

DMD Senior Project + Degree Exhibition

DMD 4075 - Senior Project

Through DMD 4075 - Senior Project, students have the opportunity to take ownership of their own creative process, conceptualizing and developing a substantive digital media project independently in consultation with a DMD faculty advisor. The work created in DMD 4075 should serve as a culmination of students' studies in pursuit of a degree in the Department of Digital Media and Design, and should highlight a student's area of focus within digital media. To that end, work created through DMD 4075 should have a specific point of view, theme, direction and/or intent. The Senior Project work should be presented during the DMD Degree Exhibition.

DMD 4075 is a three credit course to be taken Fall semester and Spring semester of the senior year, for a total of six credits.

Who is involved:

DMD BFA students are required either to complete an internship or to take the DMD Senior Project course as part of their graduation requirements. DMD BFA students who have completed an internship, are welcome, though not required, to take the senior project course.

Responsibilities of the student:

Students should lead the Senior Project process. The Senior Project Faculty Advisor acts as a mentor for the senior project, but the faculty advisor does not manage the process for the student, rather, the student is expected to manage the process of developing exhibition quality work. This includes:

- Contacting a DMD faculty member to act as an advisor for DMD 4075 - Senior Project. This should be done prior to the registration period for the Fall semester of senior year.
- Submitting a senior project proposal and timeline to the Senior Project Faculty Advisor by a date agreed upon by both the student and faculty advisor.
- Meeting regularly with the Senior Project Faculty Advisor at times agreed upon by both the student and faculty advisor to discuss proposal revisions, project progress, project revisions, and selection and preparation of work for exhibition
- Contextualizing the senior project through a written statement included at the Degree Exhibition
- Documenting the senior project work for presentation in an online personal portfolio
- Completing high quality work on time, according to the Degree Exhibition deadlines
- Presenting the senior project work at the DMD Degree Exhibition
- Working with a sense of purpose, fun, focus, and diligence

Senior Project Proposal:

The Senior Project Proposal is a document drafted by the senior project DMD student and submitted to the Senior Project Faculty Advisor at the beginning of the senior project process on a date agreed upon by both the student and advisor.

Proposal for work (500-750 words):

Your proposal for work should clearly outline your vision for the work you will present, why the work is important, and how you are prepared to realize the work. Your work will, of course, evolve as you develop content and respond to feedback, but you should begin your work with a fairly clear vision of what you want to achieve. To that end, your proposal should address the following questions:

- What is the concept and content of your proposed work?
- What is the medium and duration of your proposed work?
- What are some precedents and inspirations for your proposed work?
- What is the significance of your proposed work? Who does your work speak to? In what way is your work novel?
- What previous coursework, or work outside of your coursework, has given you a foundation to create the proposed work? What skills, if any, will you need to acquire in order to realize your project? Are there other people, aside from your primary advisor, that will be useful to consult in your project development?

Project Schedule/Timeline:

Your project schedule/timeline should be a guide for how you plan to tackle a sizeable project on a week-by-week basis. This timeline should help you to assess the feasibility of your project within the given time constraints, and help you to budget your time.

- When planning your timeline, make sure to keep in mind the deadline for submitting work for review for the Degree Exhibition
- Make sure to include at least four meetings with your advisor where you will discuss your work progress. You should consult your advisor when scheduling times to meet.
- If you plan to consult other people, for example other faculty, set up meetings with the faculty, and include the meetings in your project schedule/timeline.

Proposal for display of work (100-250 words):

Briefly describe how you will present your work at the Senior Project Exhibition. (For example, you could display your work on a monitor in a classroom, you could present your work as part of a screening of works using a classroom projection system, or you could showcase documents of work process, physical objects, or printed stills from your work).

Documentation proposal (100-250 words):

Briefly describe how you will document your work. (For example, you could plan to include your work on a website portfolio or as part of your reel. You could plan to document your work process, and you could plan to document the presentation of your work at the exhibition).

DMD 4015 - Degree Exhibition

The DMD Degree Exhibition is an opportunity for Digital Media and Design BFA graduating seniors to share their work with the department and the public. Students enrolled in DMD 4015 - Degree Exhibition will plan all aspects of the DMD Degree Exhibition including conceiving of the format that will best highlight the work of each exhibitor, and planning promotion and documentation for the exhibition.

DMD 4015 is a one credit pass/fail course to be taken Fall semester and Spring semester of the senior year, for a total of two credits.

Who is involved:

DMD BFA Seniors are required to participate in The Degree Exhibition and to enroll in DMD 4015 - Degree Exhibition, in the Fall and Spring semester of the senior year.

