

## **Master of Arts in Critical Craft Studies Curriculum**

Each student is required to participate in 5 on-site residencies and 4 independent study/off-site courses that will total up to 60 credits. Each student will have experiences connected to writing, speaking and curating; a final practicum project is required of each student and may include a thesis-length essay, exhibition, course development or another form that demonstrates the application of course offerings and critical inquiry in the field. Each semester includes a range of approaches, teaching styles, and content. Semesters are structured to move students through Research Methods; Craft in Public; Communication about Craft; and Applied Research.

### **YEAR ONE**

#### **FALL SEMESTER**

July Residency *Required*

CRFT 5410 History and Theory I	5 credits
CRFT 5120 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 5220 Materials Lab II	4 credits
CRFT 5320 Research Lab II	5 credits
Total:	14 credits
<b>Year One Total:</b>	<b>28 credits</b>

### **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 6430 Practicum Project I	2 credits
Total:	14 credits

#### **SPRING SEMESTER**

<i>January Residency Required</i>	
CRFT 6420 History and Theory IV	4 credits
CRFT 6120 Materials Lab IV	3 credits
CRFT 6320 Research Lab IV	3 credits
CRFT 6440 Practicum Project II	4 credits
Total: 14 credits	

## **FINAL PRESENTATION**

*July Colloquium Required*

CRFT 6500 Practicum Project Presentation	4 credits
Total: 4 credits	
<b>Year Two Total: 32 credits</b>	

**Total for the Program: 60 credits**

## **Course Descriptions**

### **HISTORY AND THEORY I, II, III, IV**

In this course, you focus on craft history and theory. In your first year (History and Theory I & II), you explore craft discourse and the forms through which craft history is conveyed—for example: survey texts, museum publications, and anthologies. You engage with archives as a form and source for research and knowledge construction, examining how archives reinforce knowledge and exploring ways to create knowledge outside of existing constraints. With a focus on writing and resources available in English, you address contemporary and modern thinking about craft from multiple global perspectives, paying close attention to representation and voice and unsettling coloniality.

This writing and experience-focused course includes individual and group research projects, field trips, writing development, and work with mentors in addition to instructors and advisors. During your second year (History and Theory III & IV), you learn and apply multidisciplinary theoretical concepts. Through close readings and applied projects that build your research and communication skills, you expand your knowledge of craft discourse, studying concepts drawn from multiple fields such as anthropology, culture studies, critical race theory, ethnic studies, folklore, gender studies, material culture, philosophy, and sensorial studies. Courses begin during residencies, which also include workshop faculty mini-courses.

### **MATERIALS LAB I, II, III, IV**

In this course, you focus on applying questions about materials and materiality through observation, analysis, and presentation of concepts in a range of formats: writing, audio guides,

podcasts, zines, and more. Materials Lab I & II shifts thematically with the instructor and may focus on developing a variety of skills to convey research and observations through writing, examining topics connected to craft such as the environment and sustainability, or building object analysis skills. In Materials Lab III & IV, you expand your writing and observational skills to applied learning contexts such as site analysis, audio guides, student-led publication, and symposium content development. In this course, you explore a wide variety of ideas and ways of presenting them from short-form essays to journalistic texts and films to long-form essays in Materials Lab I, with opportunities for object analysis in Materials Lab II. In Materials Lab III & IV, you continue to develop your analytical skills, connecting how craft materials and materiality are examined and communicated through multiple platforms and models. We ensure that sources and discussions include diverse sources from within and outside of academia. Materials Lab III & IV closely follow the overall semester themes of Craft & Communication and Craft & Learning. Courses begin during residencies, which also include workshop faculty mini-courses.

### **RESEARCH METHODS LAB I, II, III, IV**

In this course, you learn a range of research methods, from historical analysis through examining archival documents to developing and conducting research interviews, from data analysis drawn from design anthropology to public pedagogy through Wikipedia and social media platforms. Through individual and group projects in Research Methods Lab I & II, you gain textual analysis skills and combine them with applied learning experiences where you develop, conduct, and analyze research interviews. In Research Methods II you will prepare for your second year, when you will complete your Practicum Project. In Research Methods III & IV, you continue to focus on applied learning through group projects, which may include writing Wikipedia entries to expand craft knowledge online, analyzing decades of a single craft publication, exploring social media platforms as tools to convey history and theory, or engaging in data tracking and analysis. You learn to develop and clearly articulate research methods and strategies employed in your own research and projects. You learn to conduct scholarship with a broad lens—including indigenous knowledge, listening to diverse voices, and recognizing power structures in how research is formulated, conducted, and conveyed. Your course load shifts to support you as you move through the stages of developing research, from concept to completion. Courses begin during residencies, which also include workshop faculty mini-courses.

### **PRACTICUM PROJECT I, II, & Presentation**

In the Practicum Project course, you have guided space to conduct, develop, and complete a comprehensive research project. In Practicum Project I, you develop and execute research and complete a working project draft, which can take the form of a long-form critical nonfiction essay, academic journal article, exhibition, podcast series, publication, conference, collection of short essays, and more. Practicum Project II offers additional time for you to independently complete and submit your final project. Your mentors in your second year connect specifically to your project. In the third Practicum Project, you focus on presenting your project in a publicly

accessible form, such as a publication, symposium presentation, or website, and this course is timed to coincide with your fifth and final residency. Your presentation at your final residency gives you an opportunity to share your graduate work, not just with currently enrolled students, but also with leaders in craft and craft-adjacent fields. Credit hour amounts shift between the semesters to accommodate your need for analysis and communication development.