

**DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS AND NEW MEDIA**  
**24 Credit-Hour Review Process and Requirements - Studio**

One of the requirements for completing a major in the Visual Arts and New Media at Fredonia is participation in the 24 Credit-Hour Review. Its purpose is to provide Visual Arts and New Media students an opportunity to have their work critiqued by a group of faculty, some of whom will be outside a student's anticipated area of study. It also presents the students with an opportunity to think, write, and speak about their work and artistic direction, and to get an overview of their progress. It is an important exercise in preparing students for their final years of work.

Participation in 24 Credit-Hour Review is a graduation requirement and will be used to evaluate student progress. It is also used to award the Chautauqua Craft Alliance and Marano/Gnirke Scholarships. 24 Credit-Hour Review scores are also used in conjunction with the BFA Review. Students who score 8.5 or greater during the 24 Credit-Hour Review, along with a 3.25 or higher GPA in all Visual Art and New Media courses and 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA, along with approval of the major area may gain advanced acceptance to BFA programs without another committee review.

Students who have completed, or are in the process of completing, 24 credit hours of Visual Arts and New Media courses, including art history and studio transfer credit hours, but excluding VAP, must participate in this review. A list of eligible students will be posted outside the departmental office (RAC 217). A second list including the day/time schedules will be posted well before the review. The critiques will take place over a three-day period; participating students are excused from VANM courses during this period.

For the review, you should prepare:

- 1) A typewritten personal essay incorporating the topics listed below. These topics will open the dialogue between you and your committee and should be clearly, professionally written and carefully proofread. The topics should be addressed in narrative essay form, not in a numbered list, and must be approximately 500-1000 words (3-page maximum). Please provide four copies (one for each member of your committee and one for your permanent file) to the departmental secretary in RAC 217 by the due date. The essays should be clearly labeled with your name and your committee members' names. It is your responsibility to provide four stapled copies. The departmental secretary will not make copies for you.
- 2) You should bring the following to your review session (organize the work by course);
  - As much work as possible from all the studio courses you have taken or are taking here at Fredonia. Transfer students may bring work from courses taken at another institution but please label as to when the course was taken and where. (Large work or work no longer available may be shown through digital documentation).
  - All sketchbooks/journals filled or being filled either for personal use or as a course requirement. Also include any thumbnails or roughs.
  - Work done on your own, outside of a regular class.

You will be required to speak about your artwork and your experiences in the department during the review. Reviewers will evaluate your ability to orally express your thoughts clearly and effectively. You will be evaluated on your ability to explain and describe the material presented, clearness of presentation, level of critical thinking and effective communication technique.

See the schedule posted by the secretary's office for location and day/time. Come at the appointed time and place; reviews lasting 30minutes (with fifteen minute breaks between reviews) are held in rotation between RAC 320, 321, 323, 328, 231, 239 and McEwen 106. Allow one hour in total for the review since you will have setup time before your committee arrives,

the review itself, and time to dismantle before the next review group enters the room. Please be sure to arrive at least fifteen minutes early to keep on schedule. You should group your work by course and clearly label the work with the course name and number.

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**24 Credit-Hour Review Essay Discussion Topics - Studio**

In addition to the presentation of your artwork for review, you should prepare a typewritten personal essay incorporating the topics listed below. These topics will open the dialogue between you and your committee and should be clearly, professionally written and carefully proofread. The topics should be addressed in narrative essay form, not in a numbered list, and must be approximately 500-1000 words (3-page maximum). Please provide four copies (one for each member of your committee and one for your permanent file) to the departmental secretary in RAC 217 by the due date. The essays should be clearly labeled with your name and your committee members' names. It is your responsibility to provide four stapled copies. The departmental secretary will not make copies for you.

Your personal statement should address the following questions:

- a) Discuss your education. Why have you chosen to study in Visual Arts & New Media at SUNY Fredonia? What possibilities excite you about your studies and personal research? What are your strengths and weaknesses as a student and artist? How do you supplement your formal education in the arts outside of classroom activities?
- b) Discuss your art-making process. Do you use a sketchbook? Where do you find inspiration? Do you self-edit or seek input from others? What materials or studio disciplines do you enjoy most? What challenges do you face? How can you improve?
- c) Discuss the content of your work. What content are you interested in exploring in your work? How do you expand your content into new/different areas? What makes a successful piece to you? How successful are you at visually expressing your ideas? How can you improve?
- d) Discuss craftsmanship. Are you good at executing a well-crafted finished product? What do you do well? How can you improve?
- e) Discuss your immediate and long-term goals. What do you hope to achieve at Fredonia? What are your plans after graduating? What will you need to do to prepare yourself to meet your goals?