



MFA DESIGN FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION FACT SHEET

The MFA in Design for Social Innovation provides designers with the hands-on experience, skills, and relationships with potential partners and employers they need to lead potentially world-changing initiatives for the good of society and the environment. Students are prepared to participate fully in social innovation in all its forms through a mastery of design strategy, innovation, social technologies, data visualization, leadership, game and social movement design, program execution and communication design.

The two-year, 60-credit program prepares designers to apply new strategies and models in addressing global challenges and strengthening society. Students gain hands-on experience using design in the classroom and the design lab, as well as in corporations and in the field with non-profits and social entrepreneurs around the globe. The curriculum encompasses a broad range of issues including poverty, aging, women's rights, food and agriculture, social justice, environment, working conditions, fair trade, education, community development and health.

The inaugural class starts in the fall of 2012.

Department chair

Cheryl Heller, founder of Heller Communication Design and board chair of PopTech

Faculty members

Danny Alexander, multi-disciplinary designer; Tracy Brandenburg, PhD, researcher, writer and founder, The Wells College Innovation Lab; Asi Burak, co-president, Games for Change; Mary Corliss Pearl, PhD, CEO, The Garrison Institute; Jane S. Englebardt, founder, Upshot Advisors; DK Holland, founder, Citizen:ME; Lee-Sean Huang, designer and strategist, Purpose; Julie Engel Manga, PhD, Babson College; Lisa Nugent, global creative director, cross-sector innovation & design, Johnson & Johnson; Alessandra Orofino, lead strategist, Purpose; Despina Papadopoulos, founder, Studio 5050; Marc Rettig, founder and principal, Fit Associates; and Lina Srivastava, principal, Lina Srivastava Consulting.

For further information, please visit our Web site at <http://dsi.sva.edu>.