

M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Painting
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Printmaking
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Sculpture
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in New Media
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Art Theory
M.A Visual Arts with specialization in Interdisciplinary Art Practice
(Full time) G1510

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

The Visual Arts are part of the wider Creative and Cultural Industries, a sector that has known constant growth globally, over the last decades. It is a fast-changing field where innovation is at a premium. Like other creative fields, it is an area where the focus can be on self-development and personal creative endeavours, with comparatively little interest in art as a product, if the artist is so inclined. In Mauritius, the Visual Arts is an exciting sector that has known constant growth over the last few decades, with increasing professionalisation, from creation to display and consumption.

The objective of this programme addresses the needs of a category of local and potentially regional/international students who have already completed an undergraduate course in the visual arts, and who want to develop the specialized skills and competencies required for a more sophisticated artistic production which can find its place in global contemporary artistic trends.

Competencies and Career Opportunities

This Master Degree **with Specialization** is aimed at students who want to focus on a specific medium such as Painting OR Printmaking OR Sculpture OR New Media OR Art Theory OR Interdisciplinary Art Practice (for those who want to be versatile art producers). The main reason for such a choice being the opportunity later to join academia as a lecturer in a particular area with a certain expertise. Career opportunities range from painter, printmaker, sculptor and new media artist, as well as curator and/or art critic. The course also caters for students who want to keep their options open and are more geared towards a professional career as independent artist working in various mediums

Students develop a strong experimental and creative approach that complements analytical and critical thinking in problem solving. They develop a deep awareness and appreciation of culture and its role in society across history and geography. They are sensitized to ethics and to sustainable development goals, apart from developing the pre-requisite communication skills, teamwork and leadership skills necessary for professional practice in the visual arts field.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the 2-year course the students will be able to:

- Demonstrate mastery of their chosen medium(s) OR field in line with the conceptual frameworks with which they affiliate.
- Communicate through visual art practices and theoretical concepts in innovative ways
- Engage with social, historical and ecological issues pertaining to the region through their works and develop informed critical discourses;
- Apply appropriate research methodologies and findings in the Visual and Fine Arts in their works and contribute fully to the cultural and creative economy of the island and of the region
- Choose further research in the field through an Mphil/PhD that would enhance the artistic and cultural sector as well as contribute to academic research.

3. TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

Modules are conducted through blended (online and in class and in studio face-to-face) mode combining lectures, demonstrations, seminars, visits to exhibitions and both practical and theoretical workshops with a strong emphasis on student participation and interaction both online and in studio. The pedagogy takes into account the possible disruptions caused by the Covid19 pandemic or similar events, and can fall back on a fully online mode, if necessary.

The emphasis is on the development of an informed and mature level of discussion on art practice and its relevant issues in Mauritius, at the regional level and globally.

Apart from the development of a unique body of work for medium-based specializations, students will be expected to present papers in seminar discussions, write a variety of art-related long and short texts, and develop personal archives through photo and/or video and/or various types of hand-made artworks such as sketches and scaled- down models.

4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

General Requirements

- In accordance with the University General Entry Requirements for admission to Postgraduate Degree Programmes.
- Successful completion of a relevant undergraduate degree from a recognized higher education institution
- Or alternative qualifications acceptable to the Mahatma Gandhi Institute/ University of Mauritius.
- At least a second class or 50% whichever is applicable or
- A GPA not less than 2.5 out of 4 or equivalent from a recognized higher education institution.

Programme (Specific) Requirements

- Successful completion of an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts, Visual Arts or Applied Arts from a recognized institution.
- Submission of a Portfolio (either digitally or in an analog format, consisting of at least 10 artworks + sketches/drawings)
- Submission of a **Project Proposal** prior to the interview process. Assistance of lecturers of the different departments can be sought for the writing of the research proposal, prior to submission of the application.

Special Cases

The following may be deemed to have satisfied the General and Programme-specific requirements for admission:

- i. Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 4 above but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations, which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.
- ii. Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 4 above but who in the opinion of Senate submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.
- iii. Applicants who hold a full practicing professional qualification obtained by examination.

