

Media Design Program Course Distribution

This chart shows the distribution of courses by term. Highlighted courses are required within the term shown. Please see the Degree Requirements page for specific requirements for individual paths and concentrations.

Media Design Foundation Year 3-Year Path starts here

FALL		SPRING	
GPK*: Communication Design 1 or 2	3	GPK: Information Design	3
GPK: Type 2	3	GPK: Transmedia Typography or Type 3	3
LAS*: Graphic Design History	3	GPK: Interactive Design 1 or 2 OR Motion Design 1 or 2	3
GPK: Interactive Design 1 or 2 OR Motion Design 1 or 2	3	MDP Core: Design Research History and Theory	3
MDP Core: Visual Narrative	3	MDP Core: Transmedia Design	3
Colloquium 1A	1	Colloquium 1B	1
REQUIRED UNITS	16	REQUIRED UNITS	16

* GPK = Graphic Design Department; LAS = Liberal Arts and Sciences

Media Design Concepts Year 2-Year Path starts here

FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
MDP Core: Media History and Theory	3	MDP Core: Design Research History and Theory	3	X-TERM – students must choose one option:	
MDP Core: Transmedia Design	3	MDP Core: Transmedia Design	3	Collaborative Research Studio	6
MDP Core: Productive Interaction	3	MDP Core: Productive Interaction	3	Art Center Lite (minimum 2 other department courses)	6
MDP Elective Studios (may vary)		MDP Elective Studios (may vary)		Internship	6
MDP Core: Visual Narrative (elective for 2-year students)	3	People-Knowing: using + reading	3		
People-Knowing: values + behavior	3	Visualizing Dynamic Systems	3		
Social Media	3	The New Ecology of Things	3		
Materials and Spaces as Media	3	The Ubiquitous Moving Image	3		
New Modes of Reading and Writing	3				
Colloquium 2A	3	Colloquium 2B	3		
MINIMUM REQUIRED UNITS	15	MINIMUM REQUIRED UNITS	15	MINIMUM REQUIRED UNITS	6

Media Design Thesis Year Required for 2-year and 3-year students

FALL		SPRING	
Thesis Workshop 1	9	Thesis Workshop 2	9
Bespoke Futures	3	Knowledge-Sharing Workshop	3
Colloquium 3A	3	Colloquium 3B	3
MINIMUM REQUIRED UNITS	15	MINIMUM REQUIRED UNITS	15

Media Design Program Degree Requirements

3-Year Path

REQUIREMENTS: FOUNDATION YEAR		REQUIREMENTS: CONCEPTS YEAR		REQUIREMENTS: THESIS YEAR	
GPK*: Comm Design 1**	3	MDP Core: Media History and Theory	3	Thesis Workshop 1 OR	9
GPK: Interactive Design 1**	3	MDP Core: Productive Interaction	3	Thesis Workshop 2 OR	
GPK: Motion Design 1**	3	MDP Elective Studios (6 minimum***)	18	Bespoke Futures	9
GPK: Type 2	3	Colloquium 2A		Knowledge-Sharing Workshop	
GPK: Transmedia Typography or Type 3	3	Colloquium 2B	3	Colloquium 3A	3
GPK: Information Design	3		3	Colloquium 3B	3
LAS*: Design History	3	Summer X-Term			3
MDP Core: Transmedia Design	3		6		3
MDP Core: Visual Narrative	3				
MDP Core: Design Research Hist. + Theory	3				
Colloquium 1A	1				
Colloquium 1B	1				
TOTAL REQUIRED UNITS	32		36		30

* GPK = Graphic Design; LAS=Liberal Arts And Sciences

** In the Foundation Year only, students may waive/sub entry level classes and move to the next level course based on their portfolio and experience.

*** All MDP students must take a minimum of one People-Knowing Studio.

2-Year Path

REQUIREMENTS: CONCEPTS YEAR		REQUIREMENTS: THESIS YEAR	
MDP Core: Media History and Theory	3	Thesis Workshop 1 OR	9
MDP Core: Design Research History and Theory	3	Thesis Workshop 2 OR	
MDP Core: Productive Interaction	3	Bespoke Futures	9
MDP Core: Transmedia Design	3	Knowledge-Sharing Workshop	
MDP Elective Studios (4 minimum***)	12	Colloquium 3A	3
Colloquium 2A		Colloquium 3B	3
Colloquium 2B	3		3
	3		3
Summer X-Term			
	6		
TOTAL REQUIRED UNITS	36		30

*** All MDP students must take a minimum of one People-Knowing Studio.

Design Research Concentration (DR)

Whether on the 2-Year or 3-Year Path, DR students must complete the following classes during their course of study.

Foundation/Concept Year MDP and other Department Courses:

MDP Core: Visual Narrative

People-Knowing: reading + using

People-Knowing: values + behaviors

Human Factors

X-Term –

Research-related internship or project

Thesis Year –

Thesis Workshop 1 and 2 with a research focus