

Date Submitted: 02/11/21 10:30 am

## Viewing: **DSGNMDS : Design Studies, Master of Design Studies**

Last approved: 05/08/20 3:12 pm

Last edit: 02/12/21 1:08 am

Changes proposed by: melindas

Catalog Pages Using  
this Program

[Design Studies \(DSGN\)](#)

Submitter: 2763      User ID: melindas      Phone:

Program Status      Active

Academic Level      Graduate

Type of proposal      Major/Field of Study

Select a reason for this modification

Making Minor Changes to an Existing Degree (e.g. changing 15 or fewer hours, changing admission/graduation requirements, adding/changing Focused Study or Track)

Are you adding a concentration?

**No** ~~Yes~~

Are you adding or modifying a track?

No

Are you adding or modifying a focused study?

No

Effective Catalog Year      Fall 2021

College/School Code

Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design (ARCH)

### In Workflow

1. ARCH Dean Initial
2. GRAD Dean Initial
3. Director of Program Assessment and Review
4. Registrar Initial
5. Institutional Research
6. ARCD Chair
7. ARCH Dean
8. Global Campus
9. Provost Review
10. University Course and Program Committee
11. Graduate Committee
12. Faculty Senate
13. Provost Final
14. Provost's Office-- Notification of Approval
15. Registrar Final
16. Catalog Editor Final

### Approval Path

1. 02/10/21 11:20 am  
Melinda Smith (melindas):  
Approved for ARCH Dean Initial
2. 02/10/21 2:13 pm  
Jim Gigantino (jgiganti): Rollback to Initiator

## Department Code

Department of Architecture and Design Dean (ARCD)

## Program Code

DSGNMDS

## Degree

Master of Design Studies

## CIP Code

3. 02/10/21 2:17 pm  
Melinda Smith  
(melindas):  
Approved for ARCH  
Dean Initial
4. 02/10/21 2:21 pm  
Jim Gigantino  
(jgiganti): Approved  
for GRAD Dean  
Initial
5. 02/11/21 8:52 am  
Alice Griffin  
(agriffin): Rollback  
to Initiator
6. 02/11/21 9:53 am  
Melinda Smith  
(melindas):  
Approved for ARCH  
Dean Initial
7. 02/11/21 10:27 am  
Jim Gigantino  
(jgiganti): Rollback  
to Initiator
8. 02/11/21 10:31 am  
Melinda Smith  
(melindas):  
Approved for ARCH  
Dean Initial
9. 02/11/21 10:51 am  
Jim Gigantino  
(jgiganti): Approved  
for GRAD Dean  
Initial
10. 02/11/21 2:28 pm  
Alice Griffin  
(agriffin): Approved  
for Director of  
Program  
Assessment and  
Review

11. 02/12/21 1:09 am  
Lisa Kulczak  
(lkulcza): Approved  
for Registrar Initial
12. 02/12/21 1:47 pm  
Gary Gunderman  
(ggunderm):  
Approved for  
Institutional  
Research
13. 02/12/21 1:51 pm  
Melinda Smith  
(melindas):  
Approved for ARCD  
Chair
14. 02/12/21 1:52 pm  
Melinda Smith  
(melindas):  
Approved for ARCH  
Dean
15. 02/12/21 1:54 pm  
Suzanne Kenner  
(skenner): Approved  
for Global Campus
16. 02/15/21 12:18 pm  
Terry Martin  
(tmartin): Approved  
for Provost Review

### History

1. May 21, 2018 by  
Melinda Smith  
(melindas)
2. May 8, 2020 by  
Melinda Smith  
(melindas)

04.0201 - Architecture.

Program Title

Design Studies, Master of Design Studies

Program Delivery

Method

On Campus

Is this program interdisciplinary?

No

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

No Yes

What are the total 36  
hours needed to  
complete the  
program?

## Program Requirements and Description

---

Requirements

### Admission Requirements & Process

Admission to the Master of Design Studies program is based upon multiple criteria that include academic preparation, professional experience, and an alignment of career goals.

All application processes must be completed by March 1. Enrollment is limited, and early application is encouraged to receive preferred consideration for admission and financial support.

The application process requires two separate processes detailed below, and some fees may be required for completion.

1. The first step is completed through the University of Arkansas Graduate School electronic portal.

Applicants must meet the University of Arkansas Graduate School requirements of a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the last 60 hours of an accredited degree and TOEFL/IELTS/PTE-A scores, if required, as detailed in the Graduate Catalog.

2. The second step is completed through the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design SlideRoom, a web-based platform.

Applicants must hold an accredited baccalaureate degree in a design discipline (architecture, landscape architecture or interior design). For students holding a degree from a non-US institution, please contact the graduate coordinator to discuss degree alternatives. Professional licensure is desirable for admission but is not required.

Materials uploaded to SlideRoom must include:

- personal statement of career goals,
- resume or vitae outlining relevant professional work experience, academic internship, and relevant education,

- pdf of unofficial transcripts for previous education,
- portfolio of design work to be reviewed by graduate design faculty to ascertain individual preparedness,
- three letters of reference addressing your work, conceptual thinking skills, work habits, potential for graduate study, and professional potential. These letters should be requested utilizing the SlideRoom platform.

**NOTE: The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is not required for applicants to the Master of Design Studies program in the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design at the University of Arkansas.**

International students are encouraged to apply to the M.Des. program. Specific information regarding university admission criteria, cost and funding opportunities, and other resources needed to facilitate advanced study is located on the Graduate School and International Education website.

