

CPT and OPT Graduate Program Guidelines

CPT: Curricular Practical Training

This is **optional** for College of Art and Design MFA and MS international students. "Curricular practical training" is any full-time co-op done **before completion** of credit bearing course requirements.

MFA international students are allowed a **maximum of two (2) semesters for CPT**.

To apply for CPT, MFA and MS international students must:

1. Provide a written job offer to their graduate director.
2. Register in a recognized co-op or internship with their academic department in SIS.
3. Report their employment information to the Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education through the student page of the site.
4. Additional permission to participate in curricular practical training must be granted by the International Student Services office, prior to the employment start date.

OPT: Optional Practical Training

Optional Practical Training (OPT) is employment done **after completing** all degree requirements. The maximum amount of time granted to work on OPT is **12 months** per degree level.

To be eligible for OPT, MFA and MS international students must have:

1. Maintained their F-1 student status for at least one academic year.
2. Completed all required coursework for their degree (excluding a thesis requirement).
3. Completed less than 365 days of full-time curricular practical training (CPT)
4. Applied within 60 days of completing their program (*ISS recommends 90 days prior to program end date)
5. Employment within the completed field of study (*no employment offer needed at time of application)

College of Art and Design | CPT and OPT Planning Sheet

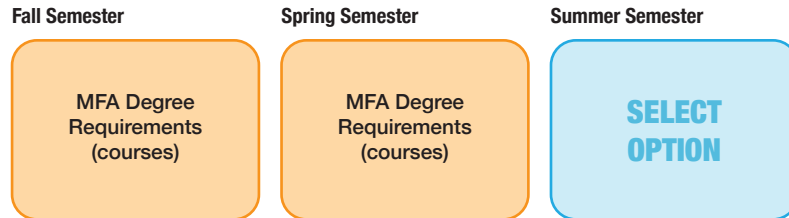
MFA School for American Crafts | MFA School of Art | MFA Photography and Related Media

OPT Optional Practical Training: employment done **after** completion of all credit bearing course requirements: 1-year work permit given to students

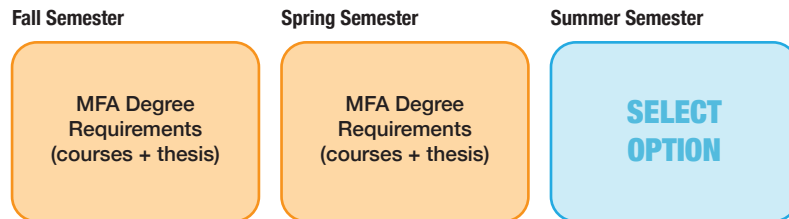
COT Continuation of Thesis: required course at zero credits, but tuition charged equivalent to 1-credit hour for fall and spring semesters. Must be registered every semester until thesis is complete (including summer semester).
Summer semester is at no cost to the student.

