Interdisciplinary Arts MA (MA Arts)
Interdisciplinary Arts and Media MFA (MFA Media)
Interdisciplinary Book and Paper Arts MFA (MFA Books)

Program Path:

IDS Type: Unrestricted IDS

Program Type: Foundational IDS Program

Description: The Interdisciplinary Arts program was created in 1976 for artists, writers, composers and performers who are searching for new paths leading toward personal growth and professional development. The inter-arts approach focuses on an immersion in all five of the arts (visual, sound, movement, literary and dramatic arts) and emphasizes how the arts are related to each other and society as a whole. Graduate students within the program are offered the rare opportunity to collaborate with one another while providing a broad, aesthetically sophisticated background in the function of the arts. The program is designed for people who refuse to fit into neat pigeonholes. Our mission is to give professional artists the courage to create new work and the skills to implement them. (From website.)

Program Structure:

Admission Requirements: Application, Official Undergraduate Transcripts, Resumé, Statement of Purpose, Work Sample (specific to major, please see website), GRE is optional, (2) Letters of Recommendation

Credit Hours: MA Arts—36 credits, MFA Media—60 credits, MFA Books—60 credits

Required Coursework: MA Arts—15 credits of core interdisciplinary studios, MFA Media—approximately 36-42 credits, MFA Books—approximately 36-42 credits

Individually Selected Coursework: MA Arts—6-9 elective credits, MFA Media—approximately 12-15 elective credits, MFA Books—approximately 12-15 elective credits

Exit Courses & Work: MA Arts—6 credits for thesis project, MFA Media—6-9 credits for thesis project, MFA Books—6-9 credits for thesis project

Established Department(s) of Focus: Open

Program Statistics:

Faculty: 8 full-time department faculty, up to 10 adjunct faculty

Students: Resident students only (low-residency program in development)

Program History: MA Arts was started in 1976, MFA Media was started in 1994, and MFA Books was started in 2002. Development of a low-residency MA program, and a True IDS MFA are underway.
Contact Information:

Address: Interdisciplinary Arts Department, 624 S. Michigan Ave., Room 1100, Chicago, IL 60605

Phone Numbers: 312-344-7669

Email: kjohnson@colum.edu

Website: http://www.colum.edu/Academics/Interarts/interdisciplinary-arts/programs-of-study.php#ma