

INTERDISCIPLINARY DESIGN

The Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Design is a 122.5-credit non-professional undergraduate degree program that combines design studios and the liberal arts in a four-year curriculum focused on educating students to use design and critical thinking skills to generate ideas, solve complex problems and be creative and innovative makers. The program provides each student flexibility in exploring across multiple disciplines to learn design methods, theory, and application that drive the design process. The core of the degree program is a series of lectures, seminars, and studios. Students have hands-on experiences grappling with design challenges that vary in complexity and scale. Courses are taught by faculty from multiple design disciplines. Seniors complete a capstone project, called Launchpad, and a portfolio and professional development course in preparation for graduate school or the job market. The program works well with a second major or a minor, can be completed on a part-time schedule, and is transfer-friendly. Students with transfer credit should speak to academic adviser about how these credits can apply to degree requirements.

The curriculum developed out of a shared philosophy across the college's disciplines that designers have the capacity to think strategically and creatively about society's increasing economic, social and environmental challenges. Innovation and entrepreneurship are encouraged, integrated, and valued. Our graduates pursue a wide range of professional career paths in design practice, digital media and entrepreneurship. Upon completion, students may enter graduate programs in the design professions or other fields in which design thinking, skills in making, and critical analysis are valued.

Curriculum for Bachelor of Arts in interdisciplinary design

Total Degree Requirement: 122.5 cr.

Only 65 cr. from a two-year institution may apply which may include up to 6 cr. in Design History/Theory/Criticism and 6 cr. in Design Skills credit; 16 technical cr.; 21 P-NP cr. of free electives; 2.00 minimum GPA average; completion of all requirements listed below.

International Perspective: 3 cr.

U.S. Diversity: 3 cr.

Communications: 13 cr.

(C or Better in ENGL 150 and ENGL 250)

ENGL 150	Critical Thinking and Communication	3
ENGL 250	Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition	3
SP CM 212	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
LIB 160	Information Literacy	1

3 credits selected from: 3

ENGL 302	Business Communication	
ENGL 309	Proposal and Report Writing	
ENGL 314	Technical Communication	

Total Credits 13

***Mathematics/Physical Sciences/Biological Sciences: 9 cr.**

9 cr. from approved list

***Social Sciences: 9 cr.**

9 cr. from approved list

***Humanities: 6 cr.**

6 cr. from approved list

*At least 3 credits in Mathematics/Physical Sciences/Biological Sciences, Social Sciences, or Humanities must be above 300-level.

Design Core Program: 11.5 cr.

DSN S 102	Design Studio I	4
DSN S 115	Design Collaborative Seminar	0.5
or DSN S 110	Design Exchange Seminar I	
DSN S 131	Drawing I	4
DSN S 183	Design in Context	3
Total Credits		11.5

Interdisciplinary Design Concentration: 32 cr.

DES 230	Design Thinking	3
DES 241	Interdisciplinary Foundation Studio I	4
DES 242	Interdisciplinary Foundation Studio II	4
6 credits:		6
DES 250	Design Forum (*)	2
DES 330	Visual Literacy for Design Critique	3
4 credits:		
DES 340	Design Studio II	4
DES 491	Portfolio and Professional Preparation	4
DES 495	Capstone Experience	4
*2 cr. of DES 250 can be substituted with approved equivalent.		
Total Credits		32

Design Skills: 12 cr.

Select 12 credits from approved list	12
Total Credits	12

Design History/Theory/Criticism: 9 cr.

9 cr. selected from approved list.

Minor and/or Electives: 21 cr.

