About the Program

The Fibers and Materials Studies program at the Tyler School of Art and Architecture is a two-year, 60-credit program leading to the Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) degree that pushes students to refine their aesthetic and embrace a broad definition of material exploration in relation to relevant global issues. Under the mentorship of an influential and diverse faculty and visiting artists on the cutting-edge of creative practice and critical inquiry, students find a compassionate, inclusive environment primed for experimentation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and independent study.

Students have unlimited access to Tyler’s state-of-the-art equipment and the abundant resources of Temple, a large public research university, to drive their research-based concepts. Fibers and Materials Studies M.F.A. students also collaborate across the school through projects like Tyler’s Natural Dye Garden, as well as leverage Philadelphia’s landscape and vibrant DIY art scene to conduct community-based projects; study social and political issues; and examine the relationship between materials, processes, and concepts.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 4 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: Full-time status is required.

Interdisciplinary Study: The Fibers and Materials Studies curriculum embraces material exploration—from community-based projects to experimental performance, sound, and video—in relation to issues surrounding identity, power, sustainability, and more. Through Art History classes, electives, and seminars, students are engaged in emerging topics in the field and the broader art world. Influential visiting artists and programs are matched to each cohort to accelerate their growth.

Study Abroad: Many Tyler M.F.A. students choose to pursue summer study abroad opportunities at Temple University Rome, a home base for immersive artistic, academic, and cultural exploration for Tyler students since 1966. Historically, students who have immersed themselves in interdisciplinary thought and practice abroad have returned with their focused work strengthened.

Accreditation: This degree program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Areas of Specialization: In the Fibers program, equipment is available for traditional and contemporary techniques, including new technologies that allow the development of surface imagery with photographic stencils, as well as the creation of weave structures on a Jacquard Loom TC2. Students are encouraged to experiment with the materials, techniques, and concepts previously developed in their work.

Job Prospects: A Tyler Fibers and Materials Studies M.F.A. degree prepares graduates for a rigorous studio practice and develops their aptitude to teach at leading institutions. Graduates are prepared for careers as professional artists, craftspersons, designers, and educators.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: M.F.A. courses are restricted to matriculated students.

Financing Opportunities: In addition to federal student aid, teaching assistantships and fellowships are available on a competitive basis to support Tyler M.F.A. students.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: January 6

All applications are evaluated together after the deadline date.

APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.

Letters of Reference:

Number Required: 3

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members, gallery directors, and/or curators familiar with the applicant's academic and artistic competence. The letters should be submitted with the application at https://apply.temple.edu/Tyler/, along with the statement of goals and resume.

Coursework Required for Admission Consideration: 40 undergraduate studio credits and 12 art history credits are required.
Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A baccalaureate degree and a portfolio specific to Fibers and Materials Studies are required. Official transcripts from all universities/colleges attended, whether or not a degree was awarded, must be sent to the Tyler School of Art and Architecture, Graduate Admissions Office, 2001 N. 13th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122-6016.

Statement of Goals: Approximately 500 to 1,000 words include your specific interest in Tyler’s program, your research goals, your future career goals, and your academic and artistic achievements.

Standardized Test Scores: Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master’s degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

- TOEFL iBT: 79
- IELTS Academic: 6.5
- PTE Academic: 53

Portfolio: As a Master of Fine Arts applicant, you must submit a portfolio that consists of 20 images representative of the immediate direction of your work. Portfolios are to be uploaded at https://temple.slideroom.com, as instructed at the website. SlideRoom requires an additional fee for this service. Original work, slides, CD-ROMs, catalogs, photographs, books, and/or binders are not acceptable substitutes for the SlideRoom portfolio and will not be reviewed or returned.

Resume: Current resume required.

Transfer Credit: Upon approval of the Department Coordinator, the student's advisor, and the Vice Dean, up to 9 credits of graduate work completed at Temple University within a five-year period may be transferred into the program. Up to 6 credits of graduate coursework taken at other accredited institutions within the prior five years before matriculation may be considered for transfer into the program after the student has enrolled. No decisions are made until students have successfully completed 15 matriculated credits at Tyler. The maximum number of credits a student may transfer is 9.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:
Number of Credits Required to Earn the Degree: 60

Required Courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project and Seminar Courses</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ART 8001</td>
<td>Graduate Professional Practices</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART 8201/8202</td>
<td>Graduate Projects, Fibers (4 terms) ¹</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART 8301/8302</td>
<td>Graduate Seminar, Ceramics/Glass/Fibers (4 terms) ¹</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART 9202</td>
<td>Graduate Thesis Research: Fibers</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART 9284</td>
<td>Graduate Thesis Exhibition: Fibers (2 terms)</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art History Courses ²</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Studio Electives ³</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
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1 Courses are sequenced to be taken in the Fall and Spring terms. The sequence is repeated a second year for a total of four courses taken over four terms.

2 Of the four required courses, two must be Art History Seminar classes chosen from a range of graduate offerings (5000 to 5800 or 8000 to 9980).

