

School of Art - Brownsville & Edinburg

University Of Texas Río Grande Valley is a component of the University of Texas System. The School of Art consists of two campuses in the southern-most part Texas in the Rio Grande Valley. One campus is located in Edinburg and the other in Brownsville. Both campuses are close to South Padre Island and northern Mexico. The School of Art's programs operate in a unique rich multicultural environment that provides abundant opportunities for artistic development and expression.

The School of Art Faculty welcomes students to explore a wide range of media for the purpose of developing effective communication skills through the conceptual and analytical comprehension of images. We believe expression of the visual arts serves humanity. This creative endeavor promotes the development of critical observation, a strong foundation for communication skills and encourages the investigation of the natural world and the multicultural, social and political elements of a global society, and also encourages students to explore both traditional and contemporary fields.

The UTRGV School of Art Edinburg Campus has a 73,000 square feet facility with the highest quality studios and labs in graphic design, jewelry, sculpture, ceramics, painting, drawing, printmaking, digital photography and film photography with a wet lab. The Brownsville Campus has 20,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor space with very unique 20 foot high ceilings in all of their studios for optimum student art production in painting, ceramics, sculpture photography (digital and film), printmaking, drawing, an iMac lab for computer imaging and graphics, and a 3,000 square feet out door open area for experimental art. The Edinburg campus's Visual Art Building / Annex has an art gallery, a large format printing station, seven iMac labs and two PC labs for graphic design and jewelry students.

The School of Art supports the guiding principles of the University and encourages students to pursue lifelong learning and the development and practice of their discipline. We offer undergraduate and graduate degrees in various art programs. We also offer undergraduate and graduate study abroad courses in such countries as China, Peru, and Italy.

Degrees offered:

- **BA in ART with a specialization in VISUAL ART**

A Bachelor of Art in Art will provide students with an opportunity to express themselves using a variety of creative disciplines and methods within the visual arts and prepare them for such fields as museum studies, gallery management, curator, teaching, studio artist, graphic design, product design, art therapy, graduate studies in a variety of related fields, fashion, and marketing. The curriculum of the degree is studio based with 18 hours of art history and includes a capstone course that requires an exhibition of new artwork only and a written thesis. Students can focus on a concentration of media such as painting, drawing, ceramics, printmaking, sculpture, digital imaging, photography or a combination of concentrations for ultimate roundness.

- **BA in ART with a specialization in L.A.A.H**

Bachelor of Arts in Art Degree with Specialization in Latin American Art and Architectural History is distinguished from all other U.S. universities by its comprehensive focus and training of students in ten detailed upper

division courses on the major periods and regions of Pre-Columbian, Mexican, Latin American and U.S. Hispanic art and architecture, including a research capstone course. This Latin American emphasis allows us to strategically focus our resources on the one area that fulfills UTRGV's border lands context and mission. It can do full justice to the richness and variety of this heritage in a way appropriate to the literally Pan-American cultural and geographic location of UTRGV. We invite everyone to join us in this zestful quest for the indescribable humanistic riches, fulfillment and self-revelation inherent to Latin American, Latin, and Pan-Iberian art and architecture.

- **BA in ART with ALL-LEVEL (EC-12) CERTIFICATION for prospective school teachers at both campuses, more commonly known as the "Art Education degree."**

Art Education students are an integral part of a rich border region. The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley faculty nurture each individual art student to develop and become a vibrant source of creativity from their own personal vision and expression. Upon obtaining and maintaining these artistic skills, Art Education graduates are able to integrate art into the primary and secondary classroom levels in an aesthetic and educational form.

- **BFA Bachelor of Fine Arts with a studio concentration in which students can develop mastery in such media as ceramics, drawing, jewelry/metalworking, painting, performance art, photography, printmaking and sculpture.** Edinburg campus.

- **BFA Bachelor of Fine Arts with a studio concentration in Graphic Design** to enable rewarding careers in fields such as advertising, marketing, digital art, web-based graphics and product design.

Galleries Mission Statement

The fundamental purpose of the School of Art Galleries is to serve as a teaching tool for the university's art student population. Student taking studio courses are required to participate in the annual fall and spring year end reviews. Graduating candidates are required to present senior or graduate thesis exhibitions to exit their program. Analogous to the fundamental purpose is that of promoting the visual arts to the University's student body, and also to serve as a chief promoter of Fine Art to the Rio Grande Valley and its surrounding communities.

UTRGV Brownsville

One West University Blvd.
Brownsville, Texas 78520

UTRGV Edinburg

1201 West University Drive
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School of Art / Edinburg

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The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley™ SCHOOL of ART



SCHOOL OF ART - AREA OF CONCENTRATION

METALS/JEWELRY (BFA & MFA)

Metals/Jewelry is at the forefront of the blending of art, design and technology. Students negotiate through traditional handwork and computer-aided design/rapid prototype machining to focus on the production of design and art through serious conceptual exploration. Simultaneously, the area embraces the historical context of body adornment, petite sculpture, and functional objects.

PAINTING/DRAWING (BFA & MFA)

The program is based on a two-step pedagogic approach that starts with a strong emphasis on the development of the student's cognitive skills in foundational principles of drawing and painting such as color, value and space, and progresses towards a more conceptual approach. We also believe that there is a value in providing the student with a strong command of the use of the figure as an expressive medium. The drawing and painting faculty strives to establish a one-on-one mentoring relationship.

