
Department of Design

Main Office
Art Building, Room 237

Mailing address:
1155 Union Circle #305100
Denton, TX 76203-5017
940-565-3621

E-mail: design@unt.edu
Web site: www.art.unt.edu

Cynthia Mohr, Chair

Graduate Faculty: Blow, Chang, Egner, Gibson, Ligon, Mohr, Nacke, O'Rourke-Kaplan, Owens, Park, Reed, Sprague, Stark, Stidham, Walker, Wong Kung Fong.

The MFA in design with concentrations in fashion design, innovation studies and interior design seeks to effectively prepare individuals with professional experience to become specialists, managers and educators. The curriculum is divided into two separate, but related, sequences: pedagogy and studio/research. Through pedagogy course work and observation, MFA candidates learn basic educational practices such as the development of outcome objectives, grading criteria, and university practices. The studio/research sequence is designed to help candidates identify and develop a research agenda necessary for success both professionally and within the university environment.

Applicants for the Master of Fine Arts in the design department must hold an earned bachelor's degree in a related field of study and have professional experience in the proposed area of concentration.

Research

Pursuing research in the Department of Design at the master's level of study in the College of Visual Arts and Design challenges students to critically examine, analyze and derive knowledge from a variety of design processes and methodologies as a means to positively catalyze a wide variety of social, technological, environmental and political initiatives. Design research undertaken and conducted within the master's programs in the Department of Design will not only facilitate knowledge creation and thought leadership that can be applied in professional practice, but in the scholarly community as well.

Degree Programs

The department offers the following degrees:

- Master of Arts with a major in design and concentration in innovation studies.
- Master of Fine Arts with a major in design and concentrations in fashion design, innovation studies and interior design.

MFA Application Requirements

1. Applicants must apply for and be granted admission to the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies (or to UNT-International as appropriate) and must also apply separately to and be accepted into either the concentration in fashion design, interior design or innovation studies.
2. Applicants for the MFA programs in design with concentrations in fashion design, interior design or innovation studies must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. institution or equivalent training at a foreign university in the specific area of design or in a closely related field, and two to three years of professional experience in their area of study.
3. Applicants must supply official GRE scores.
4. Applicants must submit a statement of purpose (500–750 words).
5. A professional resume, which should list all relevant work experience, affiliations, etc.
6. Applicants must submit at least three reference letters from persons familiar with their academic or professional work.
7. Applicants must submit a portfolio of work relevant to their concentration area that includes representative professional work that represents their design knowledge and skills. Applicant should identify their responsibility for any submitted work completed as part of a team.

MA Application Requirements

1. Applicants must apply for and be granted admission to the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies and must also apply separately to and be accepted into innovation studies.
2. Applicants for the MA program in design with a concentration in innovation studies must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. institution or equivalent training at a foreign university.
3. Applicants must supply official GRE scores.
4. Applicants must submit a statement of intent (500-750 words).
5. A professional resume, which should list all relevant work experience, affiliations, etc.
6. Applicants must submit at least two reference letters from persons familiar with their academic or professional work.

7. Applicants to the MA program in design with a concentration in innovation studies may submit either a portfolio of their work or two to three samples of their writing. Writing samples must include at least one research paper and one to two examples of scholarly or professional writing.

Master of Fine Arts with a Major in Design

Program Requirements

The Master of Fine Arts with a major in design and a concentration in fashion design or interior design requires a minimum of 60 semester hours, including 30 hours of studio, with a minimum of 21–30 hours in the concentration area (independent study arranged through faculty advisement); 12 hours in art history; 9–15 hours in the minor area; 3 hours in research methods; and 6 hours in the completion of the Problem in Lieu of Thesis. Candidates are expected to prepare an exhibition of their work for presentation to the public.

The Master of Fine Arts with a major in design and a concentration in innovation studies requires a minimum of 60 hours, including 18 credit hours in the major area (ADES 5510, ADES 5520, ADES 5522, ADES 5524, ADES 5526, ADES 5530), 12 credit hours of required interdisciplinary courses, 12 hours in required minor area (ADES 5532, ADES 5534, ADES 5536, ADES 5538), 6 hours of practicum (ADES 5546, ADES 5548) and 12 hours of graduate art history (AEAH 5842 required).

All graduate students seeking the MFA in the design department are required to participate in graduate reviews every term/semester they are enrolled in a studio course until they pass and are admitted to candidacy.

Master of Arts with a Major in Design

Program Requirements

ADES 5546, ADES 5548, ADES 5520; 9 credit hours of required interdisciplinary course electives; and 18 hours in area of concentration.

Innovation Studies Concentration

ADES 5510, ADES 5522, ADES 5524, ADES 5526, ADES 5530, AEAH 5842

Funding

Each term/semester the department is able to provide a limited number of teaching assistant positions for graduate students. Applications are available in the department office and are due in early October for the spring semester and early March for the fall semester. Contact the department

office for specific deadline dates. A limited number of scholarships are available for graduate students. Applications are due in January. Check online at www.art.unt.edu for specific dates, application forms and requirements.

Courses of Instruction

All Courses of Instruction are located in one section at the back of this catalog.

Course and Subject Guide

The “Course and Subject Guide,” found in the Courses of Instruction section of this book, serves as a table of contents and provides quick access to subject areas and prefixes.