

# MASTER OF ARTS IN THE FIELD OF INTERACTION DESIGN (STEM)

From designing smart devices to reimagining educational environments, interaction design seeks solutions to complex human and environmental challenges. A unique and growing field, it explores the ways people engage with technology and their environments in their daily lives.

The master of arts in interaction design, offered by the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, trains leaders who can analyze and create meaningful digital and physical design solutions. Students have the opportunity to develop their design practice in a real-world context by working with community organizations through the program's innovative Engagement Lab. This curricular component enables students to embrace a human-centered collaborative approach to design that is mindful of social and environmental impact.

With the program's focus on human services and the role of interaction design in public policy, graduates are equipped to make a difference across the nonprofit, government, and business sectors.

This is a STEM designated program.

Visit the program website (<https://corcoran.gwu.edu/interaction-design-graduate/>) for additional information.

## ADMISSIONS

**Admission deadline:** Fall – April 1 (February 1 for assistantship/fellowship consideration)

**Standardized GRE test scores:** is not required.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

- Minimum scores for the program are:
- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 6.0 with no individual score below 5.0; or
  - TOEFL: 550 on paper-based or 80 on Internet-based; or
  - PTE Academic: 53

Please note that students admitted to the program with a TOEFL score below 100 are required to take an English for Academic Purposes course (EAP) must be available to complete the course in the summer prior to enrollment.

**Recommendations:** Two (2) recommendations required:

**Prior academic records:** Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

If transcripts are in a language other than English, English language translations must be provided. The English translation alone should be uploaded into your application.

**Statement of purpose:** In an essay of no more than 750 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in your chosen field at GW Corcoran in particular, including your academic objectives and career plans.

**Portfolio:** A portfolio of design work, consisting of a maximum of 20 images or time-based work.

**Writing Sample:** A 2-3 page writing sample.

**Interview:** An interview is required

**International applicants only:** Please follow this link - <https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants> (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants/>) - to review the International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents and English language requirements.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences - Office of Graduate Studies  
The George Washington University  
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 107  
Washington DC 20052

For additional information about the admissions process visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate-admissions-faq/>) page.

**Contact:**

[askccas@gwu.edu](mailto:askccas@gwu.edu)  
202-994-6210 (phone)

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeeregulationstext>).

42 credits hours: including 33 credits of required and capstone courses and 9 credits of elective courses.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
CIXD 6005	Systems Thinking and Human Centered Design	
CIXD 6011	Narrative Media Design for Interaction	
CIXD 6012	Prototyping Interaction	
CIXD 6014	Creative Code	
CIXD 6015	User Interface and User Experience in the Twenty-First Century	
CIXD 6021	Design Leadership and Professional Practices	
CIXD 6025	Design Futures	
CIXD 6080	Engagement Lab (Taken twice for a total of 6 credits)	
<b>Capstone</b>		
Completion of a capstone project and exhibition.		
CIXD 6210	Interaction Design Capstone I	
CIXD 6220	Interaction Design Capstone II	
<b>Electives</b>		
9 credits in elective courses.		