Purpose of the review:
To place students into departmental majors most appropriate to their abilities, interests, and preparation. The review process determines which students will be admitted to the Studio Art major for the B.F.A. or the B.A. degree. The faculty will use the review to gain knowledge of your creative potential, motivation, academic skill, and communication abilities.

Students with studio art interests are initially admitted into the pre-studio art program, completing pre-studio core courses required for all majors in the department. For the pre-studio art review, you must also complete two 2000 level studio courses in your desired Studio Sub-plan emphasis area. The quality of your work in the pre-studio core and introductory studio courses is highly important in determining your placement, as is your record in general academic work. Think about your future life and career goals and about why these are important to you. Take good care of the artwork you create for each class you have.

What happens in the studio art review?
You will have a twenty-minute interview with studio art faculty members representing the Studio Sub-plan emphasis you wish to be admitted to. During the interview, you will present your portfolio of work from the pre-studio core and the 2000 level studio courses, and be asked questions about why you wish to complete a studio degree, as well as other related questions about your statement, work, your goals, and past experiences in art and design. As part of the review process, you will turn in an unofficial copy of your current UMD Transcript, a current APAS, and a copy of your statement. Faculty will retain the material for your review file.

When is the interview?
The review occurs prior to advising and registration, on the Friday of the eighth week, in both fall and spring semesters of each year. After completion of your first three semesters (and a minimum of 15 art and design credits), you should plan to participate in the review the next semester. You will be notified of the date and time of your review via email. (To receive this and other important information concerning your art and design degree program, it is essential that you check your UMD e-mail at least every 48 hours.)

What do I need to do to apply for entry into the Studio Art Major?
1. Successfully complete 15 art credits as follows: 9 credits (3 courses) selected from the pre-studio core courses (Art 1010, Art 1011, Art 1012, Art 1013) and 6 credits (2 courses) from the 2000 level studio courses for your desired Studio Sub-plan emphasis area.
2. Earn a minimum G.P.A. (grade point average) of 2.0 in art and design classes and 2.0 overall. If you do not meet this G.P.A. requirement, you may continue to take art and design courses required for all majors in an effort to improve your G.P.A. You may apply when you meet the G.P.A. requirement.
3. If you do meet the above requirements, enroll in ART 0902 Studio Art Portfolio Review. This is a no-cost, noncredit course number. You must enroll by the end of the second week of the semester in which you apply for entry in the program. The Department of Art and Design and the Studio Area Head will check student eligibility after course registration.

How should I prepare for the review?
1. Prior to the review date, prepare a concise, well written, spell checked, one to three page, word-processed artist statement reflecting your best writing ability. Your statement should be on 8 1/2” x 11” paper, double-spaced 12-point type, with 1-inch margins. In your statement, address the topic: Your influences (i.e., contemporary and historic artists, other issues or fields of interest, etc.), goals, aspirations, skills and personal traits you may have to attain them. Submit your statement a week prior to the Portfolio Review via e-mail (rnakajim@d.umn.edu) as a MS Word document with unofficial copy of your current UMD Transcript, a current APAS and a list of works you are planning to submit for the review. The APAS and unofficial transcript are available online.
2. Select ten of your best and most creative works from the pre-studio core courses and two 2000 level studio courses. A minimum of five of those works should be from the 2000 level studio courses taken in your desired Studio
Sub-plan emphasis area. Students applying for Digital Art and Photography should bring their work from classes most related to the area, which may include both still images and time-based (moving) works. Transfer students may submit works from art and design classes or introductory studio classes completed at another accredited college or university as part of their ten-piece portfolio.

2a. The actual work is required for review. No photo documentation will be accepted unless there are substantial reasons for not being able to present the original piece. Exemptions to this policy require prior approval from the Studio Area Head and will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Flatwork should be submitted in a portfolio (purchased or constructed) that shows the work to its best advantage, meaning clean, sturdy and professional. Work produced in digital-based classes should be submitted as high-quality prints rather than on a disk. Time-based works should be submitted on DVD, with a three minute maximum. If necessary, record the specific three minutes of a long work you want us to review. If you need assistance regarding the presentation of your work, seek advice from a professor in your desired emphasis area. Additionally, you should prepare a checklist of the works you are submitting, indicating: title, date, dimensions, medium(s), class in which the work was produced and any other information that you feel is relevant to the work. For work created by a team, include names of all involved, and your role in the production. The checklist will be due at the same time as your artist’s statement.

2b. For DAP majors: For those most interested in still photography, we strongly encourage selecting works from your fundamentals classes that include photography (you may have created some in 2D Digital Design, for example), and certainly work from Photo 1. For transfer students or students who have been in UMD Art & Design longer than as first semester sophomores, none of your work has to be from the 1xxx foundations courses, if you have more recent examples. We want to see your best work that is photography-related. You might show us in a series how you’ve successfully developed your idea; you may count 2-3 images from a series as one of your ten works. If you have worked in film/video here, you also may include maximum 3-minute works using the information from the above paragraph.

