

**Department of History of Art & Architecture Graduate
Admissions Information and Requirements
(Revised August 9, 2023)**

Applications and requirements for admission to the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences can be found via:

<http://www.bu.edu/cas/prospective-students/graduate-admissions/apply/application-requirements-and-deadlines/>

The following pertains to information and requirements particular to the Department of History of Art & Architecture.

Application deadlines for Graduate Admission

Graduate Program Admission	Application Deadline
Spring 2024 (MA applicants only)	October 12, 2023
Fall 2024	January 10, 2024

Course load

The typical course load for doctoral candidates is three to four courses (12 to 16 credits) per semester. Post-BA doctoral students complete 16 courses (64 credits); post-MA doctoral students complete eight courses (32 credits). Doctoral students holding a master's degree from a program outside of art or architectural history may be required to take additional courses, at the discretion of the advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies. The typical course load for MA candidates is two courses (eight credits) per semester. MA students registering for fewer than three courses may submit a request for full-time certification. Please see the official GRS registration policy.

<http://www.bu.edu/academics/grs/policies/registration/>.

Museum Studies Certificate

The Museum Studies Certificate program does not have a separate application. The Department of History of Art & Architecture offers the option of pursuing the Certificate solely to its graduate degree candidates. Completion of the MA with the Museum Studies Certificate requires nine components, including a graduate-level internship. The internship can be taken either for or without credit. For more information please see:

<https://www.bu.edu/haa/academics/graduate-program/museum-studies/>

Financial aid

Please see the *Graduate Student Handbook* for a list of fellowships and assistantships in support of graduate study in History of Art & Architecture at Boston University. There is no separate application for financial aid. International applicants are eligible for financial aid.

Type of Financial Aid	Eligibility	Benefits and responsibilities
Five-year Dean’s Fellowships	PhD candidacy	Full-time course load. Tuition and fees covered, plus stipend. No duties for first, fourth, and fifth years; second and third years: lead discussion sections and grade in undergraduate courses. Duties may include leading lecture classes.
Tuition scholarships	MA candidacy	<p>A limited number of merit-based tuition scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis to students entering the MA program. This financial aid may be accompanied by a stipend for planning exhibitions in BU’s Stone Gallery. Given satisfactory academic progress, the aid package is renewed in the second year of study. Financial aid is not awarded solely for the second year of study.</p> <p>Tuition for four courses (16 credits) during the academic year 2023-24: \$31,904 plus fees. Tuition is determined by credit; it generally increases each year. The MA degree requires completion of eight courses (32 credits). Although a full course load in the MA program is eight credits per semester, this is considered part-time by the university. Students enrolled in the MA program can request to receive full-time equivalency at eight credits per semester. For cost per credit (part-time) and fee schedule, see https://www.bu.edu/reg/registration/tuition-fees/</p>

Application Components

Writing sample

Submission of a writing sample is required. A college research paper or thesis is acceptable for post-BA applicants; for post-MA applicants, the MA thesis or a substantial scholarly paper can be submitted. If you are unable to upload your writing sample to the application, please send it as an email attachment to grs@bu.edu after you have submitted the application. Please include in the email your name, your Boston University ID number, and the department to which you have submitted the application.

CV

All applicants upload a CV to the application.

Letters of recommendation

Three letters of recommendation are required of applicants to the PhD program; two letters of recommendation are required of applicants to the MA program. Recommendations from academic and/or curatorial professionals carry the most weight.

Personal Statement (required)

This is a summary of educational background, interests, and career goals.

Personal Background Statement (optional)

The purpose of the statement is to identify candidates who have unique perspective, experience and/or willingness to engage in activities that would enhance the diversity of our incoming class and/or campus inclusion and equity efforts.

Interview

An interview is not required. If you wish to discuss the program, please contact Professor Jonathan Ribner, Director of Graduate Admissions jribner@bu.edu.

GRE

The GRE is not required; scores will not be considered by the Admissions Committee.

Deferral of Admission

If you are offered admission to the PhD program but wish to start at a later date, you may ask that your admission be reconsidered for a future semester. However, there is no guarantee that you will again be offered admission. For information regarding deferral of admission, see the GRS policy here: <https://www.bu.edu/cas/admissions/phd-mfa/apply/frequently-asked-questions/deferrals/>. Questions regarding deferral of admission to the MA program should be directed to the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences: grs@bu.edu.