

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (BFA)

MISSION

The Department of Art's primary undergraduate responsibilities include educating professional artists with emphases in CERAMICS, DRAWING, GRAPHIC DESIGN, PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY, PRINTMAKING, and SCULPTURE; preparing students for a career or advanced study; offering courses that fulfill University requirements; and providing an active art gallery to serve the University, the community, and region.

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

The Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree is a professional studio degree. The BFA degree is earned after successful completion of an intensive, 4-4.5 year program that provides the student with a series of in-depth studio experiences leading to a thesis/senior presentation, and balanced by studies in humanities, mathematics, and sciences. The BFA degree may also serve as a preparation for graduate studies - usually the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree in studio art or design.

EMPHASIS

In the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, a student may choose an emphasis from the following: Ceramics, Drawing, Graphic Design, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, or Sculpture.

SECOND EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS

Requirements are the same as those of a primary emphasis area.

ART AND ART HISTORY MINOR

The Department of Art offers a Minor in Art and a Minor in Art History. A minor in Art consists of 18 credit hours of courses with an ART prefix. One or more 1000 level courses and one 2000 level course must be completed in addition to at least three upper division (3000 and 4000 level) courses. A student must take six (6) courses total. For an Art Minor, a student may take all Art Studio courses, or a combination of Studio and Art History.

A Minor in Art History consists of 18 credit hours of courses. A student must take ART 1013 Art History I and ART 1023 Art History II as well as four other courses selected from the following list: ART 3143 Italian Renaissance Art History (3); ART 3603 Directed Writings in Modern Art History (3); ART 3613 Art and Film (3); ART 3623 Art in France: 1850-1900 (3); ART 3653 Roman Baroque Art (3); ART 3663 Medieval Stained Glass (3); ART 3673 The Gothic Cathedral (3); ART 3683 The History of Art and Religion (3); ART 4573/6573 Critical Issues in Recent Art (3); ART 4670/6670 Advanced Art History (3-6); or other approved Art History courses.

ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

Each entering or transferring student will be assigned an academic advisor who is a full-time faculty member in the Department of Art. As soon as transcripts and proposed transfer courses are evaluated and processed, they will be placed in a folder including a BFA curriculum checksheet, transfer credit information and other materials necessary for advisement. The Department of Art will keep the official file, to be accessed by the academic advisor. Art advisors are available by appointment only for consultation. Ultimately, the student is responsible for course selection and progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKSHEETS

The curriculum sheet is not an official transcript. It is kept in your file as a record of your progress in the BFA program.

PROGRAM GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Art majors must earn a grade of “C” or higher in each non-emphasis studio course and art history course in the BFA program. (A “D” or “F” would require a repeat of the course until a “C” or higher is attained.) In addition, Art majors must earn a grade of “B” or higher in each emphasis studio course, or retake the course until a grade of “B” or higher is attained. (These requirements also apply to all transfer courses submitted for consideration.)

FOUNDATION PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Only Art majors who are interested in the Graphic Design emphasis are required to participate in the Foundation Portfolio Review. The review is a faculty evaluation of student work from a minimum of 18 credit hours completed in the following courses: **Drawing I, Drawing II, Design I, Design II, 3-D Design, and Introduction to Computing for Artists and Designers** and possibly additional art courses. A grade of “C” or better must be achieved in each of these courses before students are allowed to participate in the review.

Students who participate in the Foundation Portfolio Review will be accepted or denied into the Graphic Design emphasis. The student who is accepted (by faculty evaluation) may begin the emphasis sequence of courses. A student who is denied may remain in the art program and resubmit a portfolio in the next Foundation Portfolio Review offered the following year. However, it is not allowed to re-do the work that is submitted. The original portfolio must be submitted. A student who is denied cannot take emphasis courses in Graphic Design until they resubmit a portfolio and pass the review. A student who is denied twice cannot pursue a Graphic Design emphasis. He or she will have to choose another emphasis in order to pursue a BFA degree in Art at MSU.

The Foundation Portfolio Review is held in December of each year. Only the top students will be selected into the Graphic Design emphasis area due to enrollment demand and limits in resources and classroom space. The usual acceptance rate is about 60 - 75% of those applying.

For more information contact:

Advising Coordinator
Department of Art
P.O. Box 5182
Mississippi State, MS 39762
(662) 325-2970
Email: art@archive.msstate.edu

FERRETTI/KARNSTEDT SCHOLARSHIP

The winner of the Ferretti/Karnstedt Scholarship will be selected annually at the student competitive exhibition in January.

