Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Design
with Concentration of Interior Design

DEGREE PLAN GUIDELINES
Last Updated: August 2012

The degree plan is an outline of the student’s course of study, listing courses already completed, and courses that remain to be taken in order to graduate. The degree plan must be filed with the Graduate School through the Department of Design office. This plan is completed in consultation with the major professor and done after completion of the first semester in the program, but prior to completion of 24 credit hours of graduate work toward the MFA.

Major Professor
The major professor is the faculty member who guides the graduate student’s studies in the program and who chairs the student’s MFA committee. The student chooses the major professor in consultation with the program faculty, but the decision depends heavily upon the student’s area of focus within the program and consent from the professor.

Graduate Review
All graduate students are required to present their work for critical evaluation and analysis by their respective faculty during a graduate review. For Interior Design majors, this will occur at the end of each long semester, beginning at the culmination of their 2nd semester. The process is repeated until the Graduate Review Committee recommends that the student be passed and admitted to candidacy, or failed and recommended to leave the program.

MFA Committee
The candidate, in consultation with the major professor and the Department Chair, chooses his or her MFA Committee. This committee is comprised of a minimum of 3 members: the major professor, a minor professor and at least one other faculty member from the Department of Design. In addition to the three required faculty members who must serve on this committee, additional committee members may include the Department Chair, the Dean of the College, or one of the College’s Associate Deans. Faculty from outside the Department or the College who possess knowledge relevant to the candidate’s project may also serve on this committee, as long as the major professor and the Department Chair approve.

Admission to Candidacy
Attainment of candidacy must be actively sought and earned. The graduate faculty assists in this endeavor via coursework, individual consultations, and the graduate portfolio review. Although the accumulation of graduate hours with satisfactory grades is an integral part of program requirements, candidacy is not an automatic occurrence.
Before seeking recommendation for admission to candidacy and before beginning work on the creative project, Master's degree students are required to have successfully completed any deficiencies and to have submitted scores on the Graduate Record Examination. In addition, the following specific requirements must be satisfied:

1. Completion of 24 hours of graduate work in art/design at UNT.
2. Written recommendation from the Graduate (Portfolio) Review Committee.
3. Degree Plan approval and certification by the major and minor professors.

**Oral and Written Examinations**
All MFA candidates must pass an oral examination in defense of the Problem in Lieu of Thesis.

**Exhibitions**
Each candidate for an MFA degree must prepare an exhibition of work of a quality suitable for presentation to the public. This project must be completed under the supervision of the candidate's major and minor professors and his or her MFA Committee. Interior Design students should register for Problem in Lieu of Thesis (Art 5920–Proposal, followed by Art 5930–Descriptive Paper and Exhibition) under the major professor.

The College’s gallery spaces are available for these exhibitions; however, graduate students have the option of scheduling their MFA show at any reputable exhibition space in the DFW metroplex as long as they have secured prior approval from the major professor and the Department Chair. Please work with the art gallery a semester in advance of your exhibition to arrange a date.

**Program Structures and Components**
With each course counting as 3 credit hours, each candidate must successfully complete a minimum of 60 semester hours to earn the ID MFA degree. All courses must be numbered 5000-level or higher. The basic program structures are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21-30</td>
<td>7-10</td>
<td>(Major concentration)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-15</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>(Minor concentration)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Art History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-9</td>
<td>0-3</td>
<td>Electives (depending upon how many major &amp; minor courses are taken)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Problem in Lieu of Thesis (Art 5920 and 5930)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
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It is strongly recommended that each graduate student become familiar with the policies and regulations outlined in the graduate catalog. It is the responsibility of each individual student to meet all of the requirements of the Department of Design, College of Visual Arts and Design and of the Graduate School.