DIGITAL COMMUNICATION CONCENTRATION, DIGITAL COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA ARTS - CDM (MA)

Course Requirements

The Digital Communication track requires 12 courses (48 credit hours): four (4) core courses and eight (8) elective courses; there is also a degree completion option. Students can apply to test out of an Introductory Prerequisite Course.

Prerequisite Course

The DCMA program requires students to have the skills necessary for design proficiency. Students may test out of the prerequisite.

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
DMA 402	INTRO TO VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS PRINCIPLES	4

Core Courses

Students are required to take all of the following:

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
CMNS 570	INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL CMN	4
DMA 525	FOUNDATION OF DIGITAL MEDIA	4
DMA 527	CREATIVE PROCESS AND STRATEGY	4
MPOP 575	DIGITAL MEDIA ETHICS	4

Elective Courses
Digital Communication Electives

Students are required to take at least one elective course that focuses on digital technology from each of the following areas:

- Media and Popular Culture (MPOP)
- Journalism (JOUR)
- Public Relations and Advertising (PRAD)

Media Arts Electives

Students must take two Media Arts electives from the College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM). These electives can be from Digital Media Arts (DMA) or other departments in CDM that have a media arts focus.

Additional Electives

Students must also take three additional elective courses (one, if student chooses the Master's Project degree completion option, taking DMA 695 and CMNS 595). These elective courses may be:

- Any College of Communication graduate course
- Any College of Computing and Digital Media graduate course
- Any pre-approved outside elective (up to two electives from outside of the College of Communication or College of Computing and Digital Media can apply toward the degree)

- Any course in another department/college at DePaul that is approved by the graduate advisor or graduate program director (up to two electives from outside of the College of Communication or College of Computing and Digital Media can apply toward the degree)

Pre-Approved Outside Electives

Students will have the option to take pre-approved elective courses in either Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse (WRD) or Art, Media, and Design (AMD) as part of their additional electives, allowing students to develop an enriched focus. NOTE: these are pre-approved options, but students are not required to take them.

Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse Pre-Approved Outside Electives

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
WRD 524	DOCUMENT DESIGN	
WRD 530	TOPICS IN PROFESSIONAL AND DIGITAL WRITING	
WRD 531	DIGITAL STORYTELLING	
WRD 532	CONTENT STRATEGY	
WRD 533	WRITING ACROSS MEDIA	

Art, Media, and Design

Course	Title	Quarter Hours
ART 405	ADVANCED ART STUDIO	
ART 427	DIGITAL ART	
ART 460	WEB ART AND DESIGN	
ART 461	PHOTOGRAPHY AND MEDIA ART	
ART 489	VIDEO ART	
ART 490	ADVANCED TOPICS IN ART, MEDIA AND DESIGN	

Students who want to switch between DCMA tracks should be aware that some completed courses in one track may not count towards the requirements of the other. If a student is considering switching tracks, they should consult their advisor and graduate director for assistance.

Completion Options
Reflection Paper

Students complete a comprehensive reflection paper during their final term in the program. This completion option is available to all students and does not come with any course credit.

Capstone

In consultation with a faculty member in the College of Communication, the student should expand or develop a paper or project they have worked on in the program. This professor should have expertise in the area the student's paper/project is based. A meeting should be scheduled to discuss the requirements and design and agreement for the paper/project. Capstone does not come with course credit and is expected to take approximately 10 hours for the student to complete. This option is available to students holding a 3.5 GPA or higher and who have completed at least 10 courses (40 credit hours) in their program.

Thesis

Two project courses (DMA 695 and CMNS 595) replace two additional elective classes. Students will enroll in CMNS 595 in the quarter they defend their project. The student will create an original project (i.e., web-

or film-based projects, or projects related to professional or educational organizations) and write a 5 to 10-page creator's statement. This option is available to students holding a 3.7 GPA or higher and who have completed at least 6 courses (24 credit hours) in their program.

Grade Requirements

All students are required to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.000 in their coursework. If a student's cumulative GPA falls below 3.000, the student will be allowed to complete an additional 16 credits or 3 quarters (whichever comes first) to attain the 3.000 minimum GPA. If the cumulative GPA remains below a 3.000 at the conclusion of this time period, the student may be dismissed from the program. The student's cumulative and term GPAs along with overall academic performance will be factored into the dismissal decision.