JOHN-RICHARD SCHOLARSHIPS

Three John-Richard tuition scholarship winners will be selected annually at the student competition exhibition in January.

DEL RENDON MEMORIAL ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

The Del Rendon Scholarship will be awarded in the fall of each year.

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

As part of the Articulation Agreement between Mississippi Junior and Community Colleges and the state's four-year universities, the following courses will automatically transfer. A grade of “C” or better is required in each course in order for it to be accepted by the Department of Art:

ART 1213 Drawing I; ART 1223 Drawing II; ART 1123 Design I (2-D); ART 1133 Design II (Color); ART 1013 Art History I; ART 1023 Art History II and ART 2013 Painting I.

However, students must present a portfolio containing work completed in those classes at another institution to their assigned advisors for evaluation. It may be recommended that courses be repeated, audited, or some artwork be redone (if they are planning to go through the Foundation Portfolio Review for entrance into the Graphic Design emphasis).

TRANSFER CREDIT

Other transfer credit for studio or art history courses from community or junior colleges and universities must be evaluated by the Transfer Credit Committee in the Department of Art.

FOUNDATION PROGRAM AND TRANSFER CREDIT EVALUATION

For questions and more information please contact:

Suzanne McClain
Advising Coordinator
Department of Art
P.O. Box 5182
Mississippi State, MS 39762
(662) 325-2970
Email art@archive.msstate.edu

CAAD ACADEMIC CORE COURSES

These are placed evenly throughout the curriculum check sheets only as a recommended sequence. The student's advisor should be consulted for flexibility in their placement within the BFA plan.

MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS (15 HOURS)

To make up 15 credit hours total, a student must take:

Mathematics (6-9 hours)
Natural Science (6-9 hours). Two courses must have a lab.

SOCIAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Six credit hours; no more than 3 credit hours should be taken in one discipline area.

PREREQUISITES

Art students are responsible for checking the MSU Bulletin for prerequisites.

UPPER DIVISION HOURS

123 credit hours total are required for BFA. A student must take 32 upper division hours (3000 level or above in residence), all in College of Architecture, Art & Design. No correspondence courses will count as residence. Only 61 credit hours taken at a Junior College may be applied towards a BFA degree.

SENIOR PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Graphic Design students are required to give a portfolio presentation and other Fine Arts students are required to have a thesis exhibition in their senior year. These final presentation requirements are fulfilled in capstone courses; ART 4640 Advanced Graphics for students in the Graphic Design emphasis; and ART 4083 Senior Honors Research/ART 4093 Senior Honors Thesis for students in all other emphasis areas.

COMPUTER & EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS IN GRAPHIC DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY EMPHASES

The Department of Art requires BFA Art majors entering into an emphasis in Graphic Design or Photography to purchase certain tools and equipment. Art faculty prepare an approved list of specific cameras, an approved list of current software and minimum computer specifications annually.

The Graphic Design emphasis student is required to purchase a computer after successfully passing the Foundation Portfolio Review usually in the sophomore year, and before enrolling in ART 3313 Graphic Design I.

The Photography emphasis student is required to purchase a camera, and in the digital photography option, a computer before enrolling in ART 4203 Photography II.

Contact the MSU Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Office to apply for financial aid to purchase the required equipment.

STUDENT MATERIALS FEE

Additional fees for class, technology and laboratory materials are required of students. These fees range from \$5 to \$100 per course. They are automatically included in your tuition upon enrollment into designated art courses.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional academic, financial aid and housing information can be obtained by consulting the Mississippi State University Bulletin. Further information about the Department of Art including current events, faculty and student artwork, and the Foundation Program can be found at the following website:

<http://www.caad.msstate.edu>

MSU Admissions Information

Director of Admissions
P.O. Box 9700
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9700
(662) 325-2224

MSU Enrollment Services

(662) 325-3076

MSU Student Financial Aid and Scholarships

(662) 325-2450

FINANCIAL AID

Students seeking financial aid/scholarships may:

1. Contact the *MSU Student Financial Aid & Scholarships Office*, (662) 325-2450, in Garner Hall (just behind the Department of Art) to receive current financial aid information:

***The Student Guide-Financial Aid - 2004-2005** (U.S. Department of Education)

***Free Application for Federal Student Aid** (2004-2005 U.S. Department of Education)

Since camera and /or computer purchases are required in the Graphic Design and Photography emphases in the Department of Art, the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Office is committed to helping locate the best possible plan for qualified students.

