

# Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 11/24/21 12:09 pm

Viewing: **CDESMD**~~ES~~ **DCFMDES** : **Communication**

**Design,** ~~Design for Collaborative Futures,~~

## Master of Design

Last approved: 11/16/21 2:51 pm

Last edit: 12/02/21 9:06 am

Changes proposed by: rcc003

Submitter: 5753701      User ID: rcc003      Phone:

Program Status      Active

Academic Level      Graduate

Type of proposal      Major/Field of Study

Select a reason for this modification

Changing Title of an Existing Certificate, Degree, or Major—(LON)

Are you adding a concentration?

No

Are you adding or modifying a track?

No

Are you adding or modifying a focused study?

No

Effective Catalog Year      Fall 2022

College/School Code

Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences (ARSC)

Department Code

School of Art (ARTS)

Program Code

**CDESMD**

~~ES~~ **DCFMDES**

Degree

Master of Design

### In Workflow

1. ARSC Dean Initial
2. GRAD Dean Initial
3. Provost Initial
4. Director of Curriculum Review and Program Assessment
5. Registrar Initial
6. Institutional Research
7. ARTS Chair
8. ARSC Curriculum Committee
9. ARSC Dean
10. Global Campus
11. Provost Review
12. University Course and Program Committee
13. Graduate Council
14. Faculty Senate
15. Provost Final
16. Provost's Office-- Documentation sent to System Office
17. Higher Learning Commission
18. Board of Trustees
19. ADHE Final
20. Provost's Office-- Notification of Approval
21. Registrar Final
22. Catalog Editor Final

CIP Code

## Approval Path

1. 11/24/21 12:52 pm  
Jeannie Hulen  
(jhulen): Approved  
for ARSC Dean  
Initial
2. 12/01/21 8:59 am  
Pat Koski (pkoski):  
Approved for GRAD  
Dean Initial
3. 12/02/21 8:37 am  
Ketevan  
Mamiseishvili  
(kmamisei):  
Approved for  
Provost Initial
4. 12/02/21 9:07 am  
Alice Griffin  
(agriffin): Approved  
for Director of  
Curriculum Review  
and Program  
Assessment
5. 12/06/21 11:20 am  
Gina Daugherty  
(gdaugher):  
Approved for  
Registrar Initial
6. 12/06/21 12:20 pm  
Doug Miles  
(dmiles): Approved  
for Institutional  
Research
7. 12/07/21 1:36 pm  
Marty Maxwell  
(mclane): Approved  
for ARTS Chair
8. 12/07/21 1:37 pm  
Ryan Cochran

- (rcc003): Approved for ARSC Curriculum Committee
- 9. 12/07/21 2:10 pm  
Jeannie Hulen  
(jhulen): Approved for ARSC Dean
- 10. 12/07/21 2:11 pm  
Suzanne Kenner  
(skenner): Approved for Global Campus
- 11. 12/07/21 3:58 pm  
Ketevan  
Mamiseishvili  
(kmamisei):  
Approved for  
Provost Review
- 12. 12/20/21 8:22 am  
Alice Griffin  
(agriffin): Approved for University Course and Program Committee
- 13. 01/21/22 9:29 am  
Jim Gigantino  
(jgiganti): Approved for Graduate Council

## History

1. Nov 16, 2021 by  
Ryan Cochran  
(rcc003)

09.0702 - Digital Communication and Media/Multimedia.

Program Title

**Communication Design**, ~~Design for Collaborative Futures~~, Master of Design

Program Delivery

Method

On Campus

Is this program interdisciplinary?

No

Does this proposal impact any courses from another College/School?

No

What are the total hours needed to complete the program? 60

## Program Requirements and Description

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### Requirements

The graduate degree consists of 60 credit hours within a two year period. For those applicants who derive from interdisciplinary undergraduate degrees or require a foundational design education prior to entering the Master of Design's two-year sequence, a foundational year will be offered. This single-year non-degree status program enables instruction in the foundational tenets necessary to succeed within the subsequent M.Des. program.

**Admission requirements:** Admission to the program requires an undergraduate degree in graphic design or a related discipline, or the equivalent in relevant work experience. The application for admission is a two-step process and may require fees associated with its completion. Candidates must be successful in both processes to be admitted to the University of Arkansas and Graduate School, as well as the School of Art and M.Des. graduate program.

Apply to the Graduate School at [application.uark.edu](http://application.uark.edu).

In addition to the graduate school application, submit the following materials to the School of Art using SlideRoom, web-based system at [uarkart.slideroom.com](http://uarkart.slideroom.com):

A brief statement describing why you are interested in the Master of Design degree.

A one- to two-page autobiographical statement outlining your education, experiences, achievements, and goals for graduate study.

A one-page statement addressing your perspectives on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Resumé/Curriculum Vitae

A professional portfolio comprising 12 projects captured as digital images and uploaded as directed with appropriate attributions. Consideration should be given to high levels of detail, consistency, and a curated body of work representing your professional and/or research interests.

The uploading of these assets must conform to outlined standards. Physical examples of work will not be accepted nor can a personal website substitute for this component of the application.

A PDF of unofficial transcripts from all previous colleges and universities attended.

Three Letters of Recommendation are required and your application is not considered complete until such are received. All individuals serving as a reference should be from representatives of higher education or

professionals who are able to offer insight into the applicant's academic and research ability and potential at the graduate level.