FTE Full-time Equivalency: for a maximum of three (3) semesters

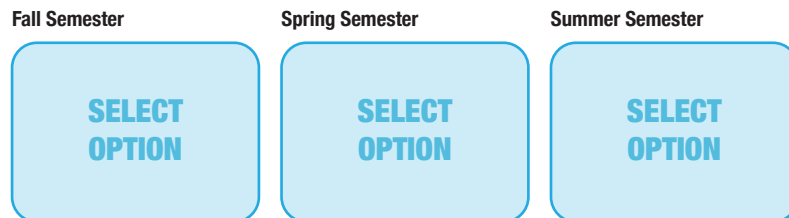
FIRST YEAR



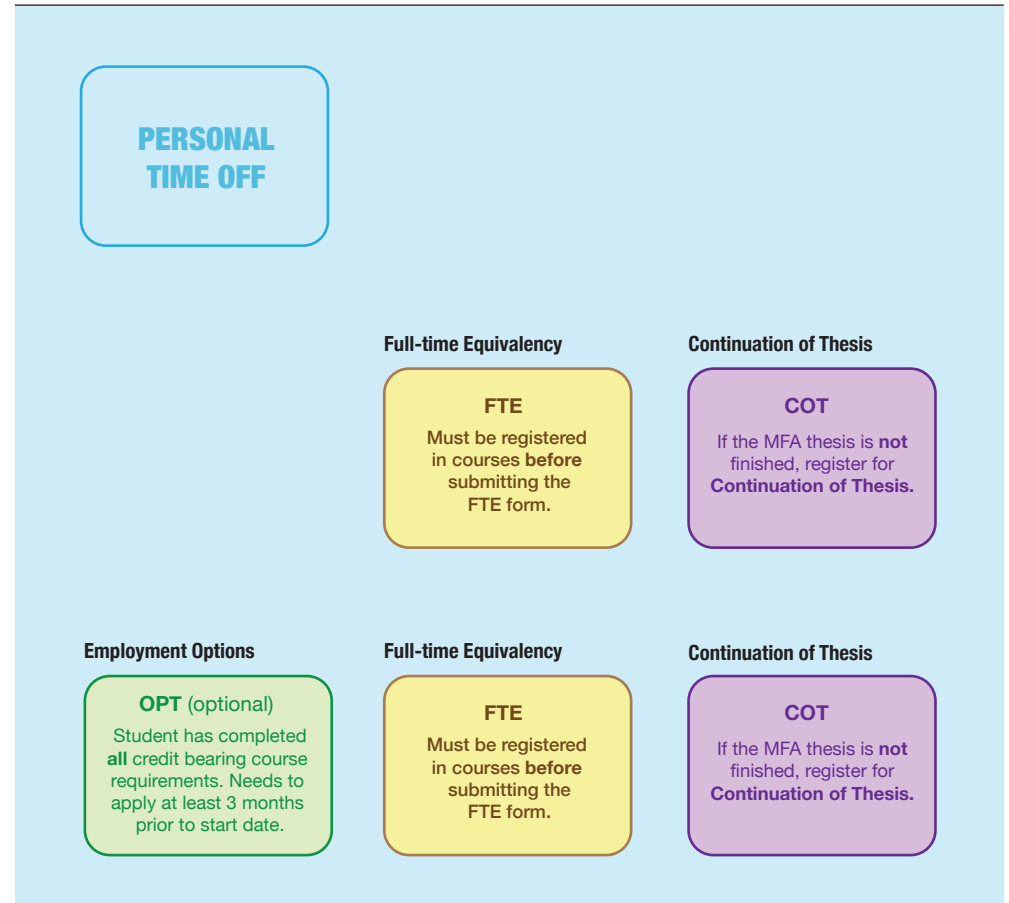
SECOND YEAR



THIRD YEAR



OPTIONS



College of Art and Design | CPT and OPT Planning Sheet

MFA Industrial Design | MFA Visual Communication Design

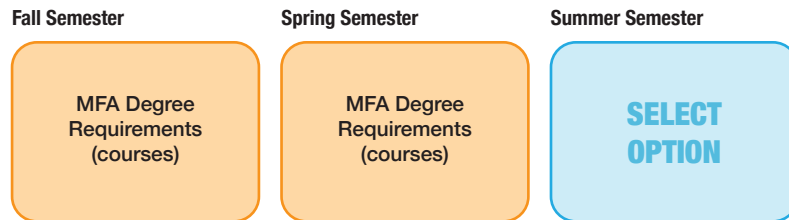
CPT Curriculum Practical Training: any full-time coop **before** completion of credit bearing course requirements
Allowed a maximum of two (2) semesters for CPT

OPT Optional Practical Training: employment done **after** completion of all credit bearing course requirements:
1-year work permit given to students

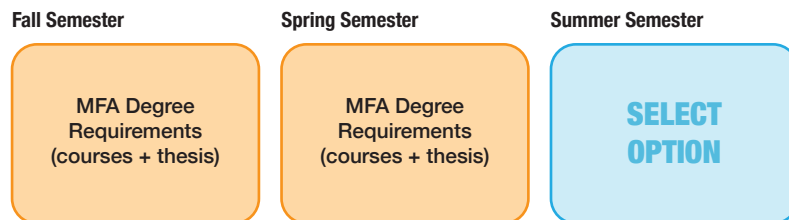
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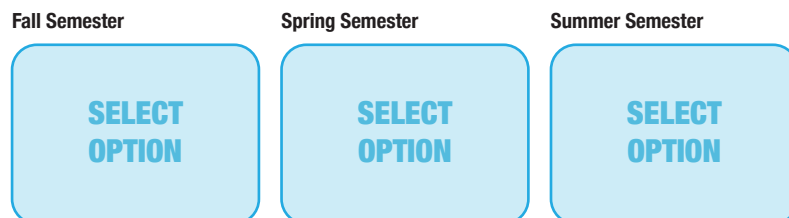
FIRST YEAR



