

Western Carolina University MFA Admission and Application Information

MFA applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in a visual arts discipline and submit the required materials through the WCU Slate online application portal.

Applicants with bachelor's degrees in other fields will be considered if their portfolio demonstrates the ability to pursue graduate-level work.

A minimum GPA of 3.00 in the undergraduate major is required for all applicants.

MFA Application Materials

1. Portfolio

Submit 15–20 artworks that provide an overview of your practice and/or demonstrate its current direction. This may include:

- **Images:** .jpg files at 5MB maximum file size, 1,200 pixels on the longest side at 72dpi
- **Video:** Excerpts or, preferably, complete works (maximum 3 minutes total runtime), submitted as .mp4 or .mov files at 5MB maximum file size. Please also include links if the work is hosted on YouTube or Vimeo.
- **Audio:** Excerpts or, preferably, complete works (maximum 3 minutes total runtime), submitted as .mp3 files with 5MB maximum file size. Please also include links if the work is hosted on SoundCloud.

After uploading each work in the [WCU Slate portal](#), include the following information:

- Title
- Dimensions
- Duration (video/audio only)
- Medium
- Date produced
- Optional notes or supporting text, including links for video or sound-based works. This brief description should help us understand the image.

2. Artist Statement (max. 200 words)

A concise statement describing your practice, material and media selection, and conceptual interests.

3. Statement of Intent (max. 500 words)

Explain your interest in pursuing an MFA, your goals, how you hope your practice will develop, and why you wish to study at WCU.

4. Letters of Recommendation

Three letters of recommendation are required. Please provide the names, titles, and email addresses for three professors or professionals with whom you have recently worked. Obtain their consent to provide a letter of recommendation for you. They will receive a request from the school once you have applied.

5. Academic Transcripts

Unofficial transcripts are acceptable at the time of application. For more information on transcripts, see <https://www.wcu.edu/apply/graduate-school/admissions/admission-requirements.aspx>



6. Resume/CV

Please submit an artist resume or CV that focuses on your educational and other accomplishments.

Portfolio Tips: Select examples of your strongest work, preferably from the last two years. A successful portfolio should clearly represent your work and demonstrate a cohesive visual and conceptual direction.

All images, videos, and audio files must be well-documented and properly scaled. Images should be in focus and evenly lit. Videos and audio files should open easily. Please be aware that portfolios are being judged with professional expectations. Those portfolios with poorly prepared or formatted materials may be ranked lower by the review committee.

Additional Information:

Graduate Application Portal:

<https://gradadmissions.wcu.edu/apply/>

Graduate School Admission Requirements

<https://www.wcu.edu/apply/graduate-school/admissions/admission-requirements.aspx>

International Applicants

<https://www.wcu.edu/learn/office-of-international-programs-and-services/internationalstudents/index.aspx#grad>

MFA Program, School of Art + Design: <https://www.wcu.edu/learn/departments-schools-colleges/fpa/artdesign/mfa/index.aspx>

Contact:

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