



Boston University College of Fine Arts
School of Visual Arts



Online Master of Arts in Art Education

Enhance your practice, advance your career, and in the process, change your students' lives.

Inspiring.

The Boston University Online Master of Arts in Art Education degree program is designed for busy educators who love making and teaching art. Enhance your practice, advance your career, and in the process, change your students' lives. You will be guided by master teachers with years of studio and classroom experience. Enjoy the highest caliber education without leaving your family, job, and community. Most students complete the MA degree in 18-24 months.

By learning to devise effective unit plans and master the latest techniques based on leading-edge theory and research, you can revitalize your practice right away. Your spoken and written communication will be

more focused and evidence-based. And because you will learn how and where to locate the latest research, you'll stay current long after program completion.

While the emphasis is on teaching, we haven't forgotten that you are an artist. Sounds like a given, but we take it seriously. That's why we created Summer Studios, a supportive, hands-on, process-oriented studio. At the conclusion of this optional component, you leave refreshed and inspired. Online faculty and student colleagues become lifelong friends and contacts.

Join us. Let's get started.

Focuses.

The MA in Art Education offers two optional faculty-designed focuses, or a self-designed program. This allows you to benefit from a faculty-designed curriculum (below), or to tailor your degree to your individual educational and professional goals by adding self-selected electives to your core courses.

Arts Education Leader

The best leaders are creative problem solvers who call upon a diverse skill-set that enables them to be effective in many roles. Enhance your skills at managing a classroom and applying innovative learning strategies. As a graduate with this focus, you will be ready to assume an administrative role as a curriculum designer or fine arts program director, a professional development organizer, and an advocate for your institution and the value of arts education.

All Core Courses + Required Electives:

- AR670 Advocacy & Policy **4 cr.**
- AR680 Insightful and Creative Leadership **4 cr.**

Plus 2 More Electives of your Choice

* *Choosing this option means there is no studio requirement and that the program is delivered 100% online. You may, however, elect Summer Studios as one of your 2 elective choices.*

Artist Teacher

As an artist-teacher, you seek to transmit not just your passion for the creative process to students, but also new techniques, habits, and skills. You will acquire new methods for instruction that will invigorate your teaching practice and allow you to keep growing as an artist.

All Core Courses + Required Electives:

- AR870 Summer Studios **4 cr.**; delivered on campus
- AR690 History of Art Education **4 cr.**

Plus 2 More Electives of your Choice



Curriculum | Core Courses 16 credits, all required

Contemporary Issues in Art Education

You will examine current trends in practice and theory as well as artists of the past and present who express personal, social and global concerns in their work. Discussions are focused on how the course content can influence your classroom curriculum and instruction. You will conduct library research to locate articles on a topic related to the course content. Assignments are written, visual, and digital.

Curriculum Planning

You will study contemporary techniques for implementation of goals in planning curricula and programs of study for all levels Pre-K-8 and 5-12. Instruction includes consideration of scope and sequence in relation to stages of development, and community and individual needs. You will complete a substantial terminal written project which could lead to publication.

Masters Research Project — Choose one of the following:

Arts-Based Research & Practices

This course introduces you to modes of inquiry focused on arts-based research methods that use the artistic process as the primary way of understanding and examining experience and the creation of knowledge. You will be guided through the exploration of various approaches to arts-based research, leading you to investigate the making of artistic expression as an alternative way to engage in inquiry and scholarship.

Becoming a Practitioner-Researcher

This course introduces you to teacher-led, classroom-based research as a means of addressing issues facing art teachers, artists and teaching-artists in schools and other community-based settings and providing the tools to be a reflective practitioner. The course will introduce you to the conventions and practice of qualitative research in the context of art education and as a form of inquiry that is grounded in the theories, practices, and contexts used by art practitioners working in schools, museums, and community organizations.