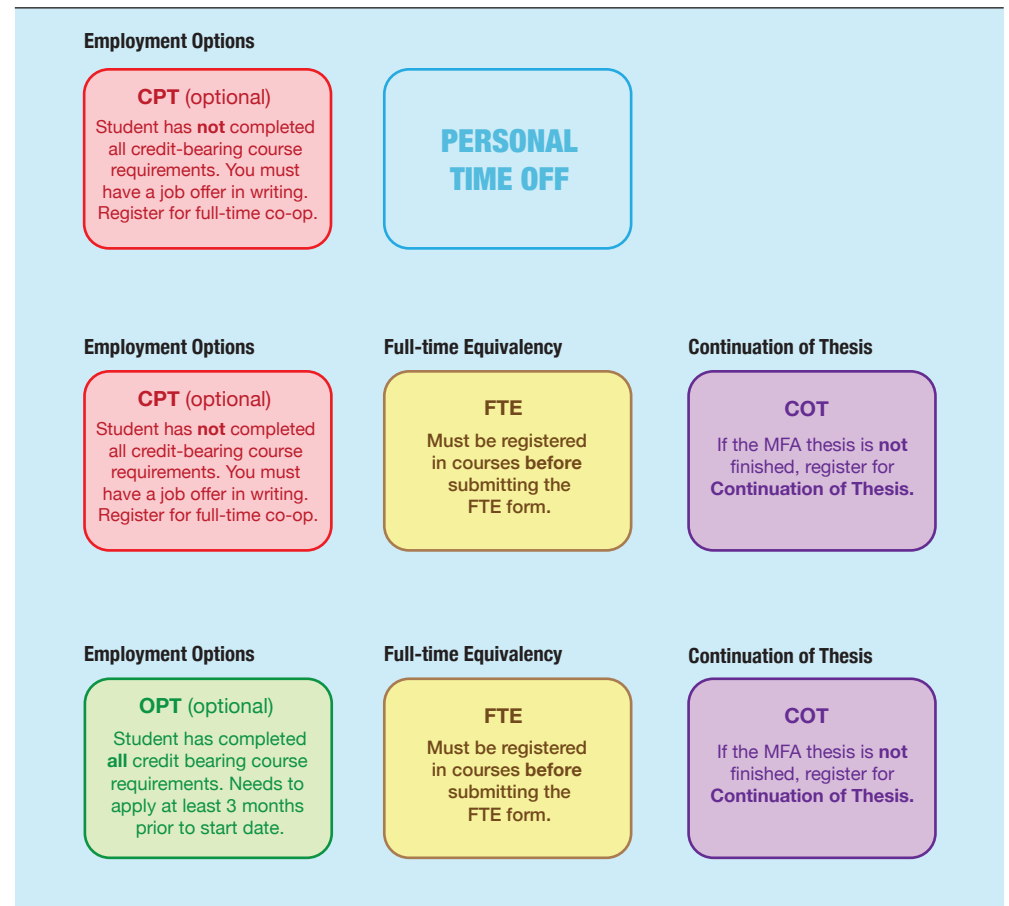
SECOND YEAR



THIRD YEAR



OPTIONS



College of Art and Design | CPT and OPT Planning Sheet

MFA Film and Animation

FIRST YEAR

Fall Semester

MFA Degree Requirements (courses)

Spring Semester

MFA Degree Requirements (courses)

Summer Semester

SELECT OPTION

SECOND YEAR

Fall Semester

MFA Degree Requirements (courses)

Spring Semester

MFA Degree Requirements (courses)

Summer Semester

SELECT OPTION

THIRD YEAR

Fall Semester

MFA Degree Requirements (courses + thesis)

Spring Semester

MFA Degree Requirements (courses + thesis)

Summer Semester

SELECT OPTION

FOURTH YEAR

Fall Semester

SELECT OPTION

Spring Semester

SELECT OPTION

Summer Semester

SELECT OPTION

OPTIONS

Employment Options (CPT = maximum of two semesters)

CPT (optional)

Student has **not** completed all credit-bearing course requirements. You must have a job offer in writing. Register for full-time co-op.

CPT (optional)

Student has **not** completed all credit-bearing course requirements. You must have a job offer in writing. Register for full-time co-op.

OPT (optional)

Student has completed **all** credit bearing course requirements. Needs to apply at least 3 months prior to start date.

Full-time Equivalency (maximum of three semesters)

FTE

Must be registered in courses **before** submitting the FTE form.

FTE

Must be registered in courses **before** submitting the FTE form.

FTE

Must be registered in courses **before** submitting the FTE form.

Continuation of Thesis (register until the thesis is completed / follow the seven (7) year rule)

COT

If the MFA thesis is **not** finished, register for **Continuation of Thesis**.