

SAIC FACULTY CREDENTIAL TABLE

Faculty teaching in higher education institutions should have completed a program of study (recognised terminal degree) in the discipline or subfield (as applicable) **in which they teach**, and/or for which they **develop curricula**, with coursework **at least one level above** that of the courses being taught or developed.

Completion of a degree in a specific field enhances an instructor's depth of subject matter knowledge and is easily definable. The Higher Learning Commission expects that all of the institutions it accredits follow Assumed Practices, a set of practices shared by institutions of higher education in the United States that are generally matters to be determined as facts, rather than matters requiring professional judgment and (2) unlikely to vary by institutional mission or context. **The determination of qualified faculty as outlined below is one such practice.**

The credentialing information* listed below is based on courses as they appear in the 2025-2026 Academic Year Catalog and are the required guidelines for full-time and part-time faculty.

Studio Departments	BFA in Studio Undergraduate 1000-3000 level courses	BFA in Studio Undergraduate 4000 level courses Graduate faculty status	Various Degrees; Graduate level courses Graduate faculty status
Contemporary Practices (CP)	Terminal degree or equivalent: MFA with specialty relative to course content being taught OR other Master's degree with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught. Professional equivalency: Appropriate undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. Additionally: in exceptional instances the professional research profile with national/international peer recognition within the field/discipline and relative to the course being taught.	N/A	N/A
Architecture, Interior Architecture		MArch: M.Arch or equivalent terminal degree determined by the discipline with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught. MFA: M.Arch or equivalent terminal degree determined by the discipline with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught.	M. Arch or Ph.D
Designed Objects		MFA: MArch OR MDES, MID, MDDO, MFA with specialty relative to course content being taught OR equivalent terminal degree determined by the discipline with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught. MDDO: MArch OR MDES, MID, MDDO, MFA with specialty relative to course content being taught OR equivalent terminal degree determined by the discipline with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught.	MArch OR MDES, MID, MDDO, MFA with specialty relative to course content being taught OR equivalent terminal degree determined by the discipline with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught. MArch OR MDES, MID, MDDO, MFA with specialty relative to course content being taught OR equivalent terminal degree determined by the discipline with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught.
Art, Technology, Sound Practices (AT/SP)		Terminal degree or equivalent: MFA with specialty relative to	Terminal degree or equivalent: MFA with specialty relative to

Ceramics		course content being taught OR other Master's degree with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught.	course content being taught OR other Master's degree with at least 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught.
Fashion Design			
Fiber & Material Studies			
Film, Video, New Media, & Animation (FVNMA)			
Painting + Drawing (PTDW)			
Performance			
Photography			
Sculpture			
Visual Communication Design (VCD)			
Writing			

Art Education	BFAAE 1000-4000 level courses	MAAE 5000-6000 level courses	MAT 5000-6000 level courses
	MA with state teaching certification OR MAAE OR MFA in Art, Studio Art, or Art Education	MAAE OR MFA in Art Education	MAT OR MA with state teaching certification OR MAAE OR MFA in Art, Studio Art, or Art Education

Arts Administration & Policy (AAP)	MAAAP 5000-6000 level courses	MAAH + MAAAP Dual Degree 5000-6000 level courses
	MFA with specialty relative to course content being taught OR MAAAP or equivalent <i>terminal</i> degree determined by the discipline	MAAAP or equivalent <i>terminal</i> degree determined by the discipline

Historic Preservation (HPres)	MS in HPres 5000-6000 level courses	MArch in HPres 5000-6000 level courses
	MS in HPres OR MArch in HPres	MS in HPres OR MArch in HPres

Art Therapy	MAAT 5000-6000 level courses
	Ph.D or Master's degree with specialty relative to course content being taught OR ATR if teaching a core graduate level art therapy course

Academic Departments	BFA, BFAAE, BFAW, BAAH, BAVCS Undergraduate 1000 - 2000 level	BFA, BFAAE, BFAW, BAAH, BAVCS Undergraduate 3000-4000	Various Degrees; Graduate level courses
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Art History, Theory, & Criticism (ARTHI)	Ph.D or ABD In exceptional circumstances an MA in Art History and/or specialty relative to course content being taught.	Ph.D Relative to course content being taught	Ph.D Relative to course content being taught
Liberal Arts (incl. AAP and EIS)	BFA/BA: Ph.D. or ABD 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught.	BFA/BA: Ph.D. or ABD 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught.	MFA/MA: Ph.D Relative to course content being taught

Continuing Studies	Studio Courses	Liberal Arts Courses	Art History Courses
		BFA/BA: Ph.D. or ABD 18 graduate credit hours relative to course content being taught.	Ph.D or ABD In exceptional circumstances an MA in Art History and/or specialty relative to course content being taught.

* If a prospective Faculty member's qualifications do not meet the minimum guidelines, please review and complete the Professional Equivalency Rubric