

HUMAN CENTERED DESIGN

College of Human Ecology

Graduate Study in Design + Environmental Analysis

Master of Science in HUMAN ENVIRONMENT RELATIONS

Two-Year Graduate Program

CONCENTRATION: Environmental Psychology and Human Factors

Environmental Psychology and Human Factors (EPHF) is a multi-disciplinary concentration that focuses on the inter-relations between human beings and the physical environment. Included in this concentration are the two “cousin” disciplines of environmental psychology and human factors/ ergonomics while the backgrounds of the faculty studying these topics may include: environmental, developmental, and human factors psychology; as well as interior design, industrial design, and architecture.

Graduate training with a concentration in EPHF is suitable for those interested in careers working closely with designers as behavior science consultants/ team members. Foci include:

- Role of physical settings in human behavior
- Methods and processes for planning, designing, and managing the built environment
- Dynamic interplay between user characteristics (e.g., disability, age, socio-cultural, gender) and the built environment.

CAREERS

Career opportunities include facility planning and management; ergonomics research; architectural programming and post-occupancy evaluation; planning and environmental management; and various design and research organizations related to the physical environment. The MS in EPHF also provides an excellent foundation for more advanced graduate work in the fields of environmental psychology, human factors/ ergonomics, urban and regional planning, geography, housing, social epidemiology and other social sciences.

M.S. REQUIREMENTS/SUGGESTED COURSEWORK

A. Required Core DEA Field Courses:

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------|
| DEA 6100 | Studies in Design Thinking | 3 credits |
| DEA 6200 | Studies in Human-Environment Relations | 3 credits |
| DEA 7100 | DEA Graduate Pro Seminar (1 credit / semester x 4 semesters) | 4 credits |

B. Required Foundational Courses for Concentration:

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| DEA 6500 | Problem-Seeking through Programming | 3 credits |
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C. Research Methods:

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| DEA 6560 | Research Methods in Social Sciences | 4 credits |
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D. Statistics: ONE (1) 3-4 credit (5000-level or higher) course

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|---------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Various | Statistics ⁱ | 3-4 credits |
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Effective Fall 2023

M.S. Human Environment Relations

Concentration: Environmental Psychology and Human Factors

E. DEA Breadth: Choose THREE (3) of the following courses

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|----------|---|-----------|
| DEA 5700 | Designing Age Friendly Environments | 3 credits |
| DEA 6025 | Design for Change: Imagining Decolonial Futures | 3 credits |
| DEA 6510 | Human Factors and Inclusive Design | 3 credits |
| DEA 6520 | The Ambient Environment | 3 credits |
| DEA 6610 | Environments and Health | 3 credits |
| DEA 6650 | Poverty, Children, and the Environment | 3 credits |
| DEA 6700 | Applied Ergonomic Methods | 3 credits |

F. Thesis Courses:

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| DEA 8990 | Master's Thesis ⁱⁱ | 8-12 credits |
|----------|-------------------------------|--------------|

G. Minor Courses:

| | | |
|---------|---|--------------|
| Various | Courses for minor varies: typically 2 or 3, 3-or 4-credit courses | 6-12 credits |
|---------|---|--------------|

| Summary of Curriculum | Number of Courses | Course Credits |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| A. Required DEA Field Courses | 3 ⁱⁱⁱ | 10 |
| B. Required Foundational Courses for Concentration | 1 | 3 |
| C. Research Methods | 1 | 4 |
| D. Statistics | 1 | 3-4 |
| E. DEA Breadth | 3 | 9 |
| F. Thesis Courses ⁱⁱ | 1-2 | 8-12 |
| G. Minor Field Courses | 3 | 6-12 |
| Total Courses: 13-14 | | Total Course Credits: 43-54 |

ⁱ e.g: BTRY 6010, BTRY 7180, ILRST 5100, ILRST 6100, PSYCH 6750, HD 6750.

ⁱⁱ Thesis credits determined at the discretion of thesis committee; the number of courses and credits listed merely indicate typical range.

ⁱⁱⁱ Includes DEA 7100 as 1 course (but is required to be taken 4 times (1 credit each))

NOTE: A minimum grade of B- will be required for courses taken within the major. If a grade lower than a B- is received on a course taken within the major, the student will be required to retake the course.

Course offerings may change year to year. Consult the Courses of Study for current offerings.