

Master of Art and Design Studies [MA ADS]

Program Structure – Roadmap

Cr. Hours / Semester	03 Cr.	03 Cr.	03 Cr.	03 Cr.	03 Cr.
Semester 1 <i>Spring</i> 15 Cr	Context and Strategies in Art & Design Practices	Integrated Graduate Colloquium I	Research Methods and Academic Writing for Art and Design I	History of Ideas	Studio or Theory Elective
Summer 1	Independent Study, Directed Study, Internship, Fieldwork, Residency or Study based Travel subject to the approval of MA ADS academic committee (zero credit)				
Semester 2 <i>Fall</i> 15 Cr	Major Project I		Research Methods and Academic Writing for Art and Design II	Studio or Theory Elective	Studio or Theory Elective
Semester 3 <i>Spring</i> 15 Cr	Major Project II (Thesis)			Integrated Graduate Colloquium II	Studio or Theory Elective <u>OR</u> Research Methods and Academic Writing for Art and Design III (As a directed study – Optional for Students who are taking dissertation track for their thesis)
Summer 2	Independent Study, Directed Study, Internship, Fieldwork, Residency or Study based Travel subject to the approval of MA ADS academic committee (zero credit)				
Semester 4 <i>Fall</i> 15 Cr	Major Project III (Thesis)				Integrated Graduate Colloquium III
Degree requirements 60 CR	Coursework + Thesis by selecting one of the three tracks: 1) 100% Studio Track – A thesis exhibition required 2) 100% Writing Track – A dissertation of 15,000 – 20,000 words required 50% Studio Track + 50% Writing Track – An exhibition plus a dissertation of 7,500 – 10,000 words required				

	Major Studio
	Mandatory Studio Course
	Mandatory Theory Course
	Studio or Theory Electives
	Non-Credit filed work etc

MA ADS Thesis Assessment System MDSVAD

MA ADS has following final semester assessment ratio:

Major Project III & Thesis (Supervisors + Advisors)	40%
Thesis Project (External Examiners; invited professionals of the respective areas with Maters' degees)	40%
Thesis Project (SVAD internal Faculty by Invitation minimum 8-10 faculty members)	20%
Total	100%

1. Thesis Project External Examiners/Jurors

The thesis project grades awarded by external examiner/jurors are calculated as 40 percent. Based on the area of the respective degree thesis projects, a minimum of 3 examiner/jurors, who are experts in their fields, are invited by the HOD with an approval from the Dean (see sheet below). The external examiner/jurors' marks are submitted at the end of the juries. A detailed jury schedule is prepared for each day (see sheet 1 attached).

(see Sheet 1 and Sheet 1A).

2. Major Project III

The Major Project III Studio grades marked by the thesis project course Supervisors and Advisors are calculated as 40 percent. Students work with their supervisors **four days a week**, developing independent projects with regular guidance. Progress is evaluated weekly or bi-weekly, depending on the nature of the project.

Students are required to meet their **advisors three times** during semszetr for discussions.

A minimum of **three scheduled critiques** are held jointly with Supervisors and Advisors during the semester. (see Sheet 2 and Sheet 2A)

3. SVAD internal Faculty.

8-10 internal faculty members from different departments of SVAD are invited by the HOD's after dean's approval to award 20 percent grades of thesis projects (see sheet below). After external examiners/jurors' award are submitted, the Internal faculty grade the thesis projects without a discussion with graduating students and submit their grades to Dean's office.

Final Compilation

All 3 sheets are submitted to the academic coordinator to compile the result and share with the Dean. (See sheet 4)

MA ADS Thesis + Coursework

1. 100% Writing Track

Students pursuing the 100% writing track must submit a comprehensive written thesis following academic research standards.

- **Format & Structure:**
 - Must follow **APA 7th edition** guidelines.
 - Chapters include **Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology, Results, Discussion, Conclusion & Bibliography**
 - A **clear theoretical framework** must be established.
 - **Word Count Requirement:**
 - A dissertation of **15,000 – 20,000 words** is required.
 - **Evaluation & Submission:**
 - Thesis is assessed through **critiques, juries, and external/internal evaluations**.
 - Submission includes both **soft and hard copies** with required formatting (1.5-inch left margin, black hard cover binding).
 - Thesis project is evaluated through **course instructors, advisors, external jurors, and internal faculty**.
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2. 50% Studio + 50% Writing Track

Students following the hybrid track must develop both a studio project and a written thesis that complement each other.

- **Studio Component:**
 - Independent project under **supervisors and advisors supervision (four days a week)**.
 - **Three formal critiques** with advisors and additional informal discussions.
 - Final presentation in a **degree show**.
- **Writing Component:**
 - A structured **written thesis (50% weightage)** that supports the studio work.
 - Includes a **research framework, literature review, and contextual analysis**.
- **Word Count Requirement:**
 - A dissertation of **7,500 – 10,000 words** is required.
- **Evaluation & Submission:**

- Both components are graded separately but contribute equally to the final thesis course assessment.
 - Thesis project is evaluated through **supervisors, advisors, external jurors, and internal faculty**.
 - A **project report** must be submitted alongside the studio work.
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3. 100% Studio Track with Reflective Essay

Students opting for the **100% studio track** focus entirely on their **practical project**, accompanied by a **reflective essay** instead of a full written thesis.

- **Studio Component:**
 - Intensive hands-on work under **supervisors and advisors supervision**.
 - Weekly/bi-weekly progress reviews and **three formal critiques**.
 - **Final presentation in a degree show**.
- **Reflective Essay:**
 - A **concise but critical analysis** of the project's conceptual framework.
 - Discusses **research influences, process, and self-reflection on artistic decisions**.
- **Evaluation & Submission:**
 - Assessed based on **studio execution, conceptual depth, and critical engagement**.
 - External jurors, internal faculty, and advisors contribute to grading.
 - Final submission includes **art exhibition and the reflective essay**

RESEARCH QUESTION REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Research Question Review Committee ensures that students develop well-structured and meaningful research questions aligned with their thesis objectives. Comprising faculty members and subject experts, the committee reviews and provides feedback on research questions to enhance clarity, relevance, and feasibility. This process helps students refine their inquiry focus and align their research with academic and creative standards.

SVAD POLICY ON PLAGIARISM

A submitted assignment found with plagiarism will be marked zero (0). Applied to the following:

- More than 19 % Turnitin similarity index, in case of written assignment.
- Declared plagiarized by a 'Review Committee', in case of a studio assignment.

At this stage, the student will fail such an assignment with no chance to re-submit.

SVAD

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