APPLYING TO THE MA PROGRAM
IN ART HISTORY AND VISUAL CULTURE

Applying to the MA Program

This is a guide to the application process for an MA in Art History and Visual Culture. This is a two-step process in which the applicant must submit an Application Packet by the Department deadline and apply for admission to San José State University.

The Department deadline is the second Friday in the month of January every year and reviews are held in the early part of the Spring semester for admission during the following Fall semester. At the moment, the Department only accepts graduate students for Fall admission.

This process has TWO STEPS:

STEP 1 Submit Application Packet by the deadline to the Department of Art & Art History Graduate Program Admissions Review Committee (must be postmarked or dropped off by the deadline for fullest consideration).

STEP 2 Apply for Admission to San José State University.

STEP 1 Submit Application Packet by the deadline to the Department of Art & Art History Graduate Program Admissions Review Committee (must be postmarked or dropped off by the deadline for fullest consideration).

Please read the following instructions carefully.

If materials are not postmarked or dropped off by the deadline, the application will not be reviewed in the first round and may receive lower priority.

1. Download and completely fill out the Department of Art & Art History MA/MFA Program Application Form (one form per Area of Concentration). Be clear in selecting your area of concentration at the time of applying.

2. Include a Résumé.

3. Include ALL OFFICIAL AND RECENTLY REQUESTED (dated within the last six months) college transcripts. If you are currently taking courses, grade reports for the courses must also be submitted immediately after completion.
If mailing directly from previous college to the Department of Art & Art History, mail to:

Department of Art & Art History
Graduate Program Admissions Review Committee – Art History
San José State University
One Washington Square
San José, CA 95192-0089

4. Download and completely fill out the Academic Summary Form. List all of studio art and art history classes taken, where the college classes were taken, number of units earned and grades received.

5. Include Letters of Recommendation (if references are not mailed directly to the Department of Art & Art History).

6. Include a Statement of Purpose Submit an essay indicating reasons to pursue graduate studies in Art History and Visual Culture at SJSU. The essay should also describe the topics and areas of interest within art history and any relevant prior studies in these areas. Those with little or no background in art history, if admitted, will be required to undertake additional coursework.

7. Include Two Writing Samples (examples of research) related to Art History and Visual Culture. Each example should be at least 5 pages and a maximum of 20 pages in length. The writing should ideally be on topics related to art history. However, topics in related fields of the humanities, including English, Comparative Literature, Cultural Studies, History, and Philosophy, will also be accepted.

8. Include a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (only if the return of application packet is desired). Envelope must be durable enough to protect materials from damage and enough postage for materials to be returned. Otherwise, the application packet will be discarded.

9. Submit application packet to:
Department of Art & Art History
Graduate Program Admissions Review Committee – Art History
San José State University
One Washington Square
San José, CA 95192-0089

Review and Notification Procedures
The Department of Art & Art History Graduate Program Admissions Review process takes approximately 8 weeks before formal notification of acceptance or denial to the program(s). No information regarding the outcome of the review will be given out by the Department of Art & Art History prior to the mailing of the formal acceptance or
denial letters. Please do not contact us for early results. Letters of acceptance or denial will be mailed after the reviews are concluded.

If you have any questions, please contact:
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STEP 2  Apply for Admission to San José State University

Application instructions, deadline information, online San José State University admission application for Domestic (U.S.) Students, and a downloadable admission application for International Students can be found at: http://www.sjsu.edu/gape/
Online application through CSU Mentor is available at:
http://www.csumentor.edu/admissionapp/grad_apply.asp

Coursework must begin within the following two semesters to retain your eligibility.

GENERAL CAMPUS INFORMATION

For information on the university application process, financial aid, housing, residency, fees, etc., please view the Graduate Admissions and Program Evaluations (GAPE) website: http://www.sjsu.edu/gape/

SJSU Catalog (Department of Art & Art History):
http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/catalog/departments/ART.html

Department of Art & Art History: http://www.sjsu.edu/art/