3 Course descriptions can be viewed on the Class Schedule (https://prd-wlssb.temple.edu/prod8/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched). Please note that taking any course under the 5000 level for graduate credit requires prior approval from the studio area head.

Culminating Events:

Thesis Exhibition:
An approved thesis exhibition, written statement of working philosophy, and slide and/or CD portfolio are required at the final review in order to meet the M.F.A. requirements. The thesis exhibition should be the fruit of the two years' studio research and practice in which the student engaged. The student defends her/his thesis exhibition to the review committee. The committee then evaluates the exhibition as pass with distinction, pass, or fail.
Contacts

Program Web Address:
https://tyler.temple.edu/programs/fibers-material-studies

Department Information:
Tyler School of Art and Architecture
Graduate Admissions Office
2001 N. 13th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6016
tylerart@temple.edu
215-777-9090

Mailing Address for Official Transcripts:
Tyler School of Art and Architecture
Graduate Admissions Office
2001 N. 13th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6016

Submission Address for Portfolio:
https://temple.slideroom.com/

Submission Address for All Other Application Materials:
https://apply.temple.edu/Tyler/

Department Contacts:
M.F.A. Program Director:
Jesse Harrod
jesseharrod@gmail.com
215-777-9023

Art Department Chairperson:
Chad D. Curtis
chad.curtis@temple.edu
215-777-9201

Courses

CRFT 8183. Graduate Projects, Ceramics. 3 to 6 Credit Hours.
Creative studies in ceramics for the master's degree candidate. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

- Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
- College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.
- Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8184. Graduate Projects, Ceramics II. 3 to 6 Credit Hours.
Creative studies in ceramics for the master's degree candidate. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

- Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
- College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.
- Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8201. Graduate Seminar, Ceramics/Glass/Fibers. 3 Credit Hours.
Creative studies and discussions related to career concerns in these fields. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

- Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
- Degree Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Degrees: Master of Fine Arts.
- College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.
- Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.
CRFT 8202. Graduate Seminar, Ceramics/Glass/Fibers II. 3 Credit Hours.
Creative studies and discussions related to career concerns in these fields. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Degree Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Degrees: Master of Fine Arts.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8283. Graduate Projects, Glass. 3 to 6 Credit Hours.
Creative studies in glass for the master's degree candidate. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8284. Graduate Projects, Glass II. 3 to 6 Credit Hours.
Creative studies in glass for the master's degree candidate. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8383. Graduate Projects, Fibers. 3 to 6 Credit Hours.
Creative studies in fibers for the master's degree candidate. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8384. Graduate Projects, Fibers II. 3 to 6 Credit Hours.
Creative studies in fibers for the master's degree candidate. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8401. Graduate Seminar, Metals. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
A study of the work of internationally recognized metalsmiths leads to discussions of the philosophical bases of contemporary metalwork. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8402. Metals Workshop. 3 Credit Hours.
A study of the work of internationally recognized metalsmiths leads to discussions of the philosophical bases of contemporary metalwork.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CRFT 8403. Graduate Seminar, Metals II. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
A study of the work of internationally recognized metalsmiths leads to discussions of the philosophical bases of contemporary metalwork. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.
CRFT 8483. Graduate Projects, Metals. 3 Credit Hours.
Creative studies in the areas of Metals, Jewelry and CAD/CAM for the master's degree candidate. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 8484. Graduate Projects, Metals II. 3 Credit Hours.
Creative studies in the areas of Metals, Jewelry and CAD/CAM for the master's degree candidate. Note: This course can only be taken twice for credit.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 9182. Graduate Independent Study. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Self-directed study and research developed in conjunction with, and supervised by, a senior faculty member in the major area of the student.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 9184. Graduate Thesis Exhibition: Clay. 3 Credit Hours.
The culminating visual presentation of the candidates’ creative research.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 9284. Graduate Thesis Exhibition: Glass. 3 Credit Hours.
The culminating visual presentation of the candidates’ creative research.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 9295. Graduate Thesis Research: Ceramics and Glass. 3 Credit Hours.
Research projects in the areas of teaching or technology are developed in consultation with the candidates’ professor and advisor.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**Degree Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Degrees: Master of Fine Arts.
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 9384. Graduate Thesis Exhibition: Fibers. 3 Credit Hours.
For graduate students in the Fibers area, working toward their M.F.A. degree. This course is required in the fourth semester of their residency. The work in this course is to culminate in the thesis exhibition.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.

**Pre-requisites:**
CRFT 9395| Required Courses:2|Minimum Grade of B|May not be taken concurrently.

CRFT 9395. Graduate Thesis Research: Fibers. 3 Credit Hours.
Research projects in the areas of teaching or technology are developed in consultation with the candidates’ professor and advisor.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.
CRFT 9484. Graduate Thesis Exhibition: Metals. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.  
The culminating visual presentation of the candidates’ creative research.  

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.  
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.  

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CRFT 9495. Graduate Thesis Research: Metals. 3 Credit Hours.  
Research projects in the areas of teaching, history, or technology are developed in consultation with the candidates’ professor and advisor.  

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.  
Degree Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Degrees: Master of Fine Arts.  
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Art Architecture, Tyler School.  

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.