

Design, Environment and the Arts (Healthcare and Healing Environments), PhD

ARENHHEPHD

ASU is not currently accepting applications for this program.

Program description

Degree awarded: PHD Design, Environment and the Arts (Healthcare and Healing Environments)

The health care and healing environments concentration under the PhD program in design, environment and the arts focuses on the integration of evidence-based design, sustainable science and best practices benchmarks when planning health care facilities. Facility-related responsibilities supported by this area cluster into seven functional work units:

- facilities analysis (physical and environmental)
- human factors and user needs
- interior planning and design
- programming (long-range planning)
- research methodologies
- space management and planning
- strategic planning

This multidisciplinary program integrates the principles of medical and clinical innovations, interior architecture, human health services, communication studies, architecture, and behavioral and engineering sciences. Students in this program are mentored by local health care design consultants, teaming with nursing students and working directly with real clients and corresponding with forward thinking health care research centers.

Graduating students are able to address contemporary issues facing the health care industry, address health care environments on multiple levels, apply evidence based research techniques and effectively communicate with clinicians.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe](#)

Degree requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Required Core (6 credit hours)

EPD 700 Research Methods (3)

EPD 710 Current Research in Design (3)

Concentration (18 credit hours)

Electives or Research (48 credit hours)

EPD 792 Research (12)

other electives or research (36)

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)

EPD 799 Dissertation (12)

Additional Curriculum Information

Students must be thoroughly familiar with design and the arts and are expected to demonstrate a high level of academic maturity before being admitted to the program.

When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree. If the student has not completed a master's degree, elective courses approved by the supervisory committee may be substituted.

The student is required to take 18 credit hours in the concentration and a minimum of nine credit hours of specialized coursework outside the area of concentration.

Students are not allowed to use transfer credits to fulfill the 54 credit hour minimum requirement for resident credit. Each student entering the program is required to submit a plan of study during the first year.

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a master's degree in the field of design, interior design, architecture, nursing or other related fields from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GRE scores
4. three letters of recommendation
5. a statement of purpose summarizing career objectives and the reasons for pursuing doctoral education
6. an indication of proposed area of concentration (design, history, theory and criticism; digital culture in design; or health care and healing environments)
7. an indication of a potential mentor
8. a sample of sole-authored written work in English or any other evidence relevant to admission to the program (i.e., master's degree thesis, research paper or published articles)
9. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of [English proficiency](#) regardless of their current residency. A TOEFL iBT score of at least 100 or an overall International IELTS band score of 7.50, with no individual band below 7.00, is required of all applicants whose native language is not English.

International applicants who are interested in receiving funding as teaching assistants must take the Speaking Proficiency English Assessment Kit, administered at ASU, and become certified. Additional information is available on the department website.

ASU does not accept the GRE® General Test at home edition.

Ideal candidates must already hold a master's degree in design, interior design, architecture, nursing or other related fields. A statement of intent will express interest in the health care research and design concentration. If students enter the program with no design or health care background, they must take certain deficiency courses.

The letters of recommendation preferably would be academic, although they could be professional. Applicants provide the names and contact information of three recommenders at the time of their online application. Recommenders receive an email with a link to the online letter of recommendation to complete. Applicants are able to see which recommenders have already completed their recommendation

by logging into the My ASU system and viewing their To Do list. Once a recommender has submitted the letter of recommendation, the recommender's name is removed from the To Do list. All letters must be in English.

Applicants should identify a proposed research topic, or list of possible topics, that aligns with the research mission of the program and the research interests of faculty.

Applicants must have identified a doctoral program faculty member who has agreed to serve as a mentor. The faculty mentor should be from the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts. Applicants are recommended to introduce themselves by email to the faculty members who they feel have related research interests and to inquire about their availability to be mentors.

The application will be considered incomplete if any of the application items is missing.

The doctoral executive committee evaluates the applications and supporting materials. Admission decisions are based on the ability of the potential mentor to devote time to the student; the compatibility of the applicant's career goals with the purpose of the degree program; GRE scores; previous academic training and performance; recommendation letters; and the research mission of the institute and the research interests of faculty. The recommendations of the committee are forwarded to the program director for approval. Upon the written recommendation from the program director, the dean of the Graduate College notifies all applicants, in writing, of the admission decision.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Career opportunities

Graduates may pursue advanced positions in the following arenas:

- elite consulting firms as facility programmers
- large health care systems and corporations as strategic planners
- leading manufacturers and vendors as expert representatives
- planning divisions in architectural and planning firms as medical planners
- research centers as decision-makers

Contact information

[Dean, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts](#) | CDN 162E
designgrad@asu.edu | 480-965-3536