

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSING A FLEXIBLE DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM

Structure and Approval Process

Policy

Flexible Dual Degree programs are allowed to link two Master's degrees or a Master's degree and a JD degree.

Procedure

Submission and Approval Process

To propose a Flexible Dual Degree, the student must first apply to and be admitted by both programs, pay application fees for both programs, and seek the counsel of an advisor in each program. Admission into each program does not take the place of filing a Flexible Dual Degree proposal nor guarantee approval of the proposal.

Students should submit the proposal for the Flexible Dual Degree as early as possible and must propose and be approved by **no later than the end of the fourth quarter of enrollment in their first program (or third semester if Law) including summer. Proposals submitted after this deadline will be rejected.**

The dean, chair, or director of each degree program **and** both program advisors, must carefully compare the requirements for each program and approve the proposed curriculum. The student must then submit a copy of the original requirements for each degree (printout from the unit website or copy from the student handbook is acceptable), a detailed course plan showing all proposed courses, the quarters they are to be taken and the credit hours; a one-page statement of the educational/career objectives stating the reasons for the specific course selection and which courses of the second program most clearly serve the educational and career goals of the student; and current official/unofficial transcript(s) showing any work already completed towards the proposed program and degrees. Note: courses graded D or lower cannot be counted for a Flexible Dual Degree.

The student then submits the documents listed above to the Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Research, which reviews and decides on the proposals. Proposals with errors or course/program inconsistencies will be returned for revision.

Any changes to the approved program require the student to resubmit a revised proposal packet to the deans/chairs/directors and advisors of both programs and the Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Research.

Once the proposal is approved, the student will be entered into the university computer system as a Flexible Dual Degree student for that quarter.

Curriculum Structure

Students may propose any Flexible Dual Degree program that seems reasonable to them and their advisors for academic and career objectives. Only elective courses may be counted among the hours used for reduction or cross-counting.

All the core requirements of each program must be preserved and cannot be overlapped or waived. Credit reduction due to cross counting of elective courses will be limited to the following for each program as determined by the original number of credit hours required for each degree:

Required Credit Hours for Degrees and Flexible Dual Degree Reduction Allowed

45-60 credits = 10 quarter hour reduction
61-75 credits = 12 quarter hour reduction
76-90 credits = 15 quarter hour reduction

45-60-quarter hour degree program:

Reduce or cross-count a maximum of **10**-quarter hours for the one degree without outside transfer credit. The traditional maximum outside transfer credit allowed in this case would be 10-quarter hours. A reduction of 15-quarter hours from the original degree will be the maximum allowed when combining outside transfer hours and the cross counting of degree hours.

61-75-quarter hour degree program:

Reduce or cross-count a maximum of **12**-quarter hours for the one degree without outside transfer credit. The traditional maximum outside transfer credit allowed in this case would be 22-quarter hours. A reduction of 25-quarter hours from the original degree will be the maximum allowed when combining outside transfer hours and the cross counting of degree hours.

76-90-quarter hour degree program:

Reduce or cross-count a maximum of **15**-quarter hours for the one degree without outside transfer credit. The traditional maximum outside transfer credit allowed in this case would be 45-quarter hours. A reduction of 45-quarter hours will be the maximum allowed from the original degree when combining outside transfer hours and the cross counting of degree hours.

Note: Credits at the Sturm College of Law for a JD degree are calculated using semester hours, 1 semester hour equals 1.5 quarter hours. A 90 semester hour JD degree may only be reduced by a maximum of 10 semester hours for a total of 80 semester hours completed for the JD. (10 semester hours equals 15 quarter hours).

Thesis Requirements

Thesis requirements depend on the structure of the original degree programs. If program A requires a thesis, and program B has a thesis or non-thesis option, then the student must write a thesis for program A and either an additional thesis for program B or choose the non-thesis option for program B. If program A requires a thesis and program B requires a comprehensive examination, the student must write and defend a thesis for program A and pass a comprehensive examination for program B.

If one of the core requirements of both intended programs is the writing and defense of a thesis, then (with prior approval from both departments) a combined thesis may be written as long as both departments are equally represented (from original proposal to completion) and so long as the most rigorous requirements are adhered to for completion and oral examination.

Finishing the Degrees

Students should complete both degrees at the same time. However, students can receive the first degree as long as all original requirements and credits for the first degree have been met. They then have up to 18 months to complete the second degree. Students must file a formal application with both programs to graduate from both programs.

If a student decides to only complete one degree, they must inform their unit, program advisors, and the Office of the Vice Provost in writing of their intention to nullify their Flexible Dual Degree proposal. The student must complete all the original requirements for the remaining degree in order to graduate.

Additional information and instructions for submitting a proposal for a Flexible Dual Degree are available on the Graduate Studies website at www.du.edu/grad.

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OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE STUDIES & RESEARCH

2199 S. University Blvd. Denver, CO, 80208

Phone: 303.871.2706 Fax: 303.871.4566 Email: gfac@du.edu

PROPOSAL FOR A FLEXIBLE DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM

Name: ID #: Today's Date:

Telephone: Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Street City State Zip Code

Table with 4 columns: Program/Degree Name, Quarter of Entry, Original Total Credits for Degree, Proposed Total Credits for Degree

A.

B.

The following documents must be attached to this cover page or the proposal will be returned:

- Detailed course plan showing all proposed courses, the quarters they are to be taken and the credit hours (see attached example).
Short statement stating the educational/career objectives, the reasons for the specific course selection and which courses of the second program most clearly serve the educational and career goals of the student (see attached example).
A current official or unofficial transcript(s) showing work already completed toward these proposed programs.
Official documentation from the department clearly listing all the program and course requirements for each degree.