For Written Inquiries:

MSU Student Financial Aid & Scholarships Office
Mississippi State University
P.O. Box 6035
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Questions? Call:

Student Loan Office – (662) 325-7437
Scholarships Office – (662) 325-7430

2. Enrolled students may submit work to the Annual Student Competitive Exhibition in January to compete for the Ferretti/Karnstedt Scholarship, and three John-Richards Scholarships.

ACCREDITATION

Mississippi State University is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. Every ten years the Department of Art undergoes an intensive re-evaluation of its program by representatives from NASAD. Only departments which meet the high standards for art programs in the United States will receive accreditation from NASAD. The organization's headquarters are located at:

NASAD
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21
Reston, Virginia 20190
(703) 437-0700

THE FOLLOWING COURSES ARE REQUIRED OF ALL BFA STUDENTS

Foundation Courses

Art 1123 Design I
Art 1213 Drawing I
Art 1133 Design II
Art 1223 Drawing II
Art 1153 3-D Design
Art 2803 Intro to Computing

Survey Courses

Art 2503 Ceramics Survey (not required by Graphic Design)
Art 2213 Life Drawing I
Art 2013 Painting Survey
Art 2103 Photography Survey
Art 2303 Printmaking Survey
Art 2403 Sculpture Survey
Art 2813 Intermediate Computing (for Graphic Design only)

Art History Courses

Art 1013 Art History I
Art 1023 Art History II
Art History electives (3 courses)
(One Art History elective may be used for the writing requirement)
(Graphic Design majors are recommended to take History of Graphic Design as one of the Art History electives)

Other Required Courses (not required by Graphic Design)

Art 3803 Gallery Management
Art 4083 Senior Honors Research
Art 4093 Senior Honors Thesis

THE FOLLOWING COURSES ARE REQUIRED FOR EACH EMPHASIS AREA

Ceramics Emphasis Courses (21 Hours Total)

Art 3503 Ceramics II
Art 4533 Ceramics III
Art 4650 Advanced Studio - Ceramics
Art 4650 Advanced Studio - Ceramics [must take with thesis]
Art 3513 Sculpture II
Art 4630 Advanced Studio - Sculpture

Drawing Emphasis Courses (21 Hours Total)

Art 3053 Watercolor I
Art 3213 Life Drawing II
Art 2233 Drawing III
Art 4343 Drawing IV
Art 4600 Advanced Studio - Drawing
Art 4600 Advanced Studio - Drawing [must take with thesis]

In addition, choose one (3 hours)

Art 3023 Painting II
Art 3033 Nonobjective Painting
Art 3043 Figurative Painting

Graphic Design Emphasis Courses (30 Hours Total)

Art 3313 Graphic Design I
Art 3323 Graphic Design II
Art 4103 Typography I
Art 4403 Advertising Design I
Art 4640 Advanced Studio - Graphic Design
Art 4883 Web for Graphic Design

In addition, choose four courses from the following (12 hours)

Art 4113 Typography II
Art 4413 Advertising Design II
Art 4523 Internship in Graphic Design
Art 4813 Multimedia I
Art 4823 Multimedia II
Art 3443 Illustration
Art 4873 Digital Imaging
Art 3913 Print Production
Art 4713 Advanced Print Production (College ID)

Painting Emphasis Courses (21 Hours Total)

Art 3023 Painting II
Art 3033 Nonobjective Painting
Art 3043 Figurative Painting
Art 3053 Watercolor
Art 4610 Advanced Studio - Painting
Art 4610 Advanced Studio - Painting [must take with thesis]

Photography Emphasis Courses (21 Hours Total)

Art 3203 Darkroom Explorations

Art 4223 Alternative Photography

Art 4660 Advanced Studio - Photography [must take with Thesis]

In addition choose three courses from the following list (9 hours)

Art 3873 Digital Photography

Art 4443 Alternative Color

Art 2163 History of Photography

Art 4693 Fine Art Internship in Photography

Printmaking Emphasis Courses (21 Hours Total)

Art 3303 Printmaking II

Art 3873 Digital Photography

Art 4443 Alternative Color

Art 4620 Advanced Studio - Printmaking

Art 4620 Advanced Studio - Printmaking [must take with thesis]

