

# MA in Architectural Studies

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The creative, project-based MA plan of study is preparation for advanced careers in the design professions and higher education. The non-thesis project is conducted in one or two areas: (1) environment and behavior or (2) design with digital media. The MA project is an in-depth investigation of a design problem culminating in a design solution or visual research presentation.

Also see the Department web site for additional information: Masters Programs ([http://arch.missouri.edu/academics\\_masters.html](http://arch.missouri.edu/academics_masters.html)), Emphasis Areas (<http://arch.missouri.edu/graduate.html>), Online Study ([http://arch.missouri.edu/academics\\_online2.html](http://arch.missouri.edu/academics_online2.html)), and Architectural Studies Graduate Handbook (<https://arch.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/handbook.pdf>).

## Design Research Concentration

A Design Research concentration is offered for:

- Designers engaged in interior design, architecture, graphic or interaction design who would like to acquire applied research skills for companies or organizations.
- Researchers with a background in social sciences, anthropology, etc. who conduct research for creative product development in industries such as Healthcare, IT companies, Engineering, etc.
- Business and marketing professionals to advance understanding of design research for marketing.

The coursework for the concentration is applied to the program of study. For specifics, see Design Research Concentration ([http://arch.missouri.edu/academics\\_DesignResearch.html](http://arch.missouri.edu/academics_DesignResearch.html)) on the department web site. *Concentrations do not appear on diplomas or transcripts.*

## Degree Requirements

The MA degree must include a minimum of 30 hours of graduate credit beyond the bachelor's degree (or its equivalent). Fifteen of the 30-hour minimum must be selected from courses numbered at 8000 or 9000 level; no more than 40% of the 30-hour credit requirement can be satisfied by Independent Study style courses such as Research, Readings and Problems coursework.

In consultation with one's graduate advisor, you will enroll in "core" courses and additional courses appropriate to your degree program. The academic program should be established in consultation with your adviser at the end of the first full semester.

## Non-Thesis Requirements

The creative project-based MA plan of study is preparation for advanced careers in the design professions and higher education. The project (instead of a written thesis) is conducted in one or two areas: (1) environment and behavior or (2) design with digital media. The MA project is an in-depth investigation of a design problem culminating in a design solution or a visual research presentation.

## Admission Criteria

Applicants are required to meet two sets of minimum qualifications for admission: the requirements of the Architectural Studies Graduate Program (<http://arch.missouri.edu/graduate.html>) and the minimum requirements of the graduate faculty, enforced by the Graduate School (<https://gradschool.missouri.edu/admissions/eligibility-process/>).

Because requirements vary, you must refer to a degree program's graduate admission page to learn about specific admission criteria, application deadlines, eligibility and application process. Before official admission to the University of Missouri, your application materials will be reviewed by both the Graduate School and the degree program to which you've applied.

## Required Application Materials

See Application and Admission ([http://arch.missouri.edu/academics\\_gradadmit.html](http://arch.missouri.edu/academics_gradadmit.html)) for Department's graduate admission requirements.

Apply online to the Graduate School (<https://gradschool.missouri.edu/>).

## Admission Contact

137 Stanley Hall; Columbia, MO 65211

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[gradarchst@missouri.edu](mailto:gradarchst@missouri.edu)

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