DESIGN

THE GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN
DESIGN
AT CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
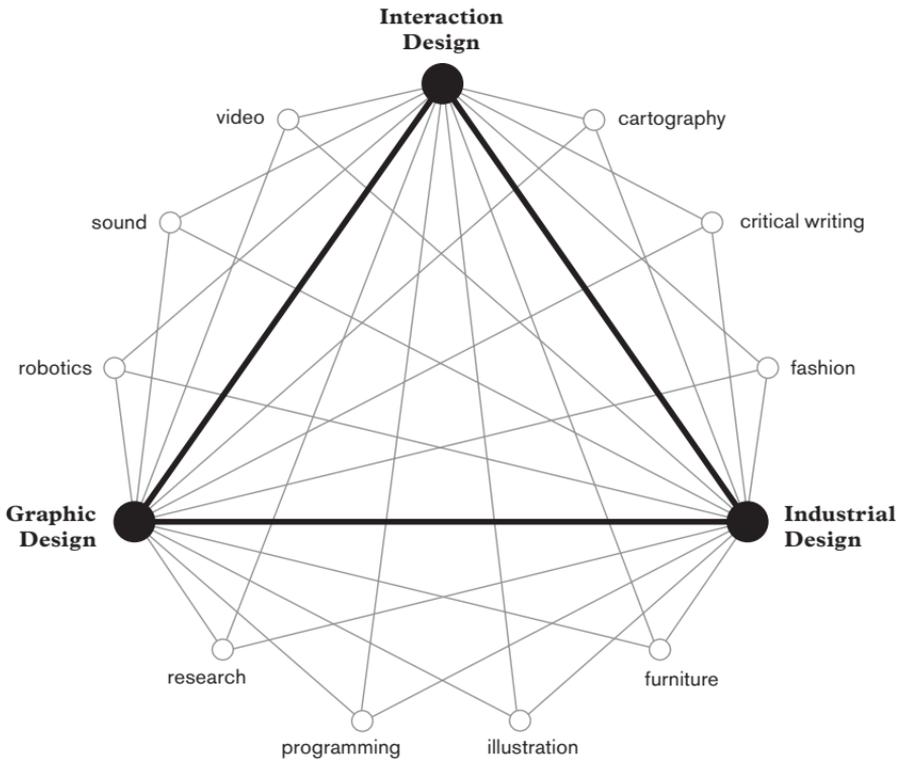
**Study design in San Francisco,
a creative capital and the global
nexus for design innovation.**

Contact us:

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- ▸ Master of Interaction Design
  Kristian Simsarian, PhD, Chair
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- ▸ MBA in Design Strategy
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**Graduate Design
at CCA:**

**Interaction
Design**

video

cartography

sound

critical writing

robotics

fashion

**Graphic
Design**

**Industrial
Design**

research

furniture

programming

illustration

*The focus of disciplinary craft;
the options of interdisciplinary access*

MFA in Design: Two- and three-year tracks

An expansive transdisciplinary studio experience, working and learning with faculty from across three core disciplines. Students expand and define disciplinary boundaries by examining and investigating global trends and local problems. Student work ranges from pragmatic solutions to speculative visualizations.

Each MFA track is centered on skills-rich studios taught by top practitioners in tandem with Design in Context critical writing and reading courses.

Master of Interaction Design

An intense, pragmatic, one-year program focused on interaction craft, process, and leadership skills. Throughout the year, students prepare to make a difference in the booming user experience design field by applying technology-shaping skills locally to tackle global issues.

MBA: Three programs offered

MBA in Design Strategy
MBA in Strategic Foresight
MBA in Civic Innovation

Dual degrees in Graduate Design (three years)

MBA in Design Strategy +
MFA in Design

MA in Visual & Critical Studies +
MFA in Design

Selected faculty:

- ▸ Steve Diller
- ▸ Haakon Faste
- ▸ Michelle Katz
- ▸ David Merkoski
- ▸ Scott Minneman
- ▸ Paul Montgomery
- ▸ Lisa Solomon
- ▸ Martin Venezky
- ▸ Christina Wodtke

Recent guests:

- ▸ Brendan Boyle, partner and Toy Lab head, IDEO
- ▸ Rob Forbes, CEO, Public Bikes; founder, Design Within Reach
- ▸ Zachary Gibson, senior designer, Google
- ▸ Bert Keely, architect, Windows Pen and Touch, Microsoft
- ▸ Prem Krishnamurthy, designer and curator, Project Projects
- ▸ John Thackara, director, Doors of Perception
- ▸ Kevin Walker, Interaction Design chair, Royal College of Art

Alumni Stories

Kristin Neidlinger

Sensoree
Class of 2010

- Previous: Humboldt State University, BA in kinetic design

- What now: I founded Sensoree Therapeutic Bio.media, a design lab of artists and engineers. We design wearable technology that builds awareness and exhibits internationally.

- How CCA shaped my practice: I became informed of opportunities in the field and got inspired to create new ones.

Aaren Esplin

Intel
Class of 2012

- Previous: University of Utah, BFA in graphic design, BS in public relations

- What now: With the Intel New Devices Group, I am the user-experience lead on the smart bracelet, partnering with Opening Ceremony.

- How CCA shaped my practice: An Intel-sponsored studio at CCA inspired me to apply for a job there. CCA taught me to be confident in my strengths and understand the design process.

Zachary Gibson

Google
Class of 2011

- Previous: Tyler School of Art, BFA in graphic/interactive design

- What now: I am a senior visual designer at Google, working on cross-product design efforts by creating a cross-platform user-interface framework. I work on a small team of designers and engineers called UXA.

- How CCA shaped my practice: CCA and my thesis studies taught me that graphic design is a never-ending learning process.

Rebecca Hathaway

Autodesk
Class of 2013

- Previous: UC Davis, BA in English literature; worked in legal technology for several years before CCA

- What now: I'm a UX designer at Autodesk, where I help the Knowledge Platforms team improve the user experience of our support and learning web properties.

- How CCA shaped my practice: I became a versatile designer. On any given week, I might be planning and conducting usability studies, creating user flows or interactive wireframes, or working on visual design.

Kristin Koch
Facebook
Class of 2012

▸ Previous: Gallatin School of Individualized Study/NYU, BA; Fashion Institute of Technology, Textile and Surface Design

▸ What now: I work on the User Experience Research team at Facebook, which is housed under the Design org.

▸ How CCA shaped my practice: The program gave me the foundational skill set required to be a researcher. I was introduced to design research and developed a passion for technology and design. I also learned the value of working with people who have a different skill set than my own, which is really important at a company like Facebook.

Nuri Kim
Uber
Class of 2013

▸ Previous: Korea University, BA in education; Honda Research Institute, Mountain View, Visiting Interaction Designer

▸ What now: I work at Uber Technologies as a user experience designer.

▸ How CCA shaped my practice: I learned how to combine need finding and an understanding of how people make choices with my imagination—to create solutions that could improve existing experiences.

Join our extensive alumni network:

Arup	Intel
Adobe	Local Projects
Autodesk	Mayo Clinic
Chronicle Books	Medium
Facebook	San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
frog design	Townsquared
fuseproject	Uber
Google	...and more
Gravity Tank	
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CCA