

**THE GLASGOW
SCHOOL OF ART**

Master of Letters in Fine Art Practice

Guidelines for Applicants

Pathways

The MLitt in Fine Art Practice is a one year taught programme which runs for 12 months between September and September. It consists of the following six specialist pathways:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Performance
- Photography and the Moving Image
- Print Media
- Sculpture

Where can I find out more about the programme?

- You can meet GSA online for Advice & Introductions at Virtual Open Days and during more informal Meet your Department sessions taking place throughout the year. Find out about [events taking place](#) and [register an interest](#).
- You can find useful information about the MLitt in Fine Art Practice programme via the weblinks below. You should be aware of the focus of the programme you are applying to, its structure and content, as well as the opportunities available to you during your studies. It is important to make sure that the programme you are applying to meets your expectations.

[Programme overview on GSA website](#)

[Programme and course specifications](#)

Academic Entry Requirements

- Normally a UK Bachelors honours degree, or its international equivalent, in Fine Art or a related subject that gives appropriate grounding for postgraduate study. You should demonstrate knowledge of your chosen pathway and its contemporary practice.
- If you do not meet these academic entry requirements, we may still consider your application on the basis of your portfolio and or relevant professional experience.
- We seek to enrol self-motivated students who are determined critical thinkers, professionally orientated and understand that their commitment to the programme is a significant investment in their future.

English Language Entry Requirements

- GSA expects applicants to demonstrate proficiency in the English language. International applicants will normally be expected to provide evidence of attainment equivalent to International English Language Test (IELT) for UKVI Academic from a UKVI approved test centre.
- The MLitt in Fine Art Practice programme requires a score of 6.0 overall, with a minimum of 5.5 in each component.
- GSA's preferred test is the IELTS for UKVI (Academic) test taken at a UKVI approved test centre. A full list of [UKVI approved test centres](#) and [other tests](#) that may be presented are available on the GSA website.
- GSA also offer Pre-sessional English course called '[English for Creative Disciplines](#)'. Entry requirements and course content can be found on our website.

Starting an Application

- Your application to study for a postgraduate programme at GSA is in two parts:
 - Part 1. Application form, [personal statement](#), references and transcripts
 - Part 2. [Digital portfolio of work](#)
- You can [start an application on the GSA website](#). Once you have completed part 1 of the application process, GSA will acknowledge your application, and for programmes requiring a digital portfolio you will be directed to complete part 2.
- You are advised to upload your portfolio prior to the next [deadline date](#) to ensure it is assessed as early as possible.

Deadline dates

- Programmes begin in September. Although there are no application deadlines early application is encouraged in order to ensure a place on the programme. We guarantee to review all applications received before **12 February for 2021 entry**. Early application is encouraged in order to avoid disappointment.
- Applications are reviewed on a cyclical basis from November – August as shown below. Your application will need to be complete (part 1 and 2) by the date shown to enter the next review.

	Final date for applicants to submit application	Final date for decision to be with applicant
Review 1	16 November 2020	11 December 2020
Review 2	8 January 2021	29 January 2021
Review 3	12 February 2021	19 March 2021
Review 4	2 April 2021	7 May 2021
Review 5	21 May 2021	18 June 2021
Review 6	Applications received after 22 May	Rolling basis after 18 June
	8 August 2021 for international applications	

How is my application assessed?

Candidates for all pathways are assessed on their existing qualities as demonstrated in their:

1. Qualifications/Relevant Previous Experience
2. Personal Statement
3. Quality of Portfolio
4. Skill Range
5. Range of Research Interests
6. Potential for Development Within MLitt Programme

Digital Portfolio

- All applicants are required to submit a digital portfolio. Your portfolio will be assessed by academic staff and should contain examples of work that show an understanding and level of skill appropriate to the pathway you are applying to. The portfolio should also communicate your individual abilities, experiences and interests.
- You may include early work, but you are encouraged to focus on recent work made during the last 3 years. It is helpful to present your images in chronological order, beginning with the earliest.
- Specialist staff will look at your portfolio for approximately 10 minutes. Make sure that you curate and pace the pages so they will be able to assess your portfolio in the way you wish to present yourself.
- Guidelines for the [contents of your digital portfolio](#) and [how to upload](#) are included on the following slides.

Uploading your digital portfolio

We accept two formats for uploading a digital portfolio:

1. A single PDF file, consisting of approximately 20 pages (please note portfolios that are longer may not be fully read).
2. Or 25 individual images.

If including moving image or sound work:

- These can be viewed via a hyperlink (included in your PDF document) to Vimeo or YouTube. Access to these websites should not be password protected.
- These can be viewed by inputting a URL link into the designated field.
- The clips must be limited to a maximum of three minutes.

A link to your professional website can be included, however this should supplement the digital portfolio.

*** Please note, URL links to Dropbox folders or other external cloud services will not be accepted.**

What should I include in my digital portfolio?

1. Include fully resolved artwork with a focus on those pieces made in the past 3 years.
2. You can also include some work in progress to show recent experiments and explorations.
3. Do not try to fit too many images into the portfolio. Please keep it visually clear and simple.
4. Please include titles, the year the work was made and information about the materials, dimensions and duration of videos or performances.
5. If necessary you can include very brief descriptions that help to explain aspects of the artwork.
6. The portfolio should demonstrate your individual interests, approach and creativity.

Personal Statement

- **Your statement should consist of no more than 500 words. Statements that are longer may not be fully read.**
- Your personal statement should be a concise, critical, self-evaluation of your artwork, giving a clear sense of the key areas that your work explores, how you see your work developing in the future and how that relates to your application to the MLitt programme at GSA. The statement should demonstrate that you have researched the programme and identified which Pathway you are applying to and indicate the reasons why you think it would be best suited to the future development of your practice
- You may write about:
 - your reasons for applying to the specialist programme you have chosen at GSA
 - your interests and experiences within your pathway;
 - what you hope to gain by studying the specialist programme;
 - what you will contribute to the specialist programme;
 - how undertaking the specialist programme corresponds with your future ambitions.

You may also use the portfolio statement to expand upon a particular project or piece of work included in the digital portfolio.

Interview

The Mlitt Programme has taken the decision to suspend interviews this application year (2021/22) due to the current pandemic situation. The offer will be based on the submission of a portfolio and personal statement.

Group information meetings over zoom will be arranged for those applicants who have been offered a place on the Programme to be able to ask any questions about the Programme.

Further Information

[How to apply GSA webpage](#)

[List of Postgraduate degrees at GSA](#)

[GSA Open Events](#)

[Fees, Funding and Finance](#)

[Accommodation](#)

[Individual country guides](#)

[UKVI Requirements - Tier 4 Student Visa requirements](#)

[English for Creative Disciplines](#)

If you need further information about applying to postgraduate level study, email admissions@gsa.ac.uk

If you have a question about an existing application, email registry@gsa.ac.uk