



Transfer Student Admission Process (TS)

Admission to Grand Valley State University does not automatically include admission to studio art or art education programs in the Department of Visual and Media Arts (VMA). All incoming students planning to major in studio art or art education are required to submit a portfolio of their work for evaluation by a departmental admission committee. **Applicants must already have been accepted to Grand Valley State University in order to participate in the Visual and Media Arts admission process.** For GVSU's admission information, call 1-800-748-0246 or visit the GVSU website at <http://www.gvsu.edu/admissions>.

To be considered a transfer student, you must have completed and received credit for at least one college or university **studio** art course. If you have attended or are currently attending a college or university but have not taken any studio art courses, you must request and complete the application form for incoming freshman students.

Areas that **DO** require an Application and Portfolio submission of a portfolio of student work for evaluation by a departmental admission committee:

- Studio Arts Major
- Art Education Major

Areas that **DO NOT** require an Application or Portfolio:

- Art History Major and Minor
- Photography Major and Minor
- Studio Art Minor
- Film and Video Production

The VMA studio art and art education admission committee will be looking for a diverse group of students who are likely to succeed in our rigorous programs, including foundations, upper level emphasis areas, and general education classes.

Scheduled Admission Portfolio Evaluation Dates for 2019-2020

Admission Review Day	Completed Application Due Date
Saturday, November 2 , 2019 - 10:30 am	October 24 , 2019
Saturday, January 18 , 2020 - 10:30 am	January 8 , 2020
Saturday, March 14 , 2020 - 10:30 am	March 4 , 2020
Saturday, April 18 , 2020 - 10:30 am	April 8 , 2020
Saturday, June 6 , 2020 - 10:30 am *	May 27 , 2020
Saturday, July 11 , 2020 - 10:30 am *	July 1 , 2020
Saturday August 8 , 2020 – 10:30 am *	July 29 , 2020

* Class availability cannot be guaranteed when registering at this time

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

GPA and Portfolio

Your portfolio and completed application should provide us with an indication of your skills and experience, academic qualifications, art background, and work ethic. Your application is scored and weighted as follows:

- portfolio 75%
- GPA 25%

We realize that everyone comes to GVSU with different backgrounds and experiences. If you have very little formal art instruction or feel that your portfolio is lacking, please apply and give us the opportunity to get to know who you are artistically. We are truly looking for a variety of skills, talents and backgrounds, and will be judging applicants on their individual strengths and merits.

Portfolio Submission

The review will serve two purposes: to determine whether or not you are accepted into the program and if accepted, determine which studio courses may receive transfer credit. Transfer credit will be assigned based upon your portfolio while acceptance into the program will be determined by the portfolio and GPA.

You may apply to the Department of Visual and Media Arts in one of two ways:

1. *IN-PERSON REVIEW:*

Set up your portfolio at the Calder Art Center at 10:30 am on your scheduled review date. An optional one-half hour informational session will begin at 11:00 am. Parents and students are welcome to attend this session as submitted portfolios are being reviewed. An optional tour of the facilities will follow the session. To effectively evaluate us, we encourage you to apply in person so that you may see our facilities, view student work, and find out more about our program. After the review, a faculty member will advise you on your schedule. In the event that you decide to choose GVSU, this will ensure that you are on track to matriculate through our program.

2. *DIGITAL REVIEW:*

If you prefer, you may submit your portfolio by USB flash drive at the time you send your other application materials or indicate a web address where your portfolio can be viewed. USB drives will be returned if a self-addressed envelope is provided.

Regardless of which method you choose, please select an evaluation date. Your application must be submitted at least 10 days before the date you select. You will be informed on the day of your admission review as to whether or not you are accepted into the program, and what transfer courses will be accepted for credit. If you have any questions about the admissions process or your admission status, please contact the Department of Visual and Media Arts at 616-331-3486.

Transfer Credit

Success in the GVSU Visual and Media Arts Program is predicated on each student acquiring the basic knowledge taught at the lower levels before advancing in the program. As a result, we take the Foundation Program, introductory courses and their content very seriously and consider them essential for success in our program. Approaches to the teaching of art vary greatly from school to school. Some colleges, for example, put Color and 2-D Design into the same course so there is not sufficient portfolio work to get credit for either course at GVSU. Many two-year institutions do not have a 3-D Design course or only require a project or two, which is included in the basic design course. Many colleges teach drawing with more of an expressive emphasis. This comes much later in our program.

When judging transfer credit, we must consider only comparable courses to our program. For example, a color class must have been completed to be considered for color credit. A painting class, which deals with color, cannot be used to receive credit for a color class. We also look at the quantity and quality of the projects and the emphasis and content of the course to judge whether it is comparable to our own. **If credit is given for a foundation course, that work must be kept and will be reviewed as part of your foundation portfolio during the foundation review.** In some cases, advanced work may not be able to be given equivalency credit, but will be applied as credits toward your studio electives. Up to 5 transfer courses can be applied to satisfy your studio electives.

