuition and fees. The Graduate School provides single health insurance

coverage for each recipient. Departments may elect to add a graduate assistantship up to .50 FTE to the first two years of the McNair Graduate Fellowship. A student must be enrolled full-time and maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average to remain eligible for the fellowship. Following two years of stipend and tuition support from the Graduate School, the student's home department is required to continue to support the McNair Graduate Fellow for at least an additional two years through departmental research and teaching assistantships. Nominations may be made by the department or by the student (with department support and funding commitment).

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