



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Information for All Prospective Students

How long is the program?

The Masters in Curatorial Practice (MACP) is a 50-credit, two-year (four semesters) program.

Who should consider applying to our program?

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university. Applicants are expected to have a thorough knowledge of 20th-century art history and contemporary art, or the equivalent in their cultural field, through their undergraduate education or proven in their subsequent work experience. Applicants with prior curatorial experience who are seeking the next level of advancement for their careers are encouraged. We are particularly interested in candidates who will contribute to an intellectual community with curatorial work at its center that enriches the program and the larger cultural scene, as we consider the program a professional hub within the art world as a global network.

What will benefit me as a student toward professional work in the curatorial field?

A key point of our Masters program is to present you with as many professional connections as possible to create a network of your own with curators at institutions in New York, across the United States, and around the world. In fact, each week you'll be meeting with them to hear what they are working on and talk with them directly to make these connections. And of course, our faculty and faculty-at-large include curators and experts from major New York institutions, as well as such international museums as the Moderna Museet in Stockholm and MAXXI in Rome. Internship opportunities have already been offered to us at important museums and other cultural institutions in New York and around the country. We believe that the greater the exposure we can provide, along with the depth and intensity of the education we offer, the greater the opportunity for you to find curatorial placement at the end of the program, whether at a museum, a gallery, a Kunsthalle, an alternative space, a corporate collection, a foundation, or begin by working independently.

Who do I contact if I have any questions about the application?

Steven Henry Madoff is Chair of the department. Jovana Stokic is Deputy Chair. Please contact us directly. By phone: +1 212 592 2274. By email: macp@sva.edu. Our mailing address is:

SVA MA Curatorial Practice
136 W. 21st Street, 408F
New York, NY 10010

What is the application deadline and process?

While we have begun the admissions process, rolling admissions continue. If accepted for our program, which starts in mid-August, it is helpful to have a comfortable amount of time to arrange finances and housing. If you are applying as an international student, be sure to allow extra time for the translation of transcripts, as well as for visas and other paperwork that will be needed if you are accepted.

Information for International Students

Can international students apply to this program?

Yes. Any student without U.S. citizenship will be required to obtain a visa prior to traveling to the U.S. Most students will apply for an F-1 visa, although certain other visa types are also acceptable for studying in the U.S. The College does provide support services for obtaining the visa. However, students are responsible for all costs and fees, including FedEx expenses, for processing visas. Please seriously consider starting the application early to allow for extra time for translation of transcripts and TOEFL score reports and other requirements. Please contact the International Student Office by email if you need any clarification on this issue: iso@sva.edu.

Am I eligible for F-1 visa benefits, such as employment eligibility?

Federal regulations are very strict about employment for F-1 students. They are not eligible for paid or unpaid off-campus employment or internships.

What is the English language requirement?

Our curriculum devotes considerable time to the development of your writing, which makes it essential that you exhibit a strong command of both spoken and written English. MACP applicants must have a minimum score of 110 (Internet-based) TOEFL to be considered for admission. Detailed information can be found on SVA's international student page [here](#), which includes answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

Tuition and Fees

How much is tuition?

Estimated tuition is \$15,060 per semester.

What additional fees am I responsible for?

Graduate Departmental Fees (per semester) are \$250. Estimated fees for supplies are \$500 a year. Students are expected to supply their own computer (Mac with OSX or PC with Windows 7 or higher). As well, students must have standard software, such as Microsoft Office. Computers will be networked through the College for shared use of printers and scanners.

Financial Aid

What are my options for financial aid?

[The SVA Office of Financial Aid](#) coordinates sources of aid to meet as much of students' financial needs as possible. The site includes a list of free scholarship search engines. The [2014-2015 Graduate Catalog](#) has some useful background, starting on page 280, that includes scholarship resources.

Do SVA and our department offer any scholarships?

SVA will match twenty-five percent of any outside scholarship, up to \$2500, that a student obtains for enrollment at SVA. There are also SVA Alumni Scholarship Awards. These interdepartmental awards offer support for the direct costs of completing a final thesis project. The grant ranges from \$500 to \$2,000, based on academic and artistic merit as determined by a review panel, and financial need as demonstrated by your project budget. Our department offers partial-tuition scholarships for first-year students, based on submitted applications. No special application form is necessary. As well, limited research assistantships are available.

How do I apply for financial aid?

All students who intend to apply for financial aid will be asked to indicate their intentions as part of the online application process. Then, instructions are as follows depending on whether or not you are a U.S. citizen or international:

For U.S. students:

All U.S. students applying for financial aid must fill out a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), which can be found [here](#).

For international students:

All international students must provide [Graduate Declaration of Finance Form \(2014-2015\)](#).

Are international students eligible for Federal Student Aid?

Students who are attending the MACP program on a student visa do not qualify for federal and state Financial Aid. There are some alternative loans that you can apply for with a co-signer who is a U.S. Citizen. We also recommend applying for scholarships. You may research scholarship opportunities at <http://www.iefaf.org>, a scholarship search

engine which focuses on international students. We highly recommend prospective candidates to seek out financial support from their country's governmental cultural institutions and other foundations.

What if I have more questions about financial aid?

If you have additional questions about the process or the forms, please consult SVA's [Financial Aid Frequently Asked Questions](#).

The Curriculum

Is the program accredited by NASAD?

Yes, we are fully accredited.

What is the structure of the program?

During each semester of both years, all the courses are required of all students. Students should expect to be in classes or engaged in related activities each week of each semester. (During the final semester, independent work on your final curatorial project will replace almost all class time.) The curriculum is founded on a series of case study seminars; writing workshops; practicums in every aspect of exhibition-making and other forms of curatorial practice; and programmatic engagements with curators, artists, and experts who will meet with the students as a group and on an individual basis. Internships/mentorships, as well as the possibility of exchange programs abroad, will be worked out with each student to best meet their goals.

Can I take SVA undergraduate classes?

MACP requires two art practice courses taken on the undergraduate level, unless special experience allows for these classes to be done at the graduate level with the Chair's approval. However, as the MACP curriculum and basic requirements are highly time-intensive, we do not recommend that students add extra courses to their workloads. MACP students may, with the Chair's approval, audit one undergraduate or one continuing education course each semester.

Attending SVA: Housing and Work

Does SVA offer housing?

SVA offers students several housing options to fit all living preferences and budgets. The George Washington and Ludlow Residence are traditional style residence halls that offer single and double room options. The New Residence, 10th Street, and Gramercy Women's Residence Halls offer students apartment-style living. For the information on a tour of our residence halls, see <http://www.sva.edu/student-life/housing/faq>.

How do I apply for housing?

If you are an incoming student and you have received your acceptance letter from SVA, submit your housing deposit and your enrollment fees to the Office of Admissions. They will update your student status and will inform our office of your interest. You will then receive an email inviting you to complete the online housing application. If you are a current SVA student, please email reslife@sva.edu and check MySVA for updates.

Can I maintain a full-time or part-time job while pursuing the degree?

Students may have part-time jobs as they complete their coursework. All students must, however, attend all classes and dedicate their time to the program. Given the demands of the program, it is expected that students make sufficient time to do their academic work thoroughly. It is important to note that international students on F-1 student visas are not eligible for work off-campus.

Is paid work available at SVA?

Our program offers some paid teaching and/or research assistantships on a competitive basis. The nature of these positions varies from year to year, and the positions are announced during the academic year to enrolled students. Potential students are only eligible to apply for these positions once enrolled in the program. International students are eligible to apply for paid positions at SVA even if holding an F-1 visa.