

SENIOR THESIS IN STUDIO ART

1. Find a potential faculty advisor to discuss your ideas for a thesis no later than the spring of your junior year.
2. Develop a written proposal in consultation with your advisor
3. Make a list of all art and art history courses completed to date and assemble a portfolio of past studio work. Slides or actual art work are permissible.

Written proposals for studio art thesis projects will be due at the end of the first week of classes by 4:00 p.m. in the Art Dept. Office. The studio faculty will meet to review proposals and make recommendations before the add/drop deadline.

Your written proposal should tell us about the interests that currently propel your studio inquiry. What do you hope to learn by doing a self-directed body of work? Although many of your ideas will unfold in time, you should have a clear idea of how you will begin, and where you see yourself headed. Tell us about the formal, conceptual and technical questions that you would like to focus upon through your work. What experiences have prepared you to take on a year of self-directed research in this area? Do you have the necessary background / tools / skills to take on the project that you are proposing? What kind of assistance will you require from your advisor and other faculty members? What will be your timetable for assessing your progress and focusing your project? Written proposals should be no more than 2-3 pages, typed.

In addition to the written thesis proposal, you should provide us with a list of the studio art and art history courses you have completed to date, along with the names of your instructors and the grade you received in each course. (Seniors doing thesis projects must qualify for honors in the major, and must have completed most of the major requirements). Please indicate which studio professor has agreed to advise your thesis work.

Photos or examples of past work (no more than 5-10) should also accompany your proposal, so that all members of the studio faculty may better understand the context of your proposal. While your named thesis advisor will work with you most closely, the entire studio faculty will be interested in your development and available for advice and feedback.

A tentative 360/Thesis class time will be scheduled as a group meeting / crit time. You must be able to attend these meetings.

At the end of the first semester, the Studio Faculty Committee determines whether the student should continue her project as a 370 in the Spring and conveys its decision to the student by December 20th. In a case where it is recommended that the Senior Thesis not be continued into the second semester, a student would receive credit for 360 work on the completion of a schedule of work previously agreed to between the thesis advisor and the student.

Any questions? Contact Salem Mekuria, Director of Studio Art, for answers.