MFA in Photography and Film Mission Statement and Goals, Sept. 2014

The mission of the MFA in Fine Art, Photography and Film, is to facilitate a comprehensive, advanced, critical understanding and practice of photography, filmmaking, and related media. Our specific goals are to foster a climate that inspires creativity, intellectual curiosity, freedom of expression and critical inquiry, and to attract intellectually and creatively talented, sensitive, diligent individuals interested in rigorous, advanced study of photography, film and related media.

Successful completion of the MFA will result in individuals who demonstrate:

1) **Technical Mastery** – Expertise in the tools, techniques, and materials used in the student’s self-identified media / field of study.

2) **Creativity** – A complete, cohesive body of creative work that reflects an independent, unique and well-defined artistic perspective.

3) **Critical Thinking** – Conceptual problem solving, orally and in writing, related to the development of an individual artistic practice.

4) **Professionalism** – Expertise in professional presentation of creative work and a demonstrated commitment to artistic growth.

5) **Historical and Contemporary Issues** – An understanding of historical and contemporary issues related to the student’s self-identified media / field of study and how they connect to a range of visual art practices and theory.