Degree Exhibition Faculty Committee:

The Degree Exhibition Faculty Committee will serve as a sounding board and resource as students develop plans for the Degree Exhibition. In addition, the committee will review and provide feedback for work and materials related to the exhibition.

The committee consists of Ken Bowen, Anna Lindemann, Sam Olschan, Dan Pejril, Dennis Recchia, and Joel Salisbury. Anna Lindemann (anna.lindemann@uconn.edu) will be the faculty point person for the 2017 DMD Degree Exhibition should you have any questions.

Responsibilities of the student:

- Attend The DMD Degree Exhibition Kick-Off meeting
- Work collaboratively and professionally with fellow DMD BFA seniors during the process of coordinating all aspects of the exhibition, a process that will undoubtedly, like any process with a deadline, have moments of stress and pressure
- Work as a group to develop, submit, and present a Degree Exhibition proposal to the Degree Exhibition Faculty Committee
- Work as a group to submit Degree Exhibition materials for review by the Degree Exhibition Faculty Committee according to a timeline developed by the group and approved by the committee
- Complete exhibition-quality work and submit work for review to the Degree Exhibition Faculty Committee
- Help setup and breakdown the Degree Exhibition

What work to present and how to present it:

Students should exhibit work that best showcases their creative voice and area of expertise within the field of digital media. The creative work affiliated with the field of digital media and design is diverse and ever-changing, and the work created by DMD students for exhibition will also be diverse, and will explore new technological and creative territory. There is no one type of work that should be exhibited, and no one way to exhibit it.

DMD BFA seniors enrolled in DMD 4075 - Senior Project should plan on presenting their senior project at the Degree Exhibition. Students presenting senior projects, may opt to additionally present other work that complements the senior project work.

Examples of types of work to present: 2D or 3D animation, video game, website, digital film, mobile app, digital humanities project, digital interactive experience, virtual reality game or experience, live performance with digital media, 3D printed sculpture, branding or graphics package, client work, demo reel, portfolio website, process documents, something we haven't seen before and don't even have words to describe

Examples of presentation format: a screening of short animations and digital films; a series of short presentations on the highlights and development process of a game, website, mobile app, internship, or digital humanities research project; interactive demos or experiences; artworks, process documents, or artifacts hung on a wall or displayed on a table; work presented on a monitor or as a projection; some other presentation mode we haven't seen before and don't have words to describe

Elements to consider when planning the exhibition:

- **General format:** the layout and flow of the exhibition, including a schedule of events for demos, presentations, and/or screenings if needed.
- **Location and timing:** the venue and date(s) that would best accommodate the exhibition format.
- **Program and placards:** a program for exhibition guests listing all work being exhibited and the creators of the work, and potentially, brief bios, statements by the creators, and a schedule of events. Placards that explain exhibited materials.
- **Technology:** hardware needed for displaying work
- **Promotional materials:** a digital and/or physical poster, email/social media promotion, and/or other promotional materials along with a plan for distribution.
- **Refreshments:** reception refreshments, if desired.
- **Set-up/clean-up:** a plan for exhibition set-up and breakdown.
- **Documentation:** video, photographs, website, and/or other means of exhibition documentation, which can be used by the department and the participating exhibitors after the exhibition.

Degree Exhibition Timeline

Fall semester:

October 20, 2016

Degree Exhibition Kick-Off meeting

November 11, 2016

Submit DMD Degree Exhibition proposal document to Degree Exhibition Faculty Committee.

This document should include plans and rationale for:

- **General format:** how all individuals involved in the Degree Exhibition will be presenting work
- **Desired Location:** where on campus the exhibition/event will take place
- **Timing:** prospective date(s) for the exhibition, and a general schedule of events
- **Technology needs:** preliminary thoughts about technology needed for the exhibition

The proposal can illuminate more than one possible option for the degree exhibition. It should include at least one “highly feasible” plan, but it can also include at least one “dream big” plan

Week of November 14, 2016 (date TBD)

Present DMD Degree Exhibition proposal to Degree Exhibition Faculty Committee

Week of December 5

Finalize location and date(s) for exhibition, and set date for submission of early February proposal

Spring Semester (a finalized timeline will be defined by the exhibiting students in DMD 4015):

Early February

Submit proposal with finalized location and date(s), and plans for exhibition layout and flow, technology usage, documentation, and concrete timeline for submission of materials

At least 9 Weeks Prior to Degree Exhibition

Submit promotional materials and distribution timeline for review

At least 2 Weeks Prior to Degree Exhibition

Submit program for review

Submit finalized plan for exhibition layout and flow, technology usage, set-up/clean-up, documentation, and refreshments

Present individual work for final review by Degree Exhibition Committee

Degree Exhibition!

Around 1 Week After Degree Exhibition

Submit documentation materials