

MASTER OF DESIGN

The Master of Design (M.Des.) program is a two-year, 54 credit-hour degree program intended for those seeking professional mastery at the highest level in the field. The program does not require the formal selection of a concentration area or a final thesis project. Students may construct their own curriculum after taking a core of courses focused on understanding users, analyzing complex information, and exploring and prototyping alternative solutions. Examples of individual courses of study include communication design, interaction design, product design, strategic planning, user research, design methods research, and systems design.

Residence

The M.Des. program requires continuous full-time study at the Institute of Design for a minimum of four semesters. Students must enroll in at least 13.5 credit hours of coursework each semester.

Advising

All students must meet with their academic advisers at least once a semester during their program of study. Each meeting should be scheduled prior to course registration for the following semester. All incoming students are assigned an adviser at the time of admission. All students can change their adviser at any time through an eForms petition.

If the required advising meeting is not completed in a particular semester, an academic hold will be placed on the student's record preventing any course registration for the following semester. The hold cannot be removed until the student has completed the advising meeting. Please see the Director of Student Engagement if you have any questions or your assigned adviser is not available.

Curriculum

Requirement	Credits
Minimum Degree Credits	54
Minimum Degree Credits with ESP + Design Course Corequisites	72
Minimum Degree Credits with Foundation Course Prerequisites	69

Core Curriculum

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		(15)
IDN 504 or IDN 508	Intro to Observing Users Principles/Methods User Rsrch	3
IDN 530	Intro to Design Planning	1.5
IDN 556	Comm in the Planning Process	1.5
IDX 504	Prototyping Methods	1.5
IDX 508	Modes of Human Experience	1.5
IDX 542	Analysis + Synthesis in Design	3
IDX 550	Building/Understanding Context	3
Elective Courses		(39)
Select 39 credit hours from any 500-level IDN or IDX non-required course. Up to 12 credit hours may be chosen from IDN 475 - IDN 498, provided that those courses are not also applied as program prerequisites.		39
Total Credit Hours		54

ESP + Design Courses

These courses are corequisite for students who require additional fluency in English and design-specific vocabulary.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
IDN 461	Design Read/Writing Skills I	3
IDN 462	Design Listening and Presentat	3
IDN 463	Cross-Cultural Communication I	2
IDN 464	Cross-Cultural Comm I Lab	1
IDN 466	Design Read/Writing Skills II	3
IDN 467	Listening and Presentation II	3
IDN 468	Cross-Cultural Comm II	2

IDN 469	Cross-Cultural Comm II Lab	1
Total Credit Hours		18

Foundation Courses

These courses are prerequisite for students without an undergraduate degree in industrial or communication design and must be completed prior to proceeding with any other M.Des. requirements.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Select a minimum of 15 credit hours from the following:		15
IDN 481	Intro to Design Practice	3
IDN 482	Introduction to Design II	3
IDN 483	Intro to Visual Communication	4
IDN 484	Communication Systems	4
IDN 485	Intro to Objects & Artifacts	4
IDN 486	Intro to Product Design II	4
IDN 487	Introduction to Photography	4
IDN 488	Digital Media	4
Total Credit Hours		15

Elective Courses

Students select a series of courses to meet