Students should submit the proposal for the Flexible Dual Degree as early as possible and must propose and be approved by no later than the end of the fourth quarter of enrollment in their first program (third semester if Law) including summer. Proposals submitted after this deadline will be rejected.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

Program A Advisor: Name: Printed Signature Date

Program A Dean/Chair: Name: Printed Signature Date

Program B Advisor: Name: Printed Signature Date

Program B Dean/Chair: Name: Printed Signature Date

PROPOSAL FOR A FLEXIBLE DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM**Sample Program Statement**

Objectives

Games and play can be educational and their rule systems hold potential for rhetorical messages. My career and life objective is to be continually active in the discourses of game design, theory, and art. To accomplish this, I plan to teach, create, and engage creatively with all forms of games (but with a special focus on videogames). These three courses of action are related but in terms of specific applications they vary. My teaching goal is to have a tenure-track position in an interdisciplinary art, design, or combined art/design program with a strong digital media focus, for which the MFA degree and concurrent experience will qualify me. I also want to create both electronic and non-electronic games with an awareness of the rhetorical messages contained in their rule systems, along with projects that create meaning through play. Finally, I want to foster a critical dialog around videogames, their messages, and their use in advertising and delivering other kinds of messages. Understanding games requires not only a historical perspective on games and play, but also an understanding of the current cultural context that games occupy. This understanding will bring new critical and creative dialog to games through other arts and vice-versa. The Flexible Dual Degree program will enable me to simultaneously build up this historical and critical perspective while allowing space for designing my own games, gamespaces, and other artistic responses.

Reasons for Course Selection

I have chosen my courses with the above objectives in mind, but also to challenge myself to seek inspiration in other disciplines such as sound and animation art. Since I am producing both critical and creative work (sometimes simultaneously) all of the courses I take should contribute to this union. The core Digital Media Studies courses provided a design, critical, and technical basis on which to build and critique creative digital projects. The audio-based courses and animation course provide reference points for understanding the relationship of the various components of multimedia projects. The pairing of the required research methods courses in Art History and Digital Media Studies builds knowledge in

contextualizing and describing my work in appropriate movements and styles. This history allows me to see games and the creation of games as systems of constraints, which have been used by artists in every generation to assist in creating work. Furthermore, the eMAD Critiques and Seminars give me a chance to gain valuable feedback from colleagues as I develop and iterate my projects. Finally, when I select my thesis committee, I will create a proposed combined thesis that fulfills the requirements of both programs to the satisfaction of my committee and the heads of both departments, tying together both disciplines in a pertinent way through games development.

EXAMPLE

Quarter, Year	Course Number	Course Name	M.A.- DMS	M.F.A.- eMAD	DMS Requirement/ Category	eMAD Requirement/ Category
Fall 2009	DMST 4000	Digital Design Concepts	4		Core: Design	
	DMST 4100	Technical Foundations of Digital Media	4		Core: Technical	
Winter 2010	DMST 4200	Critical Approaches to Digital Media	4		Core: Critical	
	DMST 4150	Technical Foundations of Digital Media II	4		Core: Technical	
Spring 2010	DMST 3900	Digital Cinema Theory and Practice		4		Core: Seminar
	DMST 4993	Game Design Practicum	4		Core: Adv Design	
Fall 2010	DMST 3550	Digital Audio Production	4		Elective: Technical	
	DMST 4850	DMST Research Methods	4		Core: Methods	
Winter 2011	DMST 3560	Advanced Digital Audio	4		Elective: Technical	
	DMST 3731	Post Modern Digital Design	4		Elective: Critical	
Spring 2011	DMST 3900	Topics: Sustainable Design Strategies		4	Core: Seminar	
	DMST 4993	Paper Game Design		4		Elective: Studio Art
Fall 2011	DMST 3900	Topics: Digital Sound Cultures		4		Core: Seminar
	ARTD 4700	Graduate Seminar: Meme/Network/Assemblage		5		Core: Seminar
Winter 2012	ARTD 4375	Graduate EMAD Critique		5		Core: Critique
	ARTD 4700	Graduate Seminar: Micro/Macro		5		Core: Seminar
Spring 2012	ARTD 4376	Graduate EMAD Critique II		5		Core: Critique
	ARTD 4991	Independent Study: Graduate Level Video Art		5		Elective: Adv eMAD
	ARTH 3701	Topics: History of Design		5		Core: Art History
Fall 2012	ARTD 4970	2.5D Poetics		4		Core: Adv eMAD
	ARTD 4382	Open Source Networks		4		Core: Adv eMAD
Winter 2013	ARTH 4301	Seminar in Art History Methods		4		Core: Art History
	ARTD 4375	Graduate EMAD Critique		4		Core: Critique
	ARTD 3655	Sculpture Workshop		4		Core: Adv eMAD
	ARTD 3700	Topics in Electronic Media Arts Design: Multimedia Authoring Tools		4		Elective: Adv eMAD
Spring 2013	ARTD 4375	Graduate EMAD Critique		4		Core: Critique
	ARTD 4995	Independent Research: Thesis		4		Core: Thesis eMAD
Summer 2013	ARTD 4991	Independent Study: Gaming and Social Media		2		Elective: Adv eMAD
Fall 2013	ARTD 4995	Independent Research: Thesis		4		Core: Thesis eMAD
	DMST 4995	Independent Research: Thesis	2			Core: Thesis DMST
	ARTH 3850	Contemporary Art History		4		Core: Art History
Total Hours			38	88		

MA in Digital Media Studies -- 38 hours out of 48 normally required for the program

MFA in Electronic Media Arts Design -- 88 hours out of 90 normally required for the program
No core class of either program has been cross counted or waived, only elective hours reduced.