5. PROGRAMME DURATION

	Minimum Years	Maximum Years
Master's Degree	2	4

6. MINIMUM LCCS CREDITS REQUIRED FOR AWARD

- **For each Academic Year:** As per University Regulations

Year I	42	LCCS Credits
Year II	30	LCCS Credits

For a Master's Degree Award: 72 LCCS credits

	Core modules	Dissertation	Exhibitions	Electives	Total LCCS credits
Master's Degree	42 credits	12 credits	12 credits		72 credits
Postgraduate Diploma	36 credits			12 credits	42 credits
Postgraduate Certificate					30 credits

Exit Points

The student can exit the Programme with a Diploma or Certificate, as follows:

- Students may exit with a Postgraduate Diploma in Visual Arts after having earned 48 LCCS Credits, with completion of Year 1 and completion the elective module on offer in Year 2.
- Students may exit with a Postgraduate Certificate in Visual Arts after having earned 24 LCCS Credits

7. ASSESSMENT AND DEADLINES

7.1 Examinations: For Theory modules: 70%; for Practical modules: 50%

7.2 Continuous Assessment: For Theory modules: 30 %; for Practical modules: 50%

7.3 Submission Deadline for Dissertation/ Research Project

	Semester 1		Semester 2	
Theory	1 st Draft	Week 12 of 1 st semester	Final Draft	Week 12 of 2 nd semester
Practical	1 st Display/ Viva Voce		Final Display/ Viva Voce	

Students are required to submit an e-copy of their dissertation to their Project/Dissertation Supervisors through Google class at latest by 5.00 p.m on date specified in the Calendar of Activities.

The Google class will be created by the Project/Dissertation Supervisor.

The e-copy of the project/dissertation (main body i.e. Introduction up to the Conclusion or last chapter) should be uploaded on the Turnitin Platform, as a single PDF file in the appropriate class/assignment (final dissertation) provided by the Project/Dissertation Supervisor.

Artworks, videos, photos should be authenticated through image verification platforms such as Truepic, Google Image and others.

7.4 Dissertations / Research Projects

Modules MVA 5010 and MVA 6010/ 6012/ 6013/ 6014/ 6015 will be assessed by display of works / written texts and viva voce.

Choice of electives

The UoM/ MGI reserves the right not to offer a given elective module if the critical number of students is not attained and / or if there are resource constraints. Additional electives may also be offered depending on availability of resources.

Specialization, Exhibition and Viva Voce

The School of Fine Arts offers graduate students a choice of practical, ie, medium-based specialization with a Master of Arts in Visual Arts with specialization in **Painting** or **Printmaking** or **Sculpture** or **New Media**, as well as **Art Theory** and **Interdisciplinary Art Practice**. The choice of specialization are as follows: MVA 6010 or MVA 6012 or MVA 6013 or MVA 6014 or MVA 6015 or MVA 6017.

Art Theory specialization students start writing art-related texts right from the first year in the Curation Theory modules (which co-exist with and complement the Interdisciplinary Studio Practice modules) and can make use of the MVA 5101 digital video modules for the production of documentation for exhibitions and can do the same for photographic documentation through elective module MVA 5205 Photography in Year I. They are also given the opportunity to write and self-publish directly on the internet through the elective module MVA 5203 Blogging and Social Media for Art Writers.

Interdisciplinary Art Practice specialization is aimed at students who want to keep their options open in relation to the mediums that they explore and are more focused on professional careers as independent artists rather than on eventual academic employments that may require specialization at post-graduate level.

Graduate students (of Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture and New Media) are expected to produce a body of works with a minimum of 8 artworks or equivalent in their chosen medium of specialization and produce a final exhibition at the end of Year II within the MGI or at a location of their choice in consultation with the SFA as part of the 6012/ 6013/ 6014/ 6015 modules.

Graduate students opting for Art Theory as specialization will curate a solo or group exhibition of works by one or a group of artists, or any other type of exhibition acceptable to the SFA with the appropriate long format catalogue text (5000 to 8000 words), or alternatively produce an academic text on a topic acceptable to the thesis supervisor(s).

