Master of Arts in Critical and Historical Craft Studies

YEAR ONE

FALL SEMESTER

July Residency  Required
CRFT 5410  History and Theory I  5 credits
CRFT 5110  Materials Lab I  5 credits
CRFT 5310  Research Lab I  4 credits
Total: 14 credits

SPRING SEMESTER

January Residency  Required
CRFT 5420  History and Theory II  5 credits
CRFT 5120  Materials Lab II  4 credits
CRFT 5320  Research Lab II  5 credits
Total: 14 credits

Year One Total: 28 credits

YEAR TWO

FALL SEMESTER

July Residency  Required
CRFT 6410  History and Theory III  4 credits
CRFT 6110  Materials Lab III  4 credits
CRFT 6310  Research Lab III  4 credits
CRFT 6x1x  Practicum Project I  2 credits
Total: 14 credits

SPRING SEMESTER

January Residency  Required
CRFT 6420  History and Theory IV  4 credits
CRFT 6120  Materials Lab IV  3 credits
CRFT 6320  Research Lab IV  3 credits
CRFT 6x2x  Practicum Project II  4 credits
**Course Descriptions**

**HISTORY AND THEORY**
Taught by a team of rotating faculty, this required course introduces students through an integrated approach to histories and theories of craft from a variety of disciplines, theoretical frameworks, and cultural arenas. Students are introduced to historical texts and theoretical concepts during the residency and continue their examination of materials during the independent study portion of the semester with scheduled meetings with core faculty and mentors. Content is delivered through lectures, workshops, discussion, seminars, texts and recordings. Project work may include weekly critical writing, analytical texts, and research papers. The first semester provides a foundational survey. Semester II expands on the previous semester’s foundational survey, and introduces material focused on craft in public spheres, such as: exhibitions, museums, art fairs, street vendors, retail venues, and tourist sites. Semester three introduces material focused on craft and communication, such as: publications in print and online, journals, magazines, blogs, podcasts, and social media. Semester four expands on the exploration of historical texts and theoretical concepts during the residency, and includes student selection from their independent study

**MATERIALS LAB**
Material knowledge and the physical labor of working with tools is the purview of craft. During each residency, students observe or experience a range of craft processes, methods and materials. Team taught by a variety of faculty members, readings and assignments for this Lab address ways in which materiality, theories about making, and ways in which the physical connection between the body, the mind, and materials are considered, critically examined, and communicated. Semester one offers experimental readings and activities drawn from multi-disciplinary sources, including: art history, material culture, literature, film, anthropology, visual culture, and physical and material sciences. Semester II connects with scenography, curatorial practices, and display strategies. Semester III explores communication and materials. Semester IV continues the survey and includes explorations connected to student projects
RESEARCH METHODS LAB

Team taught by a variety of faculty members, this Lab explores research methods from a variety of disciplines. Semester I will address interviews and archival research. Semester II explores craft in public spaces, and Semester III explores communication strategies from social media to scholarly writing to film. Semester IV explores presentational strategies and public speaking.

PRACTICUM

The Practicum series of courses is the independent study component of the program. In Practicum Project I, students develop a research-supported project proposal. Practicum Project II offers time and space for students to develop their project with close faculty supervision. Once approved, students move to Practicum Project III, where the presentation of the final project in a public colloquium is the capstone event for graduation and completion of the MA degree. The Practicum Project may take a variety of forms: journal length article, exhibition, colloquium development, a series of short critical essays/reviews, curricular development, podcast series, or a director-approved form that offers the opportunity for clear applied research and presentation in a public format.

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