School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communications

Master of Fine Arts Overview

The Master of Fine Arts in Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication is a terminal degree in emerging artistic practices focusing primarily on the creative use and critical investigation of technology in artistic practices. The program is designed for both students wishing to teach arts- and technology-related courses at the college level and for those intending to engage in professional studio or design practice. While maintaining a commitment to interdisciplinary education fusing critical with creative thinking, this program places emphasis on the creation and application of computer-based arts and narrative. Students must complete 54 semester hours of course work, including a thesis project.

Master of Fine Arts in Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication: Animation Pathway

54 semester credit hours minimum

Faculty

**Professors:** Anne Balsamo, Christine (xtine) Burrough, Paul Fishwick, Roger Malina, Mihai Nadin, Marilyn Waligore
**Clinical Professor:** Tim Christopher
**Associate Professors:** Monica Evans, Eric Farrar, Todd Fechter, Midori Kitagawa, Kim Knight, Maximilian Schich, Andrew Scott, Dean Terry, hxc176430
**Clinical Associate Professor:** Cassini Nazir
**Assistant Professors:** Olivia Banner, Angela M. Lee, Juan Llamas Rodriguez, Sean McComber, Josef Nguyen, Wendy Sung, Hong An Wu

Required Major Core Courses: 9 semester credit hours

- [ATCM 6000](#) ATEC Dean's Colloquium
- [ATCM 6300](#) Approaches to Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
- [ATCM 6301](#) Aesthetics of Interactive Arts
- [ATCM 6313](#) Animation Project Development

Students are expected to complete [ATCM 6300](#) in their first semester and the remainder of these courses within the first 18 semester credit hours of their degree plan.

Prescribed Electives within Animation Development: 12 semester credit hours

- [ATCM 6305](#) Animation Creative Practices
- [ATCM 6310](#) Animation Studio I
- [ATCM 6311](#) Animation Studio II
ATCM 6316 Motion Capture
ATCM 6317 Procedural Animation
ATCM 6321 Digital Fabrication
ATCM 6370 Computational Design

Prescribed Electives in Histories and Theories: 9 semester credit hours

ATCM 6312 Digital Cinematography
ATCM 6315 History of Animation
ATCM 6318 Special Topics in Animation
ATCM 6377 Creativity as Social Practice
ATCM 6386 Digital Textuality
ATCM 6388 Critical Making
ATCM 6390 Social Science Research Methods in Emerging Communication

Free Electives: 9 semester credit hours
Nine semester credit hours of electives in any organized 6000-level courses in ATEC or offered by the School of Arts and Humanities, Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Naveen Jindal School of Management, School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, or School of Interdisciplinary Studies. All free electives are subject to approval by the graduate advisor.

Final Project: 15 semester credit hours
Completed over two consecutive long semesters after having completed at least 36 semester credit hours of coursework. Public presentation of work is required, such as an exhibition, conference presentation, or defense.

ATCM 6399 Master's Thesis
ATCM 6698 Master's Project I
ATCM 6699 Master's Project II

Master of Fine Arts in Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication: Creative Practice Pathway

54 semester credit hours minimum

Faculty

Professors: Anne Balsamo, Christine (xtine) Burrough, Paul Fishwick, Roger Malina, Mihai Nadin, Marilyn Waligore
Clinical Professor: Tim Christopher  
Associate Professors: Monica Evans, Eric Farrar, Todd Fechter, Midori Kitagawa, Kim Knight, Maximilian Schich, Andrew Scott, Dean Terry, hxc176430 
Clinical Associate Professor: Cassini Nazir  
Assistant Professors: Olivia Banner, Angela M. Lee, Juan Llamas Rodriguez, Sean McComber, Josef Nguyen, Wendy Sung, Hong An Wu

Students enroll in ATCM 6001 Graduate Critique Culture each semester of their MFA degree plan.

Required Major Core Courses: 9 semester credit hours

 ATCM 6000  ATEC Dean's Colloquium
 ATCM 6300  Approaches to Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
 ATCM 6301  Aesthetics of Interactive Arts
 ATCM 6377  Creativity as Social Practice

Students are expected to complete ATCM 6300 in their first semester and the remainder of these courses within the first 18 semester credit hours of their degree plan.

