

MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN STUDIO

Low-Residency MFA

saic.edu/lowres



Forrest Orr
Where Have I Gone, 2022

Split Screen, 2022

Emergence, 2022

trans(t)ex(t)ual, 2021

The Low-Residency Master of Fine Arts (Low-Res MFA) is designed for the working, self-directed 21st-century artist whose life and schedule requires flexibility, with rigorous engagement with an artistic community.

Robust & Flexible Curriculum

Our three-year Master of Fine Arts program is a flexibly-structured plan of study open to artists, writers, educators, curators and historians. It integrates studio work with art history, theory, philosophy and poetry. Three consecutive six-week summer residencies at SAIC bring students together to participate in studio and classroom-based courses and symposia, with spring and fall semesters focused on online classes and remote home studio work supported by SAIC-based faculty and pairing with a local SAIC-sponsored program mentor. A rotating core of SAIC faculty delivers on-campus and online curricula, including individual and group critiques, one-on-one studio advising, art history and philosophy seminars, technical labs, discussion groups, online forums and thesis composition tutorials, as well as pedagogical and professional development workshops.



School of the Art Institute
of Chicago

Core Faculty

D. DENENGE DUYST-AKPEM

LEE BLALOCK

GREGG BORDOWITZ

CORRINE FITZPATRICK

NATHANAËL

JOHN NEFF

ANDREA RAY

PAMELA SNEED

For complete faculty listing visit:
saic.edu/lowres

Topic-Driven

The degree focuses on three distinct topics. The first year concentrates on mobilizing the senses and constructing objects to explore the capture, and destabilization, of the the viewer's attention. The second year explores sensation—the thoughts, feelings, moods, and actions driving the creative process, and the third year explores the history of perception, including the relationships between objects and their viewers.

Summer Sessions

Summer sessions are structured around weekly seminars and studio visits with faculty and visiting artists, a wide range of readings on methods of artmaking, distribution, and interpretation, and a series of specialized professional practice courses. Successive summers introduce students to resources necessary for off-campus semesters, studios and galleries in Chicago, and the development of networks and resources necessary for a successful transition into professional practice.

Visiting Artists and Scholars

During the summer residencies, visiting artists and scholars, who serve as role models for navigating the art world, spend four days each presenting their work, participating in the Graduate Studio Seminar and holding individual student and group studio visits with students. Summer 2022 visiting artists and scholars included: Lynne Cooke, Susanne DesRoches, Heather Dewey-Hagborg, Rachel Fallor, Laura Harris, Troy Michie, Fred Moten, Claire Pentecost, Guadalupe Rosales, Nancy Shaver, Pamela Sneed, and Wu Tsang. Our visitors often return. Pamela Sneed, an essential member of the Low-Res community since its inception, presented in summer 2021 to share recent exhibitions and publications. Hamza Walker, Director of LAXART, delivered the yearly commencement address for graduating students.

Curriculum Requirements

Studio - MFA 6009 Graduate Projects, Seminars and/or 3000 level and above studios	36
Art History/Theory Courses	18
Flex Credit Electives	6
Participation in all Graduate Studio Seminars	
Participation in the Graduate Exhibition or Equivalent	
Total Credit Hours	60

Application Process

Submit:

- ▶ Online application
- ▶ Application fee
- ▶ Official college transcripts
- ▶ Statement of purpose
- ▶ Letters of recommendation
- ▶ ePortfolio
- ▶ Résumé

For more information
on requirements,
please visit:

saic.edu/lowres

Visiting Artists & Scholars 2022

- LYNNE COOKE
- SUSANNE DESROCHES
- HEATHER DEWEY-HAGBORG
- RACHEL FALLER
- LAURA HARRIS
- TROY MICHIE
- FRED MOTEN
- CLAIRE PENTECOST
- GUADALUPE ROSALES
- NANCY SHAVER
- PAMELA SNEED
- WU TSANG

Commencement Speaker 2022

HAMZA WALKER



Noura Al Khasawneeth
 (On wall) *PPA: Personal Protective Amulet*, 2022
R-H-M: Bowl of Terror / Bowl of Healing, 2022

	SUMMER	FALL	SPRING	ANY SEMESTER
YEAR 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Graduate Studio Seminar (4.5 cr) ▪ Art History/Theory: Attention (3 cr) ▪ Professional Practices: Digital Interfaces (1.5 cr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Graduate Projects: Independent Studio (3 cr) ▪ Art History/Theory: Art Ideas (3 cr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Graduate Projects: Independent Studies (3 cr) ▪ Art History/Theory: Writing Art (3 cr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completion of Flex Credit Electives
YEAR 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Graduate Studio Seminar (4.5 cr) ▪ Art History/Theory: Sensation (3 cr) ▪ Professional Practices: Cultural Liaisons (1.5 cr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Graduate Projects: Independent Studio (3 cr) ▪ Art History/Theory: Special Topics (3 cr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Graduate Projects: Independent Studies (3 cr) ▪ Thesis Composition (4.5 cr) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completion of Flex Credit Electives
YEAR 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Graduate Studio Seminar (4.5 cr) ▪ Art History/Theory: Perception (3 cr) ▪ Thesis: Public Presentation (1.5 cr) ▪ Professional Practices: Expanded Networks (1.5 cr) 			

Estefanía Arriaza
Cloud I, 2022.



Graduate Admissions

36 South Wabash Avenue, suite 1201

Chicago, IL 60603

Phone 312.629.6100 / 800.232.7242

gradmiss@saic.edu

Application Deadline: January 10

For application requirements,
visit saic.edu/lowres

SAIC

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of Chicago**