HUMAN ECOLOGY: DESIGN STUDIES, PH.D.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

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

NAMED OPTION REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction</th>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
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</table>

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep working and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements Detail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Detail</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit</td>
<td>51 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit</td>
<td>32 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>Half of degree coursework (26 credits out of 51 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.30 GPA required.</td>
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Other Grade Requirements

The Graduate School requires an average grade of B or better in all coursework (300 or above, not including research credits) taken as a graduate student unless conditions for probationary status require higher grades. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.

Assessments and Examinations

Qualifying Research Project: The Qualifying Research Project (3 credits) is part of the Core Course requirements for every Ph.D. student, and must be completed prior to preliminary exams. The Qualifying Research Project provides students with an opportunity to conduct independent research in their area of specialization in preparation for their dissertation. While limited in scope, the project should be comparable to the final dissertation in terms of its intellectual tone and quality. The project could be a self-contained research paper that could later be incorporated into one of chapters in the final dissertation, building theoretical model for the dissertation, or proposal and conduct of pilot study for their final dissertation. Students are encouraged to disseminate the project broadly, in the format of conference papers or published journal articles in their respective fields.

The Qualifying Research Project may be based on work completed as part of any UW graduate seminar. Students often enroll in an independent study with their major advisor to complete this project. The project must be submitted to and approved by student’s major advisor; the project must receive a passing grade in order for the student to sit for the preliminary examination.

Preliminary Examination: All Ph.D. students sit for a preliminary examination after satisfactorily completing coursework and the Qualifying Research Project. The exam is intended to demonstrate the students’ broad knowledge in the field of design, and specialized expertise in both a major and a minor area. Students must pass the preliminary examination before submitting a dissertation proposal, and before advancing to dissertator status.

Research and Thesis: Students with dissertator status are expected to enroll for 3 credits directly related to dissertation research or production. These credits are generally research and thesis credits, independent studies, or required seminars; they must be at the 300 level or above. Three credits is the minimum credit load per semester for dissertators during each of the fall and spring semesters; this is considered a full time load. Dissertators must register for 3 credits each semester until the Ph.D. thesis is filed.

Foreign language proficiency may be required for students in the Design History track; if their major or minor areas or dissertation requires work in a language other than English. Students in EDR Track may be required to fulfill the foreign language requirement if the student’s research involves the use of a language other than English. Competency may be acquired independently or through structured coursework and is assessed through examination. Exams must be taken before students advance to dissertator status.
Doctoral Minor/Breadth Requirements

REQUIRED COURSES

Ph.D. students must complete a minimum of 51 credits. Of these, 42 credits will include Core Courses, courses in a Major Area of Specialization (Design History or "DH track"; Environmental Research Design or "EDR track"; or Textile Science or "TS track")\(^1\), courses in a Minor Area of Specialization, and a Qualifying Research Project. The remaining 13 credits may be fulfilled through foreign language competencies, independent studies (i.e. to prepare for qualifying examinations), or Dissertator credits. At least 50% of credits (26 of 51 total credits) applied toward the doctorate degree must be from courses designed for graduate work; courses numbered 300–699 that assess graduate students separately from undergraduate students generally satisfy this requirement. Students must maintain a 3.3-grade point average to remain in good standing.

\(^1\) These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

**Code** | **Title** | **Credits**
--- | --- | ---

### Pre-Doctoral Preparation Courses \(^1\)

**Design History**
- Art / Architecture / Design History Survey (2 courses)
- Design History or Art History Research Methods (1 course)
- Design History Research Seminar (1 course)

**Environmental Design Research**
- Introductory research methods (2 courses):
  - INTER-HE 793 Research Methods
  - HDFS 425 Research Methods in Human Development and Family Studies
  - SOC/C&E SOC 357 Methods of Sociological Inquiry

- Introductory statistics course (2 courses):
  - STAT 301 Introduction to Statistical Methods
  - STAT 302 Accelerated Introduction to Statistical Methods
  - STAT 371 Introductory Applied Statistics for the Life Sciences

**Classical Sociological Theory:**
- SOC/C&E SOC 475 Classical Sociological Theory

**Textile Science**
- STAT 312 Introduction to Theory and Methods of Mathematical Statistics II
- STAT 333 Applied Regression Analysis
- STAT/MATH 424 Statistical Experimental Design
- STAT/MATH 431 Introduction to the Theory of Probability

**Human Ecology Core**
- INTER-HE 801 Special Topics in Human Ecology
- INTER-HE 792 Theories and Perspectives in Human Ecology

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Core Courses (^2)</th>
<th>15</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prior to doctoral candidacy, all Ph.D. students will be expected to enroll in 15 credits distributed among the following Core Courses:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>DS 920 Seminar in Design Studies</td>
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**Design Studies Seminar (select one as appropriate):**
- DS 221 Person and Environment Interactions (EDR track only)
- DS 920 Seminar in Design Studies (Topic: Seminar in Design History; DH track only) \(^3\)
- DS 920 Seminar in Design Studies (Topic: Seminar in New Developments in Textiles; TS track only) \(^3\)