Students are strongly encouraged to visit with the graduate coordinator to learn about specific opportunities prior to beginning the application process. Questions concerning application materials, processes and deadlines should be directed to the Fay Jones School graduate coordinator at [FayGrad@uark.edu](mailto:FayGrad@uark.edu).

**Requirements for the Master of Design:** The program can be completed in 1 year (3 semesters including 2 full-time, on-campus semesters combined with an off-campus, summer residency component). The curriculum includes two advanced design studios addressing increasingly complex challenges resolved first through the synthesis of multiple knowledge domains and moving to scenarios for which there are unidentified constraints and unknown methods for solution.

The M.Des. program requires 36 credit hours. Core courses comprise 24 credit hours and each concentration requires an additional 12 credit hours **selected from one of the following concentrations: Resiliency Design, Retail and Hospitality Design, or Integrated Wood Design.** ~~elective coursework.~~

#### Core Courses

<a href="#">FJAD 6723</a>	Methods of Design Inquiry	3
<a href="#">FJAD 6803</a>	Design Leadership	3
<a href="#">FJAD 6906</a>	Advanced Design Studio	6
<a href="#">FJAD 6916</a>	Advanced Design Studio II	6
<a href="#">FJAD 6926</a>	Graduate Residency	6

**Concentration Requirements** **12**

Total Hours 36

#### Are Similar Programs available in the area?

No

Estimated Student Demand for Program 10-15 a year

Scheduled Program Review Date 2024-2025

Program Goals and Objectives

### Program Goals and Objectives

While professional architects, landscape architects, and interior designers may pursue professional licensure through accredited baccalaureate degrees, there is a growing demand for expertise and specialized knowledge on emerging and critical issues, extending design education in contemporary settings. The current proposal is a Master of Design Studies degree serving as structure for specific areas of concentration initially including Resiliency Design and Retail and Hospitality Design. Utilizing strengths across the University of Arkansas campus, the M.Des. is a 36 credit hour program that includes 24 hours of core courses and 12 elective credit hours for each concentration. The course offerings are combined with a professional residency to immerse students in these areas of study. This program will prepare graduates to secure leadership positions in architecture and design firms, municipalities, and business settings where advanced knowledge and skills are increasingly required for success.

- Enable graduates to pursue careers grounded in the design, manufacturing, and construction of wood and timber environments and products.
- Enhance state and regional resources and economic development with the advanced study and design of wood and timber environments.
- Develop learning resources in emerging technologies and fabrication processes benefitting individual goals and industry demands.

### Learning Outcomes

#### Learning Outcomes

- Generate comprehensive design solutions to resolve emerging and complex issues within specific domains.
- Identify and apply appropriate design strategies necessary to resolve complex design scenarios in specific sites and in global systems.
- Demonstrate creative problem solving across multiple environmental scales with competing needs and multiple constraints.
- Interpret existing knowledge in a contemporary context for the purpose of generating innovative design solutions.
- Demonstrate the ability to address the cultural, social, political, environmental, and economic aspects of contemporary design contexts.
- Identify through appropriate methods of inquiry emerging and critical issues relative to a range of environmental typologies and scales.
- Articulate the interconnected spatial, environmental, and technical systems that inform design solutions utilizing emerging wood and timber technologies.
- Implement cutting-edge technologies and the production and manufacturing of wood products to create safe and sustainable structures.

### Learning Outcomes

- Identify emerging and critical issues in the domain of wood relative to a range of building scales and typologies.
- Generate comprehensive design solutions to resolve emerging and complex issues utilizing timber and wood technologies.

#### Description and justification of the request

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
Inserting admission requirements and process into the catalog copy.	The Master of Design Studies is a post-professional degree serving practitioners within the architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design fields. The strengths of design practitioners are better revealed through a rigorous portfolio review, where problem analysis and solutions are communicated graphically, pictorially, and verbally. This is a better indicator of student success compared to a standardized exam. Further, the GRE and other standardized exams are a barrier, both financially and perceptually, to a diverse range of student applicants.

#### Upload attachments

[Revised Catalog Copy for Admission Requirements 22Oct2020.docx](#)

#### Reviewer Comments

**Jim Gigantino (jgiganti) (02/10/21 2:13 pm):** Rollback: The updated admissions requirements need to be put into the CIM block instead of the justification/description section/attached. Otherwise it won't get updated in the catalog.

**Alice Griffin (agriffin) (02/11/21 8:52 am):** Rollback: Please replace details in description block, with a general statement regarding the insertion of admission requirements into the catalog. Also, please change your response to the adding a concentration question and does this proposal impact other schools/colleges. In addition, insert a comment to reflect the concentration hours in the program requirements. Thank you.

**Jim Gigantino (jgiganti) (02/11/21 10:27 am):** Rollback: I would recommend that you delete the "2021" in this sentence as this will be in the catalog for all future years-- "This date allows for admission in fall 2021; spring start dates are not possible.

**Alice Griffin (agriffin) (02/11/21 2:27 pm):** Inserted the following in program requirements with permission from submitter: "selected from one of the following concentrations: Resiliency

Design, Retail and Hospitality Design, or Integrated Wood Design."

**Alice Griffin (agriffin) (02/11/21 2:28 pm):** ATTENTION: Changes to the admission requirements requires campus approval.

**Lisa Kulczak (lkulcza) (02/12/21 1:08 am):** Adjusted question on adding a new concentration to no; IWDS was added effective fall 2020.

Key: 631