Interdisciplinary Design, B.A.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
DSN S 102 or 131	4 DSN S 131 or 102	4
DSN S 115 or 110	0.5-1 DSN S 183	3
DSN S 183 or Minor/Elective	3 or Minor/Elective ENGL 150	3
ENGL 150 or General Education	3 or General Education General Education	3
General Education	3 PSYCH 101, PSYCH 230, or SOC 134	3
LIB 160	1	
14.5-15		16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
DES 230	3 DES 242	4
DES 241	4 DES 250	2
Design Skills	3 ENGL 250	3
General Education	3 History/Theory/Criticism	3
History/Theory/Criticism	3 MATH, PHYS 101, STAT 101, or STAT 104	3-4
16		15-16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
DES 340	2 DES 250	2
DES 250	2 DES 330	3
SP CM 212	3 DES 340	2
ENGL 302, 309 or 314	3 Design Skills	3
History/Theory/Criticism	3 General Education	6
13		16

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
DES 491	4 DES 495	4
Design Skills	3 Design Skills	3
Minor/Elective	9 Minor/Elective	9
16		16

Courses primarily for undergraduates:

DES 230: Design Thinking

(3-0) Cr. 3. F.S.

Introduction to the phenomenon of design thinking as it appears in various design fields, including methodologies of reasoning and problem solving; patterns of creativity and individual style; and the interaction of art, science, and technology.

DES 241: Interdisciplinary Foundation Studio I

(0-8) Cr. 4. F.

Prereq: Completion of College of Design Core Program.

Integration of contemporary strategies, methods, and approaches to design. Move through cycles of ideation, iteration, communication and revision, including the use of non-traditional materials and processes. Emphasis on the specific issues of interdisciplinary design practices and an ethical understanding of the materials of drawing.

DES 242: Interdisciplinary Foundation Studio II

(0-8) Cr. 4. S.

Prereq: Completion of College of Design Core Program.

Development and practice of mental flexibility in creative processes leading to high-quality design solutions and develop fluency in "bias toward action." Move conceptual works quickly into visible and tangible forms that can be shared, tested, and evaluated based of quality. Multiple studio projects that will move at a fast pace and be iterative.

DES 250: Design Forum

(2-0) Cr. 2. Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits. F.S.SS.

Prereq: DSN S 102, DSN S 131, DSN S 183 and credit or concurrent enrollment in DES 230

Introduction of themes and issues that are relevant to the design fields through theoretical readings, case studies, and visiting lecturers.

DES 259: Design Field Study

Cr. R. Repeatable.

Prereq: Enrollment in or 2 credits of DES 240.

Off-campus tours of areas of interest within the design professions such as design offices, museums, buildings, and neighborhoods. Offered on a satisfactory-fail basis only.

DES 330: Visual Literacy for Design Critique

(3-0) Cr. 3. S.

Prereq: DSN S 102 or DSN S 183 or 3 credits of ART H or equivalent.

Students will learn to interpret, analyze and evaluate visual materials, use images and text effectively to communicate ideas, and understand issues surrounding the creation and use of images and visual media for design critique. Precedent study and critique of sample student design work to understand principles of visual literacy and how to apply them to the presentation of design work. Emphasis on peer-to-peer discussion and in-class participation. Lecture and discussion format.

DES 333: Time-Based Digital Media

(Cross-listed with DSN S). (3-0) Cr. 3. S.

Prereq: DSN S 232 or equivalent.

Introduction to various time-based digital media tools to develop basic skills including sequencing, storytelling, animation, sound editing, and video production.

DES 340: Design Studio II

(0-8) Cr. 2. Repeatable.

Prereq: 4 credits of DES 240 or equivalent.

Half-semester course. Studio projects of increasing complexity requiring interdisciplinary approaches to contemporary challenges and opportunities. Continued development of students' abilities to generate ideas and communicate those ideas visually, orally, and through writing. Field trip.

DES 491: Portfolio and Professional Preparation

(2-4) Cr. 4. F.

Prereq: classification as DES major; 4 credits of DES 240

Preparation of printed and online portfolio of student work and materials for job search and/or graduate school applications. Guidance for interviewing, professional networking, business etiquette, and resume writing. Workshops and lectures.

DES 495: Capstone Experience

(1-6) Cr. 4. S.

Prereq: classification as DES major; 2 credits of DES 340

Launchpad to design careers. Comprehensive interdisciplinary design work in three areas: design research, design management, design leadership. Demonstration of design skills and project planning and development.