Uniquely positioned at the intersection of the visual arts, architecture, media and screen studies, music, and the expanded field of design, the MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts emphasizes the arts of public engagement, broadly conceived. Our program attracts an international cohort of creative practitioners who address cultural, social, and environmental concerns through their work. From video to virtual museum, from new media to performance art, from image-making to intervention, students employ diverse strategies to define an artistic practice responsive to the urgency of the present.

The two-year program emphasizes creative practice as research and allows students to draw on faculty strengths from across the College of Arts, Media and Design. Students pursue creative work in the context of a major urban research university with the capacity to build dynamic research collaborations both across the globe and in the neighborhood. Faculty relationships with premiere institutions and artist-run initiatives internationally allow for experiential learning opportunities in a global context, while the city of Boston offers an unparalleled intellectual environment for advanced study in the arts.

Graduate students are selected not only on the basis of their previous creative work but also their potential to shape an emerging field of practice. Prospective applicants with professional experience outside the arts are encouraged to contact the program coordinator to discuss how their goals align with the program’s orientation toward artistic action and research.

The program requires 60 credit hours, including independent research and a thesis project with accompanying written paper. Students are strongly encouraged to use the summer between the first and second year of study for a field-based residency or graduate co-op work experience.
Social change depends on cultural change. The arts play a role in that process. Artists experiment with new ways of seeing, saying, knowing, and feeling. We help people imagine an otherwise.”

—Sarah Kanouse, Associate Professor, Art + Design

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GUEST ARTISTS AND CRITICS

Javier Anguera librarian/archivist, Contemporary Culture Index
Robert Blackson director of exhibitions, Tyler School of Art at Temple University
John Craig Freeman new media public artist
Futurefarmers art collective
Zach Kaplan executive director, Rhizome at the New Museum
Alex Klein Dorothy and Stephen R. Weber (CHE ’60) curator, Institute of Contemporary Art Philadelphia
Tim Miller performance artist
Lize Mogel artist/counter-cartographer

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
northeastern.edu/camd/interarts

SAMPLE CURRICULUM

Year 1: Fall Semester
ARTD 5001 Art, Context, Action 1 04
History, Theory and Critical Studies Elective 04
Studio Elective 04

Year 1: Spring Semester
ARTD 5002 Art, Context, Action 2 04
History, Theory and Critical Studies Elective 04
Research Methods 04
Studio Elective 04

Year 1: Summer 1 or 2
ARTD 5301 Independent Research Project 1 04

Year 2: Fall Semester
ARTD 6001 Art, Media, Participation 1 04
ARTE 7100 Thesis Proposal 04
History, Theory and Critical Studies Elective 04
Studio Elective 04

Year 2: Spring Semester
ARTD 6002 Art, Media, Participation II 04
ARTE 7990 Thesis 04

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS 60
Scholarships + Financial Support

Northeastern University and the College of Arts, Media and Design offer students a range of financial resources including competitively awarded scholarships and assistantships.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES
northeastern.edu/camd/graduate/tuition

Apply

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES
northeastern.edu/camd/graduate/admissions

APPLICATION DEADLINES
FALL

FEB 01  Priority deadline for scholarship consideration
MAY 01  All international applicants
AUG 01  All domestic applicants

SPRING

OCT 01  All international applicants
NOV 01  All domestic applicants

Northeastern University
College of Arts, Media and Design

Graduate Studies
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EMAIL  Cathy Bright, Graduate Enrollment Manager
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