Students who are not interested in any specific specialization and choose the Interdisciplinary Art Practice option are expected to produce a body of works with a minimum of 8 artworks or equivalent in various mediums and produce a final exhibition at the end of Year II within the MGI or at a location of their choice in consultation with the SFA as part of the MVA 6010 module.

Important Note

Students are advised to consult the “General Information to Students’ booklet available at the Registrar’s office of the University of Mauritius or at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute library for further details, or the website of the University of Mauritius.

8. LIST OF MODULES

Module code	Module Name	¹ L/T/P# (Contact Hours)	Self Study Hrs	Other Learning Hrs	LCCS Credits
CORE MODULES (YEARLY AND SEMESTER					
MVA 5010 (Y)	Interdisciplinary Studio Practice/ Specialization Core / Curation Theory	60	120	180	12
MVA 5017	Critical Issues in Contemporary Art	60	120	180	12
MVA 5101	Experimental Video Art	50	70	60	6
MVA 5103	Research Methodology	30	60	90	6
MVA 6010 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Interdisciplinary Art Practice Option	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6012 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in Painting	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6013 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in Printmaking	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6014 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in Sculpture	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6015 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in New Media	20 (individual directed	240	100	12

		learning/ supervision)			
MVA 6017 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in Art Theory	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000	Dissertation	-	-	-	12
TO CHOOSE ELECTIVE(S) OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT					
Electives MVA 5202 MVA 5203	Ephemeral Art Blogging and Social Media for Art Writers	50	70	60	6
Electives MVA 5204 MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement Photography	50	70	60	6

1. Contact Hours = L=(Lectures) + T= (Tutorials) + P¹= (Practicals)
2. Offering of Electives would be subject to availability of resources and critical mass
The Department reserves the right to offer additional Electives.

9. PROGRAMME PLAN

Year 1 (Common to all Specializations)

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 5010 (Y)	Interdisciplinary Studio Practice / Specialization Core Curation Theory	60	120	180	12
MVA 5017 (Y)	Critical Issues in Contemporary Art	60	120	180	12
MVA 5101	Experimental Video Art ¹	50	70	60	6
MVA 5103	Research Methodology ¹	30	60	90	6
Electives Either MVA 5202	Ephemeral Art ²	50	70	60	6
Or MVA 5203	Blogging and Social Media for Art Writers ²	30	60	90	
SUBTOTAL					42

Year 2 Specialization in Painting

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6012 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in Painting	20 (Individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation				12
Electives Either MVA 5204 Or MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement ³ Photography ³	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

Year 2 Specialization in Printmaking

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6013 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in Printmaking	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
Electives Either MVA 5204 Or MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement ³ Photography ³	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

Year 2 Specialization in Sculpture

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6014 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in Sculpture	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
Electives Either MVA 5204 Or MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement ³ Photography ³	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

Year 2 Specialization in New Media

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6015 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in New Media	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
<i>Electives</i> <i>Either</i> MVA 5204 <i>Or</i> MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement ³ Photography ³	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

Year 2 Specialization in Art Theory

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6017 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition with Specialization in Art Theory	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
<i>Electives</i> <i>Either</i> MVA 5204 <i>Or</i> MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement ³ Photography ³	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

Year 2 Interdisciplinary Art Practice Option

Module code	Modules	L*/T*/P* (Contact Hours)	Self-study Hrs/ Wk	Other Learning Hrs/Wk	LCCS Credits
MVA 6010 (Y)	Curatorial Studies Exhibition in Interdisciplinary Art Practice	20 (individual directed learning/ supervision)	240	100	12
MVA 6000 (Y)	Dissertation	(individual directed learning/ supervision)			12
<i>Electives</i> <i>Either</i> MVA 5204 <i>Or</i> MVA 5205	Art and Social Engagement ³ Photography ³	50	70	60	6
SUBTOTAL					30
TOTAL					72

¹Modules taught and examined in Semester 1;

²Modules taught and examined in Semester 2;

³Module(s) normally run in Year 2 Semester 1, subject to availability of resources

⁴Modules(s) normally run in Year 2 Semester 2, subject to availability of resources modules carrying 6 LCCS Credits will be examined at the end of respective Semesters in which they are run.

* This Programme has been reviewed in 2022