PHOTOGRAPHY (BFA & MFA)

Photography forms the texture of contemporary international life. As a communicative instrument and as an art medium, lens-based image making processes are an essential component of modern media. Digital imaging technology facilitates the intersection of different media that make use of the same image processing applications. The former job descriptions in the practice of image production have blurred.

PRINTMAKING (BFA & MFA)

The printmaking studio at the Edinburg campus is spacious, with more than 2,000 square feet of high ceiling studio that includes traditional large etching and lithograph presses to accommodate 30" x 40" plates and up to 23" x 32" stones. Several smaller presses accommodate interchangeable applications in intaglio, lithography, and relief printing. A screen printing press is for all types of techniques, including four color applications, on a variety of substrates including fabric. Non-traditional approaches to printmaking are also explored utilizing 3D installation exhibition spaces. Large format digital printers, CNC routers, and a fully equipped darkroom allow for the latest in contemporary printmaking for cross-disciplinary elective, undergraduate, and graduate art students. Printmaking students at UTRGV have participated in local, national, and international portfolio exhibitions with prints produced in our printmaking studio.

SCULPTURE/CERAMICS (BFA & MFA)

The sculpture program includes a foundry for bronze and aluminum casting, glass casting, a woodshop, welding facilities and other metal-working equipment. Ceramics includes two studios, one for hand building and one for throwing. Spacious gas and electric kilns as well as instruction in kiln building are part of the program. Undergraduates and graduate students can elect sculpture or ceramics as a concentration of their B.F.A. studio art or M.F.A. degrees.

Graphic Design Digital Lab



GRAPHIC DESIGN (BFA & MFA)_Edinburg Campus

The Graphic Design program places strong emphasis on developing a visual language with a concentration on intelligent decision making within the multiple facets of graphic art, editorial design, identity design, corporate communications, infographics, motion graphics, advertising design, and interactive design. Courses are heavily ingrained with the process of design, theory, and development of a personal methodology. The program enables students to seek rewarding careers in fields such as advertising, publicity, and professional product design.

MAISAH, Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in ART HISTORY

Edinburg Campus / 36 graduate credit hours required. Student may choose to do a Master's Thesis or instead the non-Thesis option. Those who complete this MAISAH degree will then qualify to be considered for employment to teach art history at any Texas public college or university, as affirmed by official State of Texas educational authorities. That is its primary career incentive, although this degree also qualifies its graduates for consideration for hiring in such careers as museum curators, gallery directors or auction house savants. The degree consists of 36 graduate credit hours, i.e. 12 total courses. Of these 36 credit hours, the student completes 18 in graduate art history courses through the School of Art, and nine credit hours or three courses each in two minor areas of the students' preference such as Anthropology, Mexican American Studies, Women's Studies, History, Communications, Music, Modern Languages and Literatures, and so on. The best art history is interdisciplinary, making this degree cutting edge in its breadth. MAISAH students may choose to write a Master's thesis for 6 of the 36 credit hours or instead can choose a non-thesis option. The art history seminar courses constitute a general grounding in the art and architectural history of western civilization including Europe, the United States, Pre-Columbian art and architecture of the western hemisphere, Native American/Pan-Hispanic Viceregal art and architecture of the Western hemisphere, Modern Mexican, South American and Latin@ art, and the course on art historical theory and methodology.

THE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LATIN AMERICAN ART & ART HISTORY (18 hours credit)

Qualifies recipients to be considered for employment to teach art appreciation/art history at Texas public junior colleges and some universities, as affirmed by official State of Texas educational authorities. 6 graduate credit hours in art history may be transferred from another accredited University into this certificate. The on line Graduate Certificate (18 hours credit) in Latin American Art and Art History can be awarded in conjunction with the MFA program, thus qualifying recipients to teach both Art Appreciation/Art History as well as Studio Art.

Printmaking Studio



Jewelry Design Studio



Sculpture Studio



MFA STUDIO TWO-DIMENSIONAL, THREE-DIMENSIONAL, OR DESIGN CONCENTRATION GRADUATE PROGRAM

The program immediately challenges and expects students to question the artistic suppositions that they held before entering it towards development of an earnest line of inquiry involving a lifelong artistic quest for continuous self-renewal. The 60 graduate credit hours include at least 12 hours of graduate art history, exhibition, as well as thesis or final paper option. The MFA students have 24/7 access to all the studio facilities. Those who complete the MFA degree have their terminal degree in Art and are qualified to be considered for employment to teach art at most public junior college and universities. The MFA degree puts emphasis on studio practices which is an internal part of success in the visual Arts. The MFA Studio Graduate Program is composed of both national and international students and faculty from countries like Mexico, Pakistan, China, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Argentina, Iran, Yugoslavia, Canada, Ireland, Taiwan, Colombia, Peru, and Brazil. The culturally diverse composition of the graduate students naturally enriches the MFA experience.

MAE'S CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

The Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with emphasis in art education is designed to prepare master artist-teachers for leadership roles in art education. The Art Education Program is designed to serve the many artist-teachers who seek an emphasis on instructional leadership and effective teaching. This major is responsive to the needs of the educational community and to state and national priorities for restructuring and delivering teacher education programs. A comprehensive examination and thesis are required.