

# HUMAN CENTERED DESIGN

## College of Human Ecology

Graduate Study in Design + Environmental Analysis

### Master of Arts in DESIGN

Two-Year Graduate Program

#### CONCENTRATION: Design for Interaction

The MA in Design for Interaction focuses on shaping the ways in which people and designed artifacts interact. The MA cultivates designers who are attentive to the needs and opportunities of people and the context, striving to improve life, enhance places, and support the experiences of human beings within their physical, natural, and digital surroundings. Students are asked to grapple with an under-constrained, “wicked” problem or opportunity of living today through empathic research, and demonstrate the ability to create novel concepts, and develop and test experiential prototypes responsive to the given problem or opportunity. The culmination of the degree is a design / research thesis project that contributes to design knowledge. Typically, this is manifested as a prototype along with the written thesis reporting the design process and evaluation.

#### CAREERS

Students who complete the DI concentration with in the MA in Design will be well positioned for careers in a variety of interior design or UX design research professions within design firms, corporations, and tech companies.

#### M.A. 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: ONE (1) 3-4 credit (5000-level or higher) course

Various	Research Methods <sup>i</sup>	3-4 credits
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##### D. Statistics: ONE (1) 3-4 credit (5000-level or higher) course

Various	Statistics <sup>ii</sup>	3-4 credits
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##### E. DEA Breadth: Choose TWO (2) of the following courses

DEA 5304	Design Accountability: Evaluation of the Physical Environment	3 credits
DEA 6040	Future Body Craft	3 credits
DEA 6210	Architectural Robotics	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

##### F. Arch/History: ONE (1) 3-4 credit (5000-level or higher) course

Various	Architectural/Art History/Anthropology	3-4 credits
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**G. Studio Courses: Choose ONE (1) course**

DEA 5210	Interaction Design Studio	4 credits
DEA 5305	Health and Healing Studio	4 credits
DEA 5540	Workplace Strategy Studio	4 credits
DEA 6000	Special Problems for Graduates	3-4 credits
DEA 6406	Generative Design Studio	4 credits

**H. Thesis Courses:**

DEA 8990	Master's Thesis <sup>iii</sup>	8-12 credits
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**I. Minor Courses:**

Various	Courses for minor varies: typically 2 or 3, 3-or 4-credit courses	6-12 credits
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Summary of Curriculum	Number of Courses	Course Credits
<b>A. Required DEA Field Courses</b>	3 <sup>iv</sup>	10
<b>B. Required Foundational Courses for Concentration</b>	1	3
<b>C. Research Methods</b>	1	3-4
<b>D. Statistics</b>	1	3-4
<b>E. DEA Breadth</b>	2	6
<b>F. Arch/History</b>	1	3-4
<b>G. Studio Courses</b>	1	3-4
<b>H. Thesis Courses</b>	1-2	8-12
<b>I. Minor Field Courses</b>	3	6-12
<b>Total Courses: 14-15</b>		<b>Total Course Credits: 45-59</b>

<sup>i</sup> A list of grad-level methods courses can be found at: <https://socialsciences.cornell.edu/methods-courses>

<sup>ii</sup> e.g: BTRY 6010, BTRY 7180, ILRST 5100, ILRST 6100, PSYCH 6750, HD 6750.

<sup>iii</sup> Thesis credits determined at the discretion of thesis committee; the number of courses and credits listed merely indicate typical range.

<sup>iv</sup> 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.