English Proficiency Test Scores (TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE), if necessary. (Refer to Graduate School and International Studies admissions for more information at [international-admissions.uark.edu](http://international-admissions.uark.edu).)

Application deadline is January 15 for Fall admission only. The application portal on Slideroom will close at midnight (Central time) on January 15. It is recommended that you submit your application at least two weeks prior to the deadline to allow your faculty recommenders time to upload their letters.

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is not required for applicants to the Master of Design program in the School of Art at the University of Arkansas.

Students who are accepted into the Foundational Year are also conditionally accepted into the M.Des. degree tract concurrently [Foundation Year 1 + M.Des. Year 1 + M.Des. Year 2 = 3 Total Years]. However, at the end of the Foundational Year, students must undergo an extensive academic, research, and grade review. Students whose performance does not meet the assessment criteria could be asked to leave prior to commencing the Master of Design first year. While years 1 and 2 of the M.Des. are funded through the endowment, the Foundational Year is not.

**Program Requirements:** The program requires 60 graduate credit hours from the following:

Graduate Studios (33 credit hours)

<a href="#">GDES 6306</a>	Design and Communities	6
<a href="#">GDES 6346</a>	Design and Culture	6
<a href="#">GDES 6316</a>	Design and Technology	6
<a href="#">GDES 6366</a>	Thesis Preparation	6
<a href="#">GDES 6399</a>	Design Thesis	9

Graduate Seminars (12 credit hours)

<a href="#">GDES 5333</a>	Design Research Methods	3
<a href="#">GDES 5303</a>	Design Pedagogy and Leadership	3
<a href="#">GDES 5383</a>	Design Writing and Dissemination	3
<a href="#">GDES 5393</a>	Design Theory: Past, Present, and the Future	3

Graduate Special Topics (Must complete three times for 9 credit hours total)

<a href="#">GDES 6353</a>	Graduate Special Topics	9
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Approved electives (6 credit hours). Requires prior approval from the Graduate Program Director. 6

Total Hours 60

Are Similar Programs available in the area?

No

Estimated Student Demand for Program 14

Scheduled Program Review Date 2025

## Program Goals and Objectives

### Program Goals and Objectives

The goal of the Master of Design in **Communication Design for Collaborative Futures** program in the School of Art at the University of Arkansas is to prepare students to design at the edge of what is possible and what is preferable for the future of communities, culture, and technology. Supported by generous funding, students will undergo a rigorous course of study, which will include a core curriculum of design studio courses emphasizing collaborative and speculative making; seminar courses spanning the broad spectrum of design discourse; and special topics courses addressing contemporary issues in design. This curricular foundation will be enriched by a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration and community partnerships, as supported by the program's unique positioning within a preeminent art school at a research-one institution.

Students in the program will consider and enact systems-level change through collaborative design, discipline-defining inquiry, and transformative research opportunities. Enriched by a strong emphasis on methodology, students will engage with research methods from various disciplines and apply those methods to contemporary design practice. Through lectures, discussion, and workshops students will also apply research findings and various design methodologies, theories, and frameworks to develop their thesis trajectory.

## Learning Outcomes

### Learning Outcomes

After completion of the program, students will have attained:

- Ability to understand the relationship between design and communities.
- Ability to apply design research methods to contemporary design practices.
- Ability to apply pedagogical methods to future careers in academia and professional practice.
- Ability to investigate emerging technologies and consider interdisciplinary approaches and potential design outcomes.
- Ability to examine the culture of the design discipline, use provocation to further define the discipline, and understand the ways in which practitioners are accountable for design outcomes.
- Ability to examine the application of theory and frameworks within the context of design with the goal to develop a design vocabulary and ways of understanding the complexity of the discipline.
- Ability to engage in diverse modes of writing in design and explore writing for various outlets such as reviews, journal articles, books, popular culture, and other publishing options.
- Ability to develop a written proposal for their thesis project that demonstrates that the project is viable and has a clear research direction.
- Ability to complete a thesis project that includes a designed system, written research paper, and public presentation demonstrating the ability to address significant design and research challenges.

Description and justification of the request

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
<p>Changing the name of the program to "Communication Design."</p> <p>Changing the program code to "CDESMDES."</p>	<p>Our meeting with our NASAD consultant Meredith Davis, highlighted a need to address the current name of our degree, previously called MDES in Design for Collaborative Futures. Meredith's feedback made clear that in our current state, the degree would be better labeled communication design. Communication Design is a more recognizable term that accurately describes the degree course of study. It fits the values of the proposal submitted to NASAD and the expertise of the faculty that will be teaching in the program. Additionally, the "communication design" designation and program definition is comparable to other institutions with similar names and curriculum (Herron School of Art + Design, Kent State University, University of Florida, Jacksonville State University, Texas A&amp;M University).</p>
<p>Added an MOU with the department of communication for use of the word "communication" in the program title.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Upload attachments

[CDESMDES - Title Change - MOU.pdf](#)

[CDESMDES-DCFMDDES - Title Change - Ltr of Notification.pdf](#)

Reviewer Comments

**Alice Griffin (agriffin) (12/02/21 9:06 am):** Revised language on the LON in the justification with input from Vice Provost. Removed duplication from the form (degree/CIP code) to clarify no changes. Also, inserted anticipated approval dates and renamed document to help track changes.