

PROGRAM IN MEDIA ARTS AND SCIENCES

Graduate Study

Media Arts and Sciences (MAS) offers graduate programs (<https://catalog.mit.edu/schools/architecture-planning/#degreesandprogramstext>) leading to the Master of Science, the Master of Science (SM) in Media Technology, the Master of Science in Media Arts and Sciences, and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Media Arts and Sciences. Graduate students work closely with a research advisor in an apprenticeship relationship. Students enter the program from a wide variety of backgrounds, including electrical engineering, physics, computer science, cognitive science, mechanical engineering, art and design, and the learning sciences.

Students in the master's programs are required to spend at least four terms in residence (one of which may be a summer term). All SM students must meet the Institute's General Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.mit.edu/mit/graduate-education/general-degree-requirements/#mastersdegreetext>): a 66-unit program of study and a satisfactory research thesis. The degree is awarded upon successful completion of all program requirements.

Students wishing to pursue a PhD degree must demonstrate exemplary progress in the master's program and gain approval from a departmental committee review. Requirements for the PhD degree include successful completion of MAS general exams, and successful completion and defense of a dissertation based on original and significant research within one of the Media Lab's research groups.

Financial Support

The Program in Media Arts and Sciences offers financial assistance to all successful applicants in the form of research assistantships or fellowships within the Media Lab, which are an important part of the educational program. Students in the program also receive academic credit for part of their research activities.