Transfer Credit Equivalency

If you have college-level studio art course credits equivalent to the GVSU Visual and Media Arts Foundation Course(s) listed below, the credits will transfer and substitute for GVSU Visual and Media Arts Foundation course(s):

ART 150 2-D Design, ART 151 3-D Design, ART 152 Color and Design, ART 153 Making and Meaning, ART 155 Drawing I, and ART 157 Drawing II (each course is 3 credits)

(Revised: Oct. 13, 2015)

Portfolio Contents and Presentation

You must present **ALL** work completed in your art studio classes. This can't be stressed enough. Often students omit work thinking we only want to see what they believe as their "best work", not realizing that we may see strengths that students do not. So **include everything** that was worked on, whether it is finished or not. Bring sketchbooks, journals, loose pieces of paper, etc.

Group the work according to the course for which you are seeking credit. The work in the portfolio should demonstrate:

- Compositional unity and variety
- Sensitive use of materials
- Creative expression of ideas
- Effective use of the entire image area
- Effective use of space in 3D work
- Evidence of time and effort spent to complete work
- Drawing from life (if drawings are included)

Paintings should be dry, and three-dimensional work should be sturdy enough for evaluators to handle. All work should be clearly labeled with your name.

Do not go to the expense of having your artwork mounted, matted or framed, although it should be protected. You should spray art with fixative when the drawing material can be easily rubbed off. Messy drawing materials can also contaminate your other work as well.

Please do not wrap your art. For ease of handling, two-dimensional work should be delivered in an inexpensive portfolio carrying case and three-dimensional work should be delivered in boxes.

Photographic Images and Video of Your Portfolio

If you present your work photographically due to the scale of a work or damage to a piece, please provide us with clear, sharply focused prints or digital images on a flash drive that gives a true representation of the surface and color of the artwork. Inexpensive cameras tend to take poor quality and distorted photographs. We recommend using a high quality digital camera or a current model smartphone.

Three-dimensional work may be represented by two to three images shot from different angles. Detail images may also be submitted for larger two-dimensional and three-dimensional work. Videos should be submitted as Quick Time movies (.mov).

Have the artwork fill the image area as much as possible and make sure that the background is neutral. Ensure that the artwork is evenly lit and has no glare spots. Don't use a flash. Three-dimensional art should be lit somewhat from the side, so that surfaces are defined for the viewer through light and shadows. The background should be neutral and contrast with the three-dimensional work. Remember that if you submit photographed art, we have never seen the original work, so we are relying on the quality of your photographed images. A good piece of art improperly photographed can often be judged as poor-quality work.

You may bring photographs of your work on a flash drive. Work should be presented in a PowerPoint or as jpps. The size of each image should be 800 x 1100 pixels with a resolution of 72 ppi. Be sure to put your name on the USB flash drive.

Scholarships

Applicants who apply on or before the fourth portfolio evaluation date (April), will automatically be considered for incoming student art scholarships. Letters of award of a scholarship will be mailed to recipients during the last week of April.

Credit by Exam

If you took an AP art class and received a score of 3 or better, the Department of Visual and Media Arts will award equivalency credit. Please send your score to GVSU admissions to receive proper credit. You can go to collegeboard.com to do this.

The Department of Visual and Media Arts will also award equivalency credit if you took the International Baccalaureate Exam and received a score of 4 or higher. Dual enrollment classes, equivalent to our Foundation courses taken at other colleges or institutions will receive equivalency credit. If you have any questions, please contact the VMA office at 616.331.3486.

Transfer Student Admission Application (TS)

Transfer Student Application Checklist:

- Admission to GVSU.** Acceptance to the university must precede application to the Department of Visual and Media Arts.
- Completed Visual and Media Arts application form**
- Unofficial transcripts** from all colleges/universities attended must be sent by mail or fax to the Department of Visual and Media Arts at the address below.
- GPA**

Portfolio: All studio coursework from previous attended colleges/universities submitted in person on the date of the admission review, or submitted on a flash drive, or provide a website link. Work should be presented in Powerpoint or as jpgs. The size of each image should be 800 x 1000 pixels with a resolution of 72 ppi. Videos should be submitted as QuickTime movies (.mov). Be sure to label your name on the flash drive.

THE APPLICATION FORM AND UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO PORTFOLIO EVALUATION DATE. *Portfolio will not be reviewed if the application materials are not complete.*

Questions? Call: 616-331-3486, Email: vma@gvsu.edu, FAX: 616-331-3240

If you choose to mail your completed form, please address your mailing envelope to:

Admission Portfolio Review Committee
Department of Visual and Media Arts
1105 Calder Art Center
1 Campus Drive
Grand Valley State University
Allendale, MI 49401

*This application must be submitted **at least 10 days prior** to your portfolio evaluation date.*

Name (first, middle, last): _____

GVSU G#: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone/s: _____

Email (print clearly): _____

Colleges or Universities Attended:

GPA Achieved: _____

Semester Applying (check one): Fall ____ Winter ____ Spring/Summer ____ Year: _____

Portfolio Review Evaluation Date: 1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

Degree Program Preference:

Check the degree program below that interests you. Descriptions of the Degree Programs follow this page.

____ **Art Education:** K-12 Comprehensive Teacher Certification

____ **Studio Art:** Ceramics, Graphic Design, Illustration, Jewelry/Metalsmithing, Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, Visual Studies

Art History, Photography, and Film and Video Production DO NOT REQUIRE an application to the department. No portfolio review is required.