

Course Change Request

Indiana University

Indianapolis Campus

Check Appropriate Boxes: Undergraduate credit [ ] Graduate credit [X] Professional credit [ ]

1. School/Division Informatics
2. Academic Subject Code NEWM-N 3. Current Course Number 506 4. Current Credit Hours 3
5. Current Title Media Arts and Technology Project
6. Effective Semester/Year for changes listed below: Fall 2008 7. Instructor: Full-Time Faculty

Type of Change Requested (Check appropriate boxes and indicate changes)

[ ] 8. Change course number to: (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)

[X] 9. Current course title: Media Arts and Technology Project

Change to: Thesis/Project in Media Arts and Science

Recommended abbreviation (optional)

(Limited to 32 Characters including spaces)

[X] 10. Current credit hours fixed at: 3 or variable from: to

Change to credit hours fixed at: or variable from: 1 to 6

[ ] 11. Current lecture contact hours fixed at: or variable from: to

Change to lecture contact hours fixed at: or variable from: to

[ ] 12. Current non-lecture contact hours fixed at: or variable from: to

Change to non-lecture contact hours fixed at: or variable from: to

[ ] 13. Is this course currently graded with S-F (only) grades? Yes No

Change to S-F (only) grading? Yes No

[ ] 14. Does this course presently have variable title approval? Yes No

Is variable title approval being requested? Yes No

[ ] 15. Is this course being discontinued? For all campuses or for this campus only

[X] 16. Current course description Students create and orally present a multimedia teaching/training project combining elements of digital media technology including CD-ROM, videodisc, digital audio and video, MIDI, and Internet applications. Requirements include technology project proposal development; oral presentation of proposal, research, and development of project, project final report, and the presentation of project. Final project to be submitted in digital form for a permanent archive.

Change course description to (not to exceed 50 words) Students prepare a thesis or project that includes supporting documentation, as well as a final public defense. In either case, students are required to prepare a proposal that is approved by their advisor or committee chair before beginning their research.

17. Justification for change curriculum adjustments

(Use additional paper if necessary)

18. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library? yes

19. A copy of every new course proposal must be submitted to departments, schools, or divisions in which there may be overlap of this course with existing courses or areas of strong concern, with instructions that they send comments directly to the originating Curriculum Committee. Please append a list of departments, schools, or divisions thus consulted.

Submitted by: Date 12/6/07

Department Chairman/Division Director

Date 12/7/07

Dean of Graduate School (when required)

Approved by: Date

Dean

Date

Chancellor/Vice-President

Date

University Enrollment Services

After School/Division approval, forward the last copy (without attachments) to University Enrollment Services for initial processing, and the remaining four copies and attachments to the Campus Chancellor or Vice-President.

**PROPOSAL TO THE GRADUATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
IUPUI**

**REVISED MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN  
MEDIA ARTS AND SCIENCE (MAS)**

*As Approved by the MAS Faculty*

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS  
IUPUI**

**December 2007**

**Graduate Faculty**

**Anthony Faiola**, Ph.D., Associate Professor

Director of Media Informatics and Human-Computer Interaction Programs

**Joseph Defazio**, Ph.D., Assistant Professor

**Richard Edwards**, Ph.D., Assistant Professor

**Edgar Huang**, Ph.D., Associate Professor

**Steve Mannheimer**, MFA, Professor

## **Introduction**

During the Summer of 2007, the Media Arts and Science (MAS) faculty gathered an exploratory committee to discuss curriculum, program goals, and academic standards. Although the summer months allowed for limited faculty participation, much was accomplished in terms of the laying the ground work for positive change. The primary purpose of this committee was to investigate alternatives for advancing and clarifying the mission of the MAS program, as well as to provide recommendations for the curriculum committee, which would convene in Fall 2007. Throughout the process, the faculty concurred on several important matters regarding program identity, a refreshed purpose and vision for MAS, and a call for a change in the undergraduate and graduate curricula, with specific recommendations.

