

Why Study Interdisciplinary Education in the Arts at UIC?

University of Illinois
at Chicago

What is Interdisciplinary Education in the Arts?

Interdisciplinary Education in the Arts*, or IDEAS, is a new program in the School of Art & Art History dedicated to the principle that the many opportunities and challenges of the contemporary world require broad-based, transdisciplinary thinking and action—and that the arts is where the most creative thinking and making happen. IDEAS is for future creative leaders who are prepared to think and work both critically and creatively in preparation for cutting-edge, multifaceted careers linking the arts to each other within a context that includes the emerging digital landscape.

The four interdisciplinary courses that make up the core of IDEAS survey creativity as an engine for the visual arts, design, architecture, theater, music, exhibition studies, and the history and theory of the arts. After completing the core courses and training across the College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts, a senior capstone project is developed in partnership with an advisor or within an existing program.

*This program is undergoing a name and rubric change, previously titled BA in Integrated Design and the Arts (ISA)



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artandarhistory.uic.edu

Questions? Email Us:
saah@uic.edu

Who Should Study IDEAS at UIC?

IDEAS is intended for students who may or may not have a background in the arts, but who want to cultivate creative and critical skills as artists, makers, designers or arts writers. The emphasis on interdisciplinary methods is carefully designed to promote creative problem solving through the arts, as well as engaged work within any of the departments in the College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts.

Possible trajectories for IDEAS majors

Design, Arts, Sound, or Visualization Research
Marketing and Communications
Art, Architecture, Design Criticism
Material or Digital Fabrication
Fine Arts or Entertainment Administration
Cultural Entrepreneurship
Academic Study in any Area of IDEAS

Major Requirements

60 Credits
Four Core Courses (24 Credits)
Senior Capstone Sequence (8 Credits)
Major Selectives (12-15 Credits)
Major Electives (21-24 Credits)