**Research Design and Methods (select one as appropriate):**
- Methods for Design History (select from Dimensions in Material Culture, Architectural History Methods, or Art History Methods) (DH track only)
- DS/F&W ECOL/URB R PL 955 Practical Research Design and Methods of Empirical Inquiry (EDR track only)
- DS 920 Seminar in Design Studies (Topic: Textile Science Research Methods; TS track only)

### Qualifying Research Project

**Graduate Student Instructor Course**

**Qualifying Research Project**
- Major Area of Specialization \(^4\)
- Minor Area of Specialization (Doctoral Minor) \(^5\)

**Qualifying Research Project**
- 3

**Qualifying Exam/Preliminary Exam (Non credit)**
- 3

**Elective Credits**
- 3

**Research and Thesis**
- 3

**Total Credits**
- 51

\(^1\) Promising applicants who do not have sufficient educational background may be admitted, under the condition that he or she take pre-doctoral preparation courses; if the student satisfactorily completes a pre-doctoral course with a 3.3 GPA or above, the student may subsequently advance to full doctoral student status. Students will work closely with their major faculty advisor to determine appropriate pre-doctoral preparation courses.

\(^2\) The Ph.D. Core Course curriculum offers an opportunity for all Design Studies students to establish a foundational knowledge of theories, research methods, and seminars relevant to design research. The core curriculum also includes specialized training in instruction and pedagogy; this is requisite for graduate teaching assistant duties (often a source of doctoral funding), and useful for students who wish to pursue academic careers. The core curriculum also includes an independent study that will facilitate the production of the Qualifying Research Project.

\(^3\) Or independent study; topics may vary.
The major area of specialization provides students with an overview of the knowledgebase and seminal research in their concentration field; coursework in the major area will serve as a foundation for the preliminary exam and dissertation. Students are encouraged to take courses that are offered both inside and outside the Design Studies department to develop an interdisciplinary framework for their doctoral research. Students may also benefit from courses offered through CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) traveling scholar program, the academic consortium of twelve major teaching and research universities in the Midwest designed to share specialized courses and resources.

Ph.D. students are expected to develop a strong foundation in research methods. Students in the DH track must take at least one advanced methods courses in applicable areas, such as art history or material culture. Students in the EDR track are encouraged to take advanced research methods courses (e.g., advanced qualitative/quantitative, ethnography, GIS) and advanced statistics courses as their dissertation topic requires. Students in the TS track are expected to develop a strong foundation in chemistry, the fundamentals of plasma chemistry, and plasma processing. Technology and chemistry are an important part of textile science track.

All Ph.D. students select a minor area of specialization outside their major area of specialization. The minor area should be distinctive but complementary to student’s major area. The UW–Madison Graduate School policy outlines two possible options regarding minor area of specialization:

- Option A: requires a minimum of 10 credits in a single disciplinary program (e.g., Art History, Landscape Architecture). Fulfillment of this option requires the approval of the minor program.
- Option B: requires a minimum of 9 credits in one or more programs forming a coherent topic, and can include course work in the program (e.g., technology-focused virtual reality). Fulfillment of this option requires the approval of the Design Studies program. The distribution of other credits will be approved by the individual student’s Ph.D. committee.

**VR Technology Focused Minor**

The Design Studies program offers a unique minor area of specialization in Virtual Reality. Students in both the DH and EDR tracks may minor in this field. The minor provides a technology-focused approach for students looking to develop new Virtual Reality technologies or to utilize Virtual Reality technologies in their research. The School of Human Ecology houses a newly developed Virtual Reality system to which students undertaking this minor will have full access. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to work with other Virtual Reality and simulation environments around the UW–Madison campus. Students looking to undertake the VR technology minor should be familiar with concepts of computer programming and programming languages.

Students in the TS Track should develop expertise in both technology and chemistry. Students have the opportunity to develop a minor in the emerging field of technical textiles. If a distributed minor is desired, students must take a minimum of 6 credits in technology and 6 credits in chemistry (12 credits total).

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**Electives:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH/COMP SCI/ED PSYCH 770</td>
<td>Human-Computer Interaction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DS/COMP SCI/I SYE 518</td>
<td>Wearable Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMP SCI 679</td>
<td>Computer Game Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMP SCI 559</td>
<td>Computer Graphics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMP SCI 777</td>
<td>Computer Animation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMP SCI 838</td>
<td>Topics in Computing (Topic: Advanced Modeling and Simulation)</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMP SCI 838</td>
<td>Topics in Computing (Topic: Advanced Graphics)</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMP SCI 838</td>
<td>Topics in Computing (Topic: Visualization)</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read more about the minor here (https://blogs.discovery.wisc.edu/kponto/dscvr/).

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1 Note: This is taken by the student as a distributed doctoral minor (Option B). The name “Virtual Reality” does not appear on the transcript or anywhere in the student record.