Since August 2007, all MAS faculty were invited to participate in the curriculum discussion. The committee met twice per month for three hours each time. During this time, the faculty acknowledged an urgent need to clearly establish a new collective identity for the MAS program, while sharing courses with the Human Computer Interaction graduate program. Besides a consensus that a new curriculum was necessary, there was also the agreement that other priorities needed to be established, e.g., the need for more external funding and a clear research agenda. Other important recommendations for change included:

1. A new curriculum that emphasizes an understanding of the applied media arts, science, and information technology as being informed by a greater sense of human-centeredness, with a social and cultural context,
2. A greater emphasis placed on research, which would include less emphasis on a “software-oriented approach,” in favor of a more theoretical and empirical-based approach,
3. A greater connection to Informatics as an “information intensive” research discipline.

## **A Revised Curriculum**

Although the MAS program has established its presence within the School of Informatics on the IUPUI campus, the current curriculum is no longer sustainable. Moreover, not only will a restructuring and revising of curriculum help to address a perception of course duplication, it will truly bring about a unique approach to the discipline. At the same time, a revised curriculum will equip our students with a far more profound understanding of media arts and science as an important and pervasive field of study that can impact the entertainment, education, and healthcare industries, to name a few.

Hence, based on the above recommendations, the curriculum committee has devised a new graduate framework, with the primary change being the addition of the thesis (6 credit hours). Current course titles and course descriptions will remain the same. However, more emphasis on theory and empirical research will be integrated into course content and class projects. This reshaping will bring about a greater emphasis and manifestation of scholarship to drive the MAS program forward. In the newly proposed MAS MS Program, students would be guided into learning experiences through a range of newly designed class projects and research.

In summary, to better support the mission of the School of Informatics at IUPUI, the MAS graduate curriculum committee proposes a revised curriculum that would remove the capstone (3 credits) with its original 30 credit program and replace it with a three credit elective. At the same time, six additional credits will be added for a thesis/project; making the revised MS a 36 credit program, the same as all other MS degrees in the School of Informatics. See the course model on the following page.

*Revised*  
**Media Arts and Science**  
**Master Degree Program**  
(36 Credits)

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**Required Core**

NUMBER	NAME	CREDITS	WHEN OFFERED
N500	Principles of multimedia technology	3	Fall
I541	Human-computer interaction 1	3	Fall
N501	Foundation of media digital production	3	Spring
N503	Multimedia design applications	3	Spring
I575	Informatics research design	3	Fall/Spring
I501	Introduction to informatics	3	Fall/Spring
sub-Total		<b>18</b>	

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**Electives**  
(Select any 4 from this group)\*

NUMBER	NAME	CREDITS	WHEN OFFERED
N502	Digital media motion and simulation methods (animation)	3	Fall
CS550	Computer Graphics	3	Fall
N510	Web database concepts (P: N503)	3	Fall
N504	Advanced Interactive Design Applications	3	Spring
I543	Usability & Evaluative Methods in Interactive Design	3	Spring
I561	Human Computer Interaction Design 2	3	Spring
CS507	Object-Oriented Design and Programming	3	Spring
N505	Internship in media arts and technology	3	Fall/Spring/Summer
I554	Independent Study in HCI (with HCI Faculty)	3	Fall/Spring/Summer
N553	Independent Study (with MAS Faculty)	3	Fall/Spring/Summer

sub-Total		<b>12</b>	
N506 Thesis/Project (1-6) **	sub-Total	<b>6</b>	Fall/Spring/Summer

**Grand Total 36 Credits**

\* Only one of the four electives can be taken from outside the School of Informatics, unless approved by both the student's advisor and program director.

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**N506 Thesis/Project in Media Arts and Science (cr. 1-6)**

Students prepare a thesis or project that includes supporting documentation, as well as a final public defense. In either case, students are required to prepare a proposal that is approved by their advisor or committee chair before beginning their research.