In addition you may choose from the following

Art 4343 Drawing IV

Art 4600 Advanced Studio - Drawing

Sculpture Emphasis Courses (21 Hours Total)

Art 3513 Sculpture II

Art 4630 Advanced Studio - Sculpture

Art 4630 Advanced Studio - Sculpture [must take with thesis]

**COMPUTER COST REQUEST FORM
FALL 2005 / SPRING 2006**

MSU Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Office
Student Financial Aid and Scholarships
Mississippi State University
P.O. Box 6035
Mississippi State, MS 39762

If requesting additional aid for Summer Sessions, please contact the Student Loan Office - (662) 325-7437

The Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships may add the cost of a computer to your cost of attendance if you are enrolled in a college or academic program that requires a computer. Listed below are the Mississippi State University colleges and academic programs that currently require a computer.

Students usually apply for the student loan programs when seeking additional financial aid to help pay for a required computer. These programs include both federal and alternative (private) educational loans. Listed below are the specific loan programs.

Adding the computer cost to your cost of attendance does not guarantee that you will be eligible for additional financial aid. Specifically, the loan programs have several eligibility requirements that may limit loan eligibility. These requirements include annual and aggregate loan limits, dependency status, classification (Fr, So, Jr, Sr) for Federal Stafford Loans; dependency status and credit approval for Federal PLUS Loans; and, in some instances, creditworthiness or an approved cosigner for Alternative Loans. Consequently, even though the increase in the cost of attendance might show a calculated eligible amount, you may not be eligible due to some limiting requirement for a specific loan program.

Please place a check by your college or academic program; place a check by the financial aid program(s) you are requesting, sign the Student Statement, then submit this completed form to the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.

College / Academic Program

<input type="checkbox"/> College of Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Art – Graphic Design (Undergraduate)
<input type="checkbox"/> College of Agriculture and Life Sciences	<input type="checkbox"/> Art – Photography (Undergraduate)
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture (2 nd year Undergraduates)	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture (Graduate)

Financial Aid Loan Program(s)

Federal Stafford Loan (subsidized and unsubsidized) Must complete the FAFSA)
 Federal PLUS Loan (Must complete the FAFSA and the PLUS Loan Information Request Form)
 Alternative Loan (see the Student Loan Office for a list of Alternative Loans. Must apply with the Alternative Loan Organization).

Student Statement

I am requesting an increase in my cost of attendance to include the additional cost of a computer because I am enrolled in the above checked college or academic program. I understand that the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships will process my request for the loan program(s) that I have checked.

I understand that I may not be eligible for the loan that I selected due to the eligibility requirements.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ART
BEVERLY B. GULMON
PORTFOLIO SCHOLARSHIP**

Competition is open to any graduating high school senior interested in majoring in Art at Mississippi State University. Scholarships from \$500 - \$2000 are awarded based on outstanding portfolios. The MSU Art faculty reviews submissions. Each student portfolio will receive a review form with comments from faculty.

Students should select artwork that best represents their abilities and interests in art. More than one medium must be presented. Original artwork is requested, although in hardship cases photographs and slides will be considered. A minimum of twelve works are required. 2-D examples should be no larger than 36 inches in any one direction. A clear, well crafted presentation is desirable. Matting or mounting is optional, but encouraged.

Portfolios cannot be mailed. They must be hand delivered to the Portfolio Review to qualify for entry. All applicants must pick up their portfolios by 4:30 p.m. The inclusion of two or more letters of recommendation from teachers or professionals and High School transcripts are optional but strongly recommended. Recipients of a scholarship must major in Art during the first year at MSU. Awards will apply toward tuition at Mississippi State University for the following Fall semester. Scholarship winners must communicate a decision to accept or reject the scholarship as soon as possible, no later than April 1st.

Visit us on the internet at: <http://www.caad.msstate.edu>

Download this material at: <http://www.caad.msstate.edu>

Submit on or before Portfolio Review, (mid-February each year)

Name:

Social Security Number: _____ **E-Mail Address:**

Address:

Phone Number: ()

School:

School Address:

Teacher's Name:

Portfolio Contents:

Return to:

Gulmon Scholarship

Department of Art

P.O. Box 5182

Mississippi State, MS 39762

For more information:

(662) 325-2970

**GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS
TRANSFERRING TO MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ART**

Students wishing to transfer art course credit to Mississippi State University must have their work evaluated during the first semester enrolled at Mississippi State University.

