

KU MFA Communication Design Requirements

The MFA in Communication Design encourage students to think innovatively and use in-depth investigation to solve design problems and formulate creative expression. The program promotes a well-rounded education through the study of design history, contemporary topics, typography, emerging media, and the exploration of personal and professional goals. Students ultimately create an original capstone graduate research project exploring their creative path to professional or academic aspirations.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Solve communication challenges by identifying the issues, targeting audience, researching, and/or developing innovative solutions.
2. Create and develop visual solutions in response to communication challenges.
3. Determine audience objectives based on a spectrum of human factors; test audience response; and/or assess the outcomes.
4. Apply the contexts of past, current, and future design.
5. Communicate with other creative professionals through research-based, cohesive, and persuasive rhetoric.

Note that all students must achieve 60 graduate credits.

Required MFA Communication Design Core Courses – 18 credits

CODS 501 Personal Exploration (3 credits)

CODS 502 Professional Exploration (3 credits)

CODS 503 Graduate Seminar: Unconventional Type (3 credits)

CODS 504 Graduate Seminar: Design Pioneers (3 credits)

CODS 505 Graduate Seminar: Emerging Media (3 credits)

CODS 506 Graduate Seminar: Contemporary Topics (3 credits)

Capstone Courses – 12 credits

CODS 511 Graduate Research Project I: Research Studies Academics (3 credits)

CODS 512 Graduate Research Project II: Creative Studies (3 credits)

CODS 513 Graduate Research Project III: Production/Presentation/Exhibitions (6 credits)

Academic Electives – 6 credits

Academic electives may be selected from 500-level courses other than CODS or ART.

CODS 550 or Visual Design/Media Elective (3 credits)

CODS 551 or Visual Design/Media Elective (3 credits)

Studio Electives – 18 credits

Courses may be selected from 500-level studio with CODS (not studio core or thesis) FINE, ART, or ARED Prefixes. Up to six credits of graduate level academic courses may be substituted for studios.

Program Plan Code: MFA_COMD

Effective Semester: Fall 2017