HUMAN ECOLOGY, MFA

The focus of the MFA degree is on creative performance in design. Its goals are to promote strong and creative conceptual thinking, exploration, interpretation, innovation, and overall excellence in design execution.

Students interested in the MFA should refer to the named option in Design Studies (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/human-ecology-school-wide/human-ecology-mfa/human-ecology-design-studies-mfa/#admissionstext).

ADMISSIONS

Applications are accepted once per year for fall admission and are due by the first Monday in January of the same calendar year for which the student is applying.

Students interested in the Human Ecology, MFA should apply directly to this Human Ecology Design Studies, MFA (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/human-ecology-school-wide/human-ecology-mfa/human-ecology-design-studies-mfa/#admissionstext) named option.

FUNDING

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Funding opportunities for Human Ecology graduate students are available and made possible, in large part, by generous donations to SoHE. Every year, these funds are used to fund teaching or project assistantships, award academic excellence scholarships, and provide students doing their masters or doctoral research or final MFA project with conference travel scholarships and graduate research scholarships. See the School of Human Ecology Enrollment Policy on Funding Eligibility (https://sohe.wisc.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-forms-deadlines/full-time-enrollment-policy-for-funding-eligibility) and view current funding opportunities on our program website (https://sohe.wisc.edu/graduate-students/funding) for more information.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Note: The major is currently non-admitting. Students are admitted through one of the named options (sub-majors) below (p. ).
REQUIRED COURSES
Select a Named Option for courses required.

NAMED OPTIONS (SUB-MAJORS)
A named option is a formally documented sub-major within an academic major program. Named options appear on the transcript with degree conferral. Students pursuing the Master of Fine Arts in Human Ecology must select the following named option:

View as list View as grid


PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES
Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

PROGRAM RESOURCES
The School of Human Ecology Graduate Program values the professional development of graduate students and provides financial awards to those who are invited to present at professional conferences/exhibits. The purpose of the support is to encourage participation in professional development, scholarly research, and/or creative endeavor and to help cover expenses not covered by other sources. Students may receive a maximum award of $650 for travel ($750 for international travel) to support conference participation in a single academic year.

In addition, each academic department within the School of Human Ecology may offer additional professional development grant opportunities. See the program Events Calendar (https://sohe.wisc.edu/calendar-of-events) for the most up-to-date information on professional development opportunities.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. Articulate challenges, frontiers and limits with respect to theory, knowledge or practice within the area of study.
2. Formulate ideas, concepts, designs, and/or techniques beyond the current boundaries of knowledge within one's area of study.
3. Create research, scholarship or performance that makes a substantive contribution to one's field.
4. Foster ethical conduct and professional guidelines.

POLICIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES
The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

GRADUATE PROGRAM HANDBOOK
The Graduate Program Handbook (https://sohe.wisc.edu/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/MFA_Handbook_DS_Review.pdf) is the repository for all of the program's policies and requirements.

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Work from Other Institutions
With program approval, students are allowed to count up to 20 credits of graduate coursework taken at other institutions or as a UW–Madison Special student (with a maximum of 9 special student credits as part of the 20). Prior coursework taken at other institutions may not be used to satisfy the minimum graduate residence credit requirement. Credits earned five or more years prior to admission to an MFA degree are not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate
With program approval, up to 7 credits numbered 300 or above from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward degree credit; undergraduate courses must be numbered 700 or above to count toward the minimum graduate coursework requirement. No undergraduate coursework may count toward graduate residence requirement.

UW–Madison University Special
With program approval, students are allowed to count up to 20 credits of graduate coursework taken at other institutions or as a UW–Madison Special student (with a maximum of 9 special student credits as part of the 20). Special student coursework must be numbered 300 or above for residence and degree credit and 700 or above for minimum graduate coursework (50%) credit.

Credits earned five or more years prior to admission to an MFA degree are not allowed to satisfy requirements. Use of Special student credit may require payment of tuition difference.

PROBATION
The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE
Every graduate student is required to have an advisor. An advisor is a faculty member, or sometimes a committee, from the major department responsible for providing advice regarding graduate studies. An advisor generally serves as the thesis advisor. In many cases, an advisor is assigned to incoming students. Students can be suspended from the Graduate School if they do not have an advisor.

To ensure that students are making satisfactory progress toward a degree, the Graduate School expects them to meet with their advisor on a regular basis.
A committee often accomplishes advising for the students in the early stages of their studies.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

12 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

Master’s degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

**OTHER**

n/a

**PEOPLE**

Faculty:

**CIVIL SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY STUDIES**

*Professors:* Cynthia Jasper (chair), Lori Bakken, Constance Flanagan

*Assistant Professors:* Kendra Alexander, Kasey Keeler, Jennifer Gaddis, Leah Horowitz, Carolina Sarmiento, Shannon Sparks

**CONSUMER SCIENCE (CONSUMER BEHAVIOR & FAMILY ECONOMICS)**

*Professors:* Nancy Wong (chair), Judith Bartfeld

*Associate Professors:* J. Michael Collins, Clifford Robb

*Assistant Professors:* Feneba Addo, Lydia Ashton

**DESIGN STUDIES**

*Professors:* Roberto Rengel (chair), Jennifer Angus, Wei Dong, Majid Sarmadi, Mark Nelson

*Associate Professors:* Mary Hark, Carolyn Kallenborn, Marina Moskowitz, Kevin Ponto, Jung-hye Shin

*Assistant Professors:* Marianne Fairbanks, Kristin Thorleifsdottir

**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES**

*Professors:* Janean Dilworth-Bart (chair), Charles Raison, Julie Poehlmann-Tynan

*Associate Professors:* Larissa Duncan, Sarah Halpern-Meekin, Sigan Hartley, Heather Kirkorian, Robert Nix, Lauren Papp

*Assistant Professors:* Kristin Litzelman, Margaret Kerr