Students Transferring from a Mississippi Community College:

1. Courses that are part of the Articulation Agreement between Mississippi Community Colleges and Mississippi four year schools will automatically be transferred (Drawing I & II, Design I & II, Painting I, and Art History I & II) with transcript proof of a "C" or higher grade. However, students must still present a portfolio containing work completed in those classes to their advisor for evaluation. It may be recommended that courses be repeated, audited, or some artwork be redone, in order to better prepare the student for our program.

2. Students wishing to transfer art courses other than those in the Articulation Agreement must submit a portfolio to the MSU Department of Art Transfer Evaluation Committee. To qualify to transfer art course credit to MSU the student must: submit an art course work portfolio (which must include a minimum of 75% of the work produced in each art class), have earned a "C" or higher grade in all art courses to be transferred, submit a copy of the official catalog course description, submit a course syllabus (if requested), and fill out an official Transfer Credit Approval Form to be submitted with the portfolio.

To receive transfer course credit, the amount, type, and quality of work submitted must be deemed equivalent to MSU course standards. Community College courses (1000-2000 level) cannot be considered as equivalent to upper level (3000-4000 level) courses at MSU.

3. Transfer portfolios may be submitted to the Transfer Evaluation Committee for review at scheduled times during the Fall and Spring semesters. These dates and times will be posted in the Art Office. For additional information or to schedule an appointment, contact the Department of Art at (662) 325-2970.

Students Transferring from All Other Schools:

All art classes taken by students from schools other than Mississippi Community Colleges must be evaluated by portfolio review. Students should follow steps 2 and 3 above to have their art course work evaluated by the Transfer Committee.

Foundation Portfolio Review for Graphic Design Emphasis:

All transfer students intending to submit artwork completed at another school for the Foundation Portfolio Review for acceptance into the Graphic Design Emphasis must go through Transfer Portfolio Evaluation

first.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

A. Academic Probation

The following information is from the Academic Operating Policy (AOP) 12.15 entitled Academic Probation for Undergraduate Students.

Students whose cumulative MSU GPA falls below 2.00 at the end of any term will enter the next term on academic probation and will remain on probation until the GPA reaches 2.00 or higher. The course load for students on academic probation is restricted to a total of 14 credit hours; a student on academic probation who enrolls concurrently in excess of this limit in correspondence courses or at another institution will not receive credit at Mississippi State University for such courses.

After having been notified of probationary status, a student must schedule an appointment with his/her academic advisor or with the departmental probationary advisor (if the department has a probationary advisor) to devise a plan to improve their academic performance.

B. Academic Suspension and Dismissal

Students with a semester GPA of less than 2.00 who have attempted at least 24 hours of coursework at Mississippi State University AND who fail to meet the following MSU cumulative GPA requirements will be suspended.

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Earned Hours</u>	<u>MSU Cumulative GPA</u>
Seniors	90 or more semester hours	2.0
Juniors	60-89 semester hours	2.0
Sophomores	30-59 semester hours	2.0
Freshmen	29 or fewer semester hours	1.5

C. Schedule Changes and Procedures

To add or drop a course, students are advised to first consult with their academic advisor. They should also follow deadlines published in the *MSU Bulletin* and in the class master schedule for each semester. After the 30th day of classes, students may not drop a class except under specific circumstances outlined in the *MSU Bulletin*. Refer to Part I, Section III, Item A9, "Schedule Changes," of the *MSU Bulletin* for additional information.

D. Withdrawal

Students withdrawing from the university prior to the end of the period of enrollment, except for temporary absences, should initiate withdrawal procedures at the Department of Art Office. Refer to Part I, Section III, Item E, "Withdrawal," of the *MSU Bulletin* and AOP 12.02: Withdrawal from the University for additional information.

E. Academic Load

Students with a GPA below 2.00 are limited to an academic load of 14 semester hours. However, designated academic support courses, such as developmental math, are excluded.

Students with a GPA between 2.00 and 2.99 are limited to 19 hours. Any student without a cumulative GPA, such as a freshman or a transfer student, will be limited to 19 hours.

Students with a GPA of 3.00 or higher may elect to take additional hours. Students in this category must secure permission from their advisor to schedule more than 19 hours and pay an "overload" fee for each hour above 19.

