

Graduate Public Practices

First Year		Fall	Spring	<u>Degree</u> <u>Requirements</u>
PUBP600/601	Production Studio I/II	6.0	6.0	
AHCS580	History of Public Strategies in Art	3.0	---	
LIBS654	Public Realm Seminar	---	2.0	
PUBP620/621	Case Studies I/II	3.0	3.0	
PUBP650	Field Methodologies for Artists	---	2.0	
	Studio Electives	3.0	2.0	
Total credits per semester		15.0	15.0	
Second Year		Fall	Spring	
PUBP700/701	Production Studio III/IV	6.0	5.0	
PUBP770	Thesis Review	---	1.0	
LIBS655	Public Realm Seminar II	2.0	---	
LIBS784/785	Thesis I/II	3.0	3.0	
PUBP790	Field Internship	2.0	---	
PUBP792	Pedagogy Practicum	---	2.0	
	Studio Electives	2.0	4.0	
Total Credits per Semester		15.0	15.0	

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Course Descriptions

Because of the field-based and professional nature of this program, it might, at times, appear more demanding than other graduate programs, including being required to work longer hours than those designated by the assigned course times and to extend my work outside of the traditional 15-week semester.

History of Public Strategies in Art

AHCS580 3 credits
Seminar with lectures and readings tracing the history of public practices in art from 1930 to today, with a focus on public art, installation, contemporary research in art, and current trends. Students will be expected to identify definitions and arguments on challenging themes, such as globalism, ethics, community-based initiatives, etc.

Public Realm Seminar

LIBS654/655 2 credits
Theory perspectives on working in public, topics in art criticism, interdisciplinary topics regarding art/anthropology, civic policy, urbanism, etc. These are a changing set of topics determined by interest and relevance to their critical repertoire.

Thesis I

LIBS784 3 credits
A two-semester writing project that situates the student's final art project within contemporary criticism in a publishable text. Students will build a Case Study using their own work, exploring the applicable modes of perception and assessment according to critical paradigms. In the first semester, students will focus on defining and documenting their project, doing research on related artists works or theories, and identifying critical themes, areas for investigation. An outline and a first draft will be expected by the end of the first semester.

Thesis II

LIBS785 3 credits
In the second semester students will focus on refining their positions, redrafts and final edits. By the end of the term students will complete their thesis of 25 pages. It will include current and historical references, a case study of each student's project, and a critical analysis that includes multiple kinds of data. The intervention of this written capstone project is to provide evidence that the student is able to articulate his/her intentions in the context of contemporary art practices.

Production Studio I: The Process of Production

PUBP600 6 credits
This series of four studios over two years forms the core of the MFA Public Practice program and is where the student's Final Project is created. The first semester begins with a collaborative project under the supervision of a visiting artist and includes collaboration, formation of community relationships, critique, production, and a final presentation. Skills workshops in subjects like video or model production are determined based on the nature of the project.

Production Studio II: Research and Design

PUBP601 6 credits
This series of four studios over two years forms the core of the MFA Public Practice program and is where the student's Final Project is created. In the second Production Studio, students will determine a topic and location, do research, find partners, and design their project individually or in collaboration with other students.

Case Studies I: Overview of the Field

PUBP620 3 credits
Focusing on specific examples from public practices, this course features an overview of collaborative and public practices based on either geographic location (in Los Angeles or elsewhere) or on relevant topics, such as eco-art or community-based art, with an understanding of how these works fit into various professional art scenes.

Case Studies II: Focused Approach

PUBP621 3 credits
Focusing on one or two specific examples from public practices, this course features in-depth analysis of significant works from the field, deconstructing both practice and theory, with accompanying readings and writing required. The development of an individual model (Case Study) of one's work sets the stage for the Thesis courses in the following year.

Field Methodologies for Artists

PUBP650 2 credits
Seminar on research and other career/professional methodologies for artists. This seminar will feature discussions, readings, presentations by visitors and field trips. This is a companion course to Production Studio II.

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Production Studio III: Implement and Critique

PUBP700 6 credits

This series of four studios over two years forms the core of the MFA Public Practice program and is where the student's Final Project is created. In the second year we expect intensive, phased production on a project of student's interest. In the third Production Studio, students will implement their plan and begin a critique process within their community. During this semester individual studio visits will focus on production critique.

Production Studio IV: Translations

PUBP701 5 credits

This concludes the studio portion of the MFA Public Practice program. In the final Production Studio, students will seek community critique and will design and implement a "translation" of their project in a final exhibition.

Thesis Review

PUBP770 1 credit

Over the course of the final semester students must pass periodic reviews by faculty, guest artists and a final critique that encompasses a review of all their work.

Field Internship Presentation

PUBP790 2-10 credits

Over the course of their study at Otis, students will select an internship with a professional artist working in public practice. This seminar provides an opportunity to reflect on learning and share with other students through presentations.

Pedagogy Practicum

PUBP792 2 credits

Experience in teaching is required, before or during the Program. Students are offered opportunities to assist teach in Otis' undergraduate and other programs. In this seminar, students reflect on the relationship between teaching, public pedagogy, and their own practices. This requirement takes the form of a three session "insert" into the Production Studio IV course.

Course Descriptions

Studio Electives

Studio production electives are determined in consultation with the Chair in order to build specific skills for the student's final project. These skills might include: photography, video, installation, landscape design, computer web design, etc. These courses (a minimum of 11 units overall) will be available each semester and will be sited in appropriate design or fine arts production labs. A student is expected to create a comprehensive skills learning plan with a convincing rationale, rather than make ad hoc skills course selections.