Curriculum | Electives 16 credits, select 4 courses

The Inclusive Art Classroom

This course introduces you to the historical, legal, and educational facets of special populations in the United States with a focus on art education. Special populations are people with needs that require individualized attention, awareness and considerations in an educational setting. The goal is to introduce and explain characteristic behaviors, strengths and weaknesses of various disabilities, and discuss strategies for instruction, classroom management, and accommodations for the art classroom.

History of Art Education

This course is intended to enrich your understanding of the origins and on-going development of visual arts education in the United States. You will be immersed in the rich history of the field through discussion, research, culminating in the writing of a historical paper. The course begins with the emergence of art education through an early apprenticeship model and progressing through the centuries to a contemporary understanding of what visual art education meant and how it is viewed today.

Child Growth and Development

This course employs personal art making, discussion, qualitative research, presentations and written reflections as the various forms students use to demonstrate their understanding of the psychological, cultural and artistic development of children and adolescents. Specifically, the course will examine the role of the senses, emotions and intellect in shaping artistic development, and of the layered integrations they form over time.

Advocacy & Policy

Policy issues and advocacy strategies for leaders in the arts. Local, state, and national arts education policies and advocacy programs will be addressed. You will research agencies, partners, and other organizations beyond the schools that advocate and influence policy. You will develop the knowledge and expertise to develop an effective advocacy strategy.

Insightful and Creative Leadership

Prepares in-service art teachers with the basic skills and organizational strategies of

leadership and management that are needed to serve within school systems and arts educational organizations. Guest speakers, exemplary practitioners, researchers and policy makers from academia, public schools and school districts, charter schools and education management organizations, private and independent schools, business, and other organizations will share their experiences, research, and insights about effective leadership practices.

Arts Integration: Interdisciplinary Approaches that Support Holistic Learning

To model real world arts integration implementation, students will engage in team-based learning and project development between arts and non-arts subjects, and/or between two or more arts disciplines. Collaborative projects will be informed by the histories, theories, philosophies, approaches, and examples of arts integration programs in North America.

Summer Studios

Find course description on back cover.

Insight.



"This has been an incredible learning opportunity that will benefit my approach to education and my career as an art educator. It provided me with so much insight and information around the history of art education, what other educators have done or thought, and how to support and continue my own career."

— Michelle Friedman (CFA'20), North Salem, NY

Summer Studios

Students attend a unique, immersive, nine-day Summer Studio course in which they choose two hands-on studio electives related to their own art-making. During the week, students work in BU's state-of-the-art studio spaces, as well as participate in a group project and social events. At the end of the week there is a group critique followed by a formal presentation of student work. At Summer Studios, students build bonds with fellow artist-teachers and faculty, providing them with a professional network of arts educators that will last a lifetime. After students return home, they are required to create lesson plans connecting their Summer Studio coursework to their current classrooms.

Admissions Requirements

Applications for the online Master of Arts in Art Education are accepted four times per year. This program is designed for applicants who already possess a teaching license or want to broaden and deepen their understanding of art education but do not desire licensure to teach in American primary and secondary schools. Applicants are evaluated for admission based upon the following criteria:

Professional Portfolio Including:

- Completion of the College of Fine Arts Graduate Online Application
- Submission of official transcripts from all schools attended, eTranscripts preferred. Submit to cfaapply@bu.edu
- Two professional letters of recommendation
- Professional Resumé
- Personal statement indicating the applicant's purpose in pursuing graduate work, including career objectives
- Artistic portfolio submitted digitally including:
 - Samples of your artwork (about 10 works, representing a focused exploration of your own work in any medium.)
 - Samples of your students' artwork (5-10 works)

- English Proficiency test scores for non-native English speakers

Qualities of a Competitive Applicant:

- Completion of a bachelor's degree in Studio Art or Art Education from a regionally accredited college or university
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Current or recent classroom teaching experience

Please refer to the online application for instructions on how to submit application materials.

For assistance, please contact our Director of Online Admissions at 1-844-299-9126 or email cfaapply@bu.edu.

