

Program Proposal for the Critical Studies in Design Minor**College of Design****Program in Design Studies****Name:** Critical Studies in Design Minor**Departments:** Architecture, Art and Design, Community and Regional Planning, Landscape Architecture, Program in Design Studies**Name of contact persons:** John Cunnally, Art and Design, cunnally@iastate.edu
Kimberly Zarecor, Architecture, zarecor@iastate.edu**Need for the proposed minor:**

History and theory provide a valuable framework for critical inquiries into art and design as forms of cultural production. As such, the teaching of history, theory, and criticism forms a vital component of professional art, design, and planning education (broadly referred to as “design” in the rest of this document and intended to include all disciplines in the College of Design). In addition, teaching history, theory, and criticism of design offers the potential to engage a number of students whose primary objective is not a professional degree in design, but who nonetheless wish to explore design as embedded in broader cultural phenomena. The minor will bring together the college’s existing resources in this area and provide more visibility for this concentration within our course offerings.

Objectives of the proposed minor:

This minor will provide an educational focus and a collegial forum for teaching and research related to the history, theory, and criticism of design. It will:

- create a specific, interdepartmental identity for Critical Studies in Design within the College of Design;
- better utilize existing resources related to faculty support and the teaching of Critical Studies in Design;
- attract new students within the college and across the university;
- attract new faculty and retain existing faculty whose training, teaching, and/or current research involve history, theory, or criticism of design;
- expand diversity in the College by engaging new students and faculty in coursework and research;
- provide a model for interdisciplinary studies in design, which may lead to an interdisciplinary undergraduate or graduate degree program in the future.

The learning outcomes of the minor include improving the writing, research, and critical thinking skills of participating students. Students will have expanded opportunities to engage with faculty who teach and research in these areas through coursework, independent studies, and extracurricular events such as film screenings, guest lectures, and research symposia. Students with an interest in the broad field of design, who choose not to be designers themselves, can enroll in the minor to further their investigations in a non-studio setting. Students will also receive recognition of this interest on their academic record with a declared minor. Some in the

College of Design may choose to enroll in the minor as a springboard to a graduate degree. Through the minor, students from other colleges will be able to explore the interconnection of design with their own fields of primary study such as business, journalism, advertising, world languages and cultures, English, history, or engineering.

General description:

To successfully complete this 15-credit minor a student must take and pass Art 292/ Dsn S 292; either Dsn S 183 or another 100- or 200-level Dsn S course or cross-listed equivalent; and 9 credits in other courses from the approved list, including 6 credits in courses 300-level or above.

Relationship of the minor to other programs at Iowa State University:

The College of Design currently offers two minors: Design Studies and Digital Media. The Design Studies Minor is a general program open to all students which requires them to take 3 credits of history and any other 12 credits in the College of Design, 6 credits of which must be 300-level or above. The Digital Media Minor is open only to College of Design students and requires 15 credits of approved classes, including 6 credits at 300-level or above. The proposed Critical Studies in Design Minor would gather together courses in the history, theory, and criticism of design and provide a more focused context for study in this area.

Relationship of the minor to the department's/college's/university's strategic plans:

The Critical Studies in Design Minor follows the College of Design's and the University's stated goals to support interdisciplinary teaching and research on campus. As described below, few resources will be needed to start and administer the minor. No new courses or adjustments to teaching assignments are necessary. Therefore this minor allows the university to expand its offerings and support interdisciplinarity with minimal financial investment. If the program goals are achieved, the minor will also bring additional revenue to the College of Design (based on the Resource Management Model) through expanding the number of students from outside of the college taking our courses. As such, the Critical Studies in Design Minor responds to the College of Design's request, as part of its strategic planning and budget discussions, to identify new revenue streams that can be established with existing courses.

Comparison of the proposed minor with standards, if any, established by accrediting associations:

There are no relevant accrediting associations that would need to approve the minor.

Comparison of the proposed minor with similar programs at other universities:

Many universities have minors in individual design programs including architecture or architectural studies, landscape architecture or landscape studies, community planning, and art history. Only a few have minors emphasizing the historical and critical study of design. The program most similar to our proposed Critical Studies in Design Minor is Georgia Tech's Design/Arts History Minor, housed in the College of Architecture, which brings together history courses in the Departments of Architecture, Building Construction, City and Regional Planning, Industrial Design, and Music. There is no university with a similar set of departments offering an interdisciplinary minor as proposed here.