For additional information refer to AOP 12.22: Undergraduate Student Courseload.

F. Grade Appeal

Student performance is evaluated according to academic criteria. The evaluation is not based on personalities nor is it affected by student conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards.

A student disputing a grade must first discuss the matter with the instructor. If that does not resolve the dispute, the student may submit a written grade appeal to the Head of the Department of Art. If the dispute is not settled at the department level, the petition and responses are sent forward to the Associate Dean and the Dean. The appeal is then reviewed at that level. If the dispute cannot be resolved by the review of the instructor, the Associate Dean, or the Dean, it may be referred to the University Academic Review Board for a formal hearing. Refer to AOP 13.14: Grade Appeal and Academic Review Board for more information.

G. Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is defined in *The Bulldog* as the “unauthorized giving, taking, or presenting of any information or material by a student with the intent of aiding himself/herself or another on any academic work which is to be considered in the determination of the course grade or completion of other academic requirements.” For further information consult AOP 12.07: Academic Misconduct on the MSU web page at www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/1207.html. Both students and faculty members are responsible for reporting cases of academic dishonesty.

There is no more important value held in any academic setting than academic honesty because the work submitted by a student represents that student’s efforts and achievements. In the Department of Art, an incident of plagiarism or cheating may constitute grounds for dismissal from the course and automatic failure. Traditional academic conventions for giving credit to sources must be followed.

The MSU Academic Honesty Committee conducts hearings on charges of academic dishonesty, decides guilt or innocence, and when guilt is determined, imposes sanctions. For further information consult “Policies and Procedures for Handling Academic Dishonesty” or gain access to this information on the web as www.msstate.edu/web/security.html. (Once you have reached this site choose the following “University Policies Relating to Students and Student record,” “Academic Misconduct.” “Academic Operating Policy and Procedure,” “Attachment A – Policies and Procedures for Handling Academic Misconduct.”)

H. Additional University Procedures

For further information regarding university procedures, requirements, and regulations, consult the current issue of the *MSU Bulletin* or the MSU web page at www.msstate.edu/dept/stulife.

HONORS, RECOGNITION, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

A. The University Honors Program

The Department of Art actively encourages qualified students to participate in the University Honors Program designed to enhance the academic experience of outstanding students. Honors courses substitute for regular courses, employ smaller sections taught by selected faculty, and focus on individual instruction. The Honors Forum is a one-credit-hour course composed of presentations by diplomats, musicians, international visitors, artists, computer specialists, writers, scientists, and other scholars and professionals. Participants in the University Honors Program may compete for University Honors Program Scholarships and benefit from other Honors activities. Each student determines his/her degree of personal participation in the University Honors Program. He/she may take a single course or pursue any one of several distinctions, all of which are identified on all academic records.

Phase I: By taking twelve hours of honors coursework and two forums, a student may earn this certification.

Phase II: By taking two honors seminars and completing the honors requirements of a major fields, a student may earn the distinction and be identified as a University Honors Scholar on both transcript and Diploma.

B. Phi Kappa Phi

Phi Kappa Phi is the university-wide honor society. Initiates are limited to third-year students in the upper 5% of their classes and fourth-year and graduate students in the upper 10% of their class.

C. President's and Dean's Scholars

President and Dean's scholars are recognized each year on the basis of fall semester grades. President's Scholars are those students who achieve a 3.80 grade point or above; Dean's Scholars are those who achieve a 3.50 grade point average or above.

D. Graduating Distinctions

Students maintaining exceptional grade point averages are recognized at graduation with the following distinctions: Summa Cum Laude: 3.80; Magna Cum Laude: 3.60; and Cum Laude: 3.40. Students who successfully complete the University Honors Program graduate "With Honors".

E. University Scholarships

In its commitment to recognize outstanding students whose academic credentials confirm their potential for success, Mississippi State University offers numerous scholarships to students at all year levels. In addition to applying for a variety of privately funded scholarships, entering freshmen are particularly encouraged to apply for University Academic Scholarships. These scholarships are awarded to students with outstanding ACT scores, and to National Merit and National Achievement semifinalists and finalists. In order to maintain the scholarship, students must keep their cumulative GPA above a 3.00. For more information on university scholarships and memorials, contact the University's Office of Admissions and Scholarships by phone at 662.325.2224 or visit the web site at www.admissions.msstate.edu.