Prescribed Electives within Pathway: 15 semester credit hours

Choose five courses from the following courses:

 ATCM 6302  Theories and Histories of Semiotics
 ATCM 6325  Arts, Science, and Humanities
 ATCM 6327  Experimental Publishing
 ATCM 6352  Socially Conscious Games
 ATCM 6365  Design Principles
 ATCM 6366  Information Architecture and Design
 ATCM 6371  Visualization Research
 ATCM 6380  Histories of Emerging Media
 ATCM 6382  Privacy, Surveillance, and Technology
 ATCM 6383  Digital Culture
 ATCM 6384  Digital Publics and Counterpublics
 ATCM 6385  Emerging Media and Identity
 ATCM 6386  Digital Textuality
 ATCM 6388  Critical Making
 ATCM 6395  Special Topics in Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
 HUAS 6312  Art and Society
HUAS 6313  The Business of the Arts
HUAS 6317  Art and Authorship
HUAS 6339  Painting/Digital Imaging/Video
HUAS 6375  Imagery and Iconography
HUAS 6391  Creativity: Visual Arts Workshop
HUAS 6392  Creativity: Image/Text Workshop

Prescribed Electives with Technology Focus: 6 semester credit hours
Choose two courses from the following courses:

ATCM 6304  Computer Processing for Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
ATCM 6320  Creative Automata
ATCM 6321  Digital Fabrication
ATCM 6322  Experimental Interactive Media
ATCM 6323  Modeling and Simulation
ATCM 6326  Research in Sound Design
ATCM 6330  Special Topics in Interactive Media
ATCM 6331  Special Topics in Sound Design
ATCM 6370  Computational Design
ATCM 6387  Emerging Media Studio

Free Electives: 9 semester credit hours
Nine semester credit hours of electives in any organized 6000-level courses in ATEC or offered by the School of Arts and Humanities, Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Naveen Jindal School of Management, School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, or School of Interdisciplinary Studies. All free electives are subject to approval by the graduate advisor.

Final Project: 15 semester credit hours
Completed over two consecutive long semesters after having completed at least 36 semester credit hours of coursework. Public presentation of work required, such as an exhibition, conference presentation, or defense.

ATCM 6399  Master's Thesis
ATCM 6698  Master's Project I
ATCM 6699  Master's Project II
Master of Fine Arts in Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication: Game Development Pathway

54 semester credit hours minimum

Faculty

Professors: Anne Balsamo, Christine (xtine) Burrough, Paul Fishwick, Roger Malina, Mihai Nadin, Marilyn Waligore
Clinical Professor: Tim Christopher
Associate Professors: Monica Evans, Eric Farrar, Todd Fechter, Midori Kitagawa, Kim Knight, Maximilian Schich, Andrew Scott, Dean Terry, hxc176430
Clinical Associate Professor: Cassini Nazir
Assistant Professors: Olivia Banner, Angela M. Lee, Juan Llamas Rodriguez, Sean McComber, Josef Nguyen, Wendy Sung, Hong An Wu

Required Major Core Courses: 9 semester credit hours

ATCM 6000 ATEC Dean's Colloquium
ATCM 6300 Approaches to Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
ATCM 6301 Aesthetics of Interactive Arts
ATCM 6335 Game Design and Development

Students are expected to complete ATCM 6300 in their first semester and the remainder of these courses within the first 18 semester credit hours in their degree plan.

Prescribed Electives within Game Development: 15 semester credit hours

Choose five courses from the following courses:

ATCM 6336 Critical Game Studies
ATCM 6340 Game Production Methods
ATCM 6341 Game Production Studio
ATCM 6342 Experimental Games Studio
ATCM 6343 Educational Games Studio
ATCM 6344 Building Virtual Worlds
ATCM 6345 Interactive Narrative
ATCM 6349 Special Topics in Game Development
ATCM 6373 Interactive Environments

Prescribed Electives within Game Studies: 6 semester credit hours

Choose two courses from the following courses:
ATCM 6351 History and Culture of Games
ATCM 6352 Socially Conscious Games
ATCM 6353 Games, Education, and Simulation
ATCM 6354 Play and Culture
ATCM 6356 Anatomy of a Game
ATCM 6357 Virtual Worlds and Communities
ATCM 6359 Special Topics in Game Studies

Free Electives: 9 semester credit hours
Nine semester credit hours of electives in any organized 6000-level courses in ATEC or offered by the School of Arts and Humanities, Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Naveen Jindal School of Management, School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, or School of Interdisciplinary Studies. All free electives are subject to approval by the graduate advisor.

Final Project: 15 semester credit hours
Completed over two consecutive long semesters after having completed at least 36 semester credit hours of coursework. Public presentation of work required, such as an exhibition, conference presentation, or defense.

ATCM 6399 Master's Thesis
ATCM 6698 Master's Project I
ATCM 6699 Master's Project II