Program requirements

Prerequisites for prospective students:

There are no prerequisites for students wishing to enter the Critical Studies in Design Minor. Students majoring in any discipline are welcome.

Courses and seminars presently available for credit toward the minor:

Art H 181/ Dsn S 181: Origins and Evolution of Modern Design
Dsn S 183: Design Cultures
Arch 221/ Dsn S 221: History of Western Architecture I
Arch 222/ Dsn S 222: History of Western Architecture II
CRP 253: Survey of Community and Regional Planning
CRP 270/ Dsn S 270: Forces Shaping Our Metropolitan Environment
Art H 280/ Dsn S 280: History of Art I
Art H 281/ Dsn S 281: History of Art II
Art 292/ Dsn S 292: Introduction to Visual Culture Studies (Required)
CRP 320: Urban Form
LA 371/ Dsn S 371: Landscape Architectural History: 1750 to Present
LA 373/ Dsn S 373: Landscape Architectural History: Prehistory to 1750
Art H 382/ Dsn S 382: Art and Architecture of Asia
Art H 383/ Dsn S 383: Greek and Roman Art
CRP 383: Theory of the Planning Process
Art H 384: Art of Islam
Art H 385/ Dsn S 385: Renaissance Art
Art H 394/ Dsn S 394: Women and Gender in Art
Arch 420: Topics in American Architecture
Arch 422: Topics in Medieval Architecture
Arch 423: Topics in Renaissance to Mid-Eighteenth Century Architecture
Arch 424: Topics in Nineteenth Century Architecture
Arch 425: Topics in Twentieth Century Architecture
Arch 426/ Dsn S 426: Topics in Native American Architecture
Arch 427/527: History, Theory, and Criticism of Chinese Architecture
LA 478D/ Dsn S 478D: Topical Studies in Landscape Arch (History, Theory, Criticism)
Art H 481/ Dsn S 481: Art and Architecture of India
Art H 487/ Dsn S 487: Nineteenth Century Art
Art H 488/ Dsn S 488: Modern and Contemporary Art and Theory I
Art H 489/ Dsn S 489: Sequential Art
Art H 495/ Dsn S 495: Modern and Contemporary Art and Theory II
Art H 496/ Dsn S 496: History of Photography
Art H 498/ Dsn S 498: Selected Topics in Art History
LA 501: Landscape Architectural Theory
Arch 519: Middle East Cities
Arch 529: Spatial Dialectics in the American Midwest
Arch 567/ Dsn S 567: Preservation, Restoration, and Rehabilitation
Arch 571/ Dsn S 571: Design for All People
Arch 575/ Dsn S 575: Contemporary Urban Design Theory

*Sections of Arch 528A-E/Dsn S 528A-E will be approved on a case-by-case basis.

Proposed new courses or modifications of existing courses:

No new courses are planned for this proposed minor and no changes are needed in any of the existing courses approved for the minor.

Implications for related areas within the university:

Since the courses required and approved for this minor are offered by the departments of the College of Design, there are no implications involving teaching load or allocation of resources for any units outside of the College of Design.

Current and Future Resource Needs

Faculty members:

Nadia Anderson, Assistant Professor, Architecture
Carlton Basmajian, Assistant Professor, Community and Regional Planning
John Cunnally, Associate Professor, Art & Design (co-director)
April Eisman, Assistant Professor, Art & Design
Mira Engler, Professor, Landscape Architecture
Marwan Ghandour, Professor, Architecture
Emily Godbey, Assistant Professor, Art & Design
Heidi Hohmann, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture
John Maves, Assistant Professor, Architecture
Emily Morgan, Lecturer, Art & Design
Mikesch Muecke, Associate Professor, Architecture
Lynn Paxson, Associate Professor, Architecture/Design Studies
Ann Sobiech Munson, Assistant Professor, Architecture/Art & Design
Kimberly Zarecor, Assistant Professor, Architecture (co-director)

Effects of the new courses on the workload of the present staff:

There is no effect on the workload of the present staff because the courses counted towards the minor are part of existing course loads.

Research facilities:

No research facilities are necessary for the minor.

Library facilities (journals, documents, etc.) in the proposed area:

Existing library resources will be adequate for the minor, as they are for the present history, theory and criticism courses and areas now taught in the College of Design.

Supplies, field work, student recruitment:

No extra supplies, field work, or student recruitment activity are anticipated beyond what is already provided in the Program of Design Studies and the individual departments.