



Credits Required: 60 Credits Minimum

MFA Graphic Design students must complete 48 studio credits and 12 liberal arts credits including GLA Thesis Writing to graduate. Students register for a minimum of 15 credits total per semester to reach 60 credits.

Term	Course	Course #	Credits	Total
Semester I	Design Studio I + Visiting Designer I	GD 5500 + GD 5505	3 Credits + 3 Credits	15 Credits
	(2) Studio Electives / (1) Liberal Arts Elective	Various	6 Credits + 3 Credits	
Semester II	Design Studio II + Visiting Designers II	GD 5550 + GD 5555	3 Credits + 3 Credits	15 Credits
	(2) Studio Electives / (1) Liberal Arts Elective	Various	6 Credits + 3 Credits	
Semester III	Design Studio III + Visiting Designers III	GD 6500 + GD 6505	3 Credits + 3 Credits	15 Credits
	(2) Studio Electives / (1) Liberal Arts Elective	Various	6 Credits + 3 Credits	
Semester IV	Design Studio IV + Visiting Thesis Critics	GD 6550 + GD 6555	3 Credits + 3 Credits	15 Credits
	Thesis Writing + Thesis Publication Design	GLA 5619 + GD 6512	3 Credits + 3 Credits	
	Studio Elective	Various	3 Credits	
			TOTAL = 60 Credits	

Maximizing your Academic Opportunities

Please note: Students may take up to 19.5 credits per semester to enhance their academic experience beyond the 60 credits required in the MFA degree plan. Consider additional electives, internships, workshops, graduate emphases and ongoing Professional Development coursework. **It's important to be mindful of studio time as well as Graduate Teaching Internships during the week when building your schedule. Your program director is a great resource to discuss both time management and electives that complement your practice.**

Graphic Design, MFA: DEGREE PLAN WORKSHEET

A. REQUIRED: STUDIO (24 CREDITS REQUIRED) Complete All of the Following

TERM			CREDIT	TERM/YEAR	GRADE
Semester I	GD 5500	Design Studio I	3		
	GD 5505	Visiting Designers I	3		
Semester II	GD 5550	Design Studio II	3		
	GD 5555	Visiting Designers II	3		
Semester III	GD 6500	Design Studio III	3		
	GD 6505	Visiting Designers III	3		
Semester IV	GD 6550	Design Studio IV	3		
	GD 6555	Thesis Critics	3		

B. REQUIRED: LIBERAL ARTS ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS)

- Choose from Graduate Liberal Arts Electives, Baltimore Student Exchange Program. In exceptional circumstances independent study may be allowed with approval of the instructor and Associate Dean.
- Undergraduate Art History or Humanistic Studies coursework (400 level) - **MFA students must receive a grade of B or better to receive graduate credit**
- MFA student may transfer up to 6 credits of Graduate Liberal Arts coursework from previous institutions

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	TERM/YEAR	GRADE	EMPHASIS?	NOTES
		3				
		3				
		3				
GLA 5619	Thesis Writing	3				

C. REQUIRED: STUDIO ELECTIVES (24 CREDITS)

- Choose from the GDMFA Electives or the full schedule of Graduate / Undergraduate level (300-400) electives
- Internships for studio credit approved through the Office of Career Development
- Additional elective courses available through Open Studies

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	TERM/YEAR	EMPHASIS ?	NOTES
Studio Elective 1					
Studio Elective 2					
Studio Elective 3					
Studio Elective 4					
Studio Elective 5					
Studio Elective 6					
Studio Elective 7					
GD 6512	Thesis Publication Design				

D. OPTIONAL: ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES / INTERNSHIPS

- Graduate or Undergraduate level (300-400) courses (Consider completing a Graduate Emphasis); credit-bearing Internships approved through the Office of Career Development
- Additional electives offered through MICA's Open Studies

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	TERM/YEAR	GRADE	EMPHASIS?	NOTES

E. OPTIONAL: CERTIFICATE IN COLLEGE TEACHING OF ART

- MFA students can earn a Certificate in College Teaching of Art by the successful completion of three GTIs and the graduate course ED 5533 Philosophy and Pedagogy of Post-Secondary Education.
- A graduate student in the role of GTI works in an undergraduate course under the supervision of a faculty member. GTIs are expected to be present for every class meeting, and to collaborate with the mentoring instructor, working no more than an average of 6 (six) hours per week.

COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	TERM/YEAR	GRADE
GLA 5533	Philosophy and Pedagogy (satisfies 3 credits of Graduate Liberal Arts)		
GRADUATE TEACHING INTERNSHIP		INSTRUCTOR	TERM / YEAR
1			
2			

3			
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CHOOSING ELECTIVE COURSEWORK

Recommended Graduate Electives

Review the Schedule of Courses for a complete list of graduate studio, liberal art and professional development elective courses. Students can also choose from dozens of elective courses, graduate or undergraduate, listed in the full schedule of classes on the MICA website.

Baltimore Student Exchange Program

Explore elective courses at our partner institutions (Johns Hopkins University and University of Baltimore) through the Baltimore Student Exchange Program. Forms and approval required through Enrollment Services. Contact the BSEP Coordinator in the Office of Enrollment Services with questions / approval.

Independent Study

Independent study courses provide students the opportunity to develop and conduct self-designed research projects in collaboration with campus faculty. Independent study courses require the instructor approval, and a completed contract complying with MICA standards. Forms should be returned to the Office of Enrollment Services.

Internship for Credit

Professional internships may also be substituted for studio / liberal arts elective credit with permission from your program director. Students must attend an Internship Orientation through the Office of Career Development. Visit MICA's Career Development Office online for more information.

Enrolling in elective courses

Graduate students can register for graduate - level courses via MICA's online enrollment system. To register for an undergraduate level course, **with prerequisites or enrollment restrictions**, you will need to request approval through your graduate advisor.

Advising/ Registration support

It is strongly recommended that you schedule an advising appointment to review your degree plan / progress to graduation. Your graduate enrollment advisor is available to assist you in the enrollment process. Schedule an appointment through Enrollment Services, enrollmentservices@mica.edu.