November 27, 2006

Dean Robert Shay  
College of Fine Arts  
University of Kentucky

Dear Dean Shay:

Please find attached material related to changes in the Master of Arts in Art History “Plan A” program proposed by the Department of Art. Prompted by the recent accreditation report submitted by the visiting team from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD), we are in process of reassessing the various programs in our Department. The changes we propose here will bring our graduate program in Art History into line with NASAD’s recommended standards.

NASAD suggests that Masters programs in Art History consist of at least thirty hours of graduate course work. At present, the M.A. “Plan A” (thesis option) requires only twenty-four hours of course work. The Art History faculty propose to correct this deficiency by changing the program requirements from twenty-four to thirty.

In this regard the faculty also propose that we create and offer a new graduate-level course: A-H 747 Thesis preparation (3 cr.). The proposed new course will precede the existing A-H 748 Thesis research. This course may be repeated once for credit, providing up to six hours of credit for supervised thesis development. Completing two semesters of A-H 747 will allow students to achieve a total of thirty hours of graduate course work.

Students will also have the option, with the consent of their advisors, of taking other graduate courses besides or in addition to A-H 747 in order to meet the thirty credit hour minimum.

The Art Department approved the following changes proposed for the Art History MA Plan A, at the meeting of March 8, 2006. The CFA Curriculum Committee approved the changes as corrected October 17.

Thank you,

Benjamin C. Withers  
Associate Professor and Chair  
Department of Art
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM

Program: Art History

Department/Division: Art

College: Fine Arts Bulletin pp 50 (F05 Graduate Bulletin)

Degree Title (Old): M.A. in Art History Major (New):

CIP Code: 50.0703 HEGIS Code:

Accrediting Agency (if applicable): [we are in the process of applying for accreditation with NASAD, National Association of Schools of Art & Design]

I. CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Number of transfer credits allowed (Graduate School limit: 9 hours or 25% of coursework)
   Current: ___________________________ Proposed: same

2. Residence requirement (if applicable)
   Current: ___________________________ Proposed: n/a

3. Language(s) and/or skill(s) required
   Current: ___________________________ Proposed: same

4. Termination criteria
   Current: ___________________________ Proposed: ___________________________

5. Plan A requirements*
   1) a minimum of 24 credit hours of graduate coursework.*
   1) a minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate coursework.*
   --no other changes --no other changes

6. Plan B requirements*
   Current: ___________________________ Proposed: n/a

7. Distribution of course levels required (At least one half must be at 600+ level & two thirds must be in organized courses)
   Current: ___________________________ Proposed: same

8. Required courses (if applicable)
   Current: ___________________________ Proposed: n/a

9. Required distribution of courses within program (if applicable)
   Current: ___________________________ Proposed: n/a

10. Final examination requirements
    Current: ___________________________ Proposed: same

* If there is only one plan for the degree, plans involving a thesis (or the equivalent in studio work, etc.) should be discussed under Plan A and those not involving a thesis should be discussed under Plan B.
II. RATIONALE FOR CHANGE(S)
If the rationale involves accreditation requirements, please include specific references to those requirements.
The accreditation agency, NASAD, recommends 30 credits of course work. Requiring 30 credits parallels the current course requirement in the Option B of the M.A. in Art History.

Signatures of Approval:

Department Chair

Dean of the College

Date

Date of Notice to the Faculty

*Undergraduate Council

Date

*University Studies

Date

*Graduate Council

Date

Academic Council for the Medical Center

Date

Senate Council

Date of Notice to University Senate

*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate

ACTION OTHER THAN APPROVAL