What criteria are considered to determine admission?
1. Quality of your portfolio work and its presentation
2. Grade point average: minimum of 2.0 in art and design courses, and 2.0 overall
3. Completion of a minimum of 15 credits from art core courses and two courses from 2000 level introductory studio courses in your desired sub-plan emphasis
4. Ability to speak about your work
5. Your writing ability

What if I am not accepted?
Students who are not accepted at the time of their first application have several options. One is to take additional pre-studio core or studio courses, prepare an improved portfolio and reapply the following semester. You may reapply once. You may also consider reapplying in one of the other Sub-plan emphasis areas.
Another option is to consider the other programs in the department, which include the BA in Art History, the BFA in Graphic Design, and the BFA in Art Education K-12. Check with the Art and Design Office (317 Humanities Building) for more information. If you decide to change to one of the other majors in Art and Design, you will need to complete a change of major form available from the Art and Design Office.

How do I find out if I am admitted?
All students who apply receive a formal letter informing them of the review results within two weeks of the review. A list of accepted students also will be posted on the bulletin board near the Art and Design Office, as soon as determinations are made.

Whom do I see if I have questions?
See Professor, Ryuta Nakajima (Studio Area Head, makajim) or studio art faculty teaching in your desired Studio Sub-plan emphasis area.
F A Q's regarding studio portfolio reviews:

I have a series of work that I feel needs to be seen as a whole- is that possible?

Yes. A complete series can be included as "one" piece in the 10-piece portfolio, or individual works may be shown at the student's discretion.

Can I include work that was done outside of class?

Yes, but this is not encouraged. If the work addresses the assessment criteria, is relevant to the desired studio track and was produced while in or between semesters of continuing enrollment in college-level courses, it may be included. But, remember, that a minimum of 5 works in the portfolio DO need to be from required studio classes, either from UMD or another accredited school.

Should I mat and/or frame my work?

No, that's not necessary. A professional submission is one where the work is shown to its best advantage in a clean portfolio that opens flat and is large enough to completely protect the work.

Must I sign, title and date each work?

No. This information should be included in your review checklist- a separate sheet. The individual works need not be signed/dated, etc.

I am an advanced-level student either changing studio tracks or adding an additional studio track. How should I select my work?

The criteria doesn't change- show your best work, but remember that at least 5 of the 10 works need to be selected from the required studios in the track to which you are currently applying. Consult the assessment rubric provided.

I have work that requires advance installation for proper viewing. Will I have time to do that?

Yes. Students are notified in advance as to where and when the review will take place. These rooms can generally be made available for pre-review set-ups, beginning the evening before the scheduled review. (Alert the studio area head in advance) Students will have to do their own planning regarding securing easels, pushpins or other display needs. Breakdown will likely have to occur after all the interviews have been completed, but should also be planned by the student.

I am very close to the required GPA's and am doing well this term. May I take the review now?

No. The specified minimum GPA's for art course and for overall academic performance are set. You may re-apply when you meet the minimum requirements.

I'm having difficulty selecting my "best work"- what can I do?

Take some time to remember critique, consider the grade you received, solicit feedback from objective viewers. Faculty are generally available to discuss strengths and weaknesses in student work, but they will not make these selections for you. Consider this as the first part of the review. Your selections indicate your grasp of the criteria. Whatever you select, you should be prepared to articulate your reasons for doing so.

I have an additional questions- what should I do?

Contact the Studio Area Head
Additional Information for the Digital Art and Photography Portfolio Review

Please note: Students going through the DAP portfolio review may include video works from ART 1800 Creating Visual Narratives in their portfolio. This option is not available to students in the other studio review areas.

**Digital Art** includes a wide range of media options, from print to screen based works. When possible, student portfolios should reflect the digital media they want to pursue at UMD.

**Including Video / Film / Time-based Media in your portfolio?**
If the student is interested in video and film, it would be great to see a very short sample of a time-based media project (motion-graphics, animation, or video). There are many ways to showcase time-based works, including pre-production storyboards, post-production storyboards, and sequential stills as printed examples. Students can also bring a DVD to show a short clip of the work. Please save the work sample in an easily viewable format: QuickTime movie clips are preferred. Due to time constraints during portfolio review, movie files must be very easy to view and very short. Please, make your samples NO longer than 3 minutes. You can select a portion of a longer project to share. It would be appropriate for a student to share storyboards, still frames, and a quicktime movie clip, all from a single digital video project.

**Photography** includes both digital prints and those made in alternative processes, such as cyanotype. Some students combine media, and your work in some classes may be made in book form or viewed as a website. When possible, student portfolios should reflect the area/s of greatest interest they want to pursue as a DAP the major.

**Including Photography in your portfolio?**
For those most interested in still photography, we strongly encourage selecting works from your fundamentals classes that include photography (you may have created some in Art 1013, for example), and certainly work from Photo 1. For transfer students or students who have been in UMD Art & Design longer than as first semester sophomores, none of your work has to be from the 1xxx foundations courses, if you have more recent examples. We want to see your best work that is photography related. If you have worked in film/video here, you also may include maximum 3-minute works using the information from the above paragraph.

**And about your Artist Statement, for either direction in DAP:** Don't forget to include and explain what your creative and conceptual interests are in pursuing a Studio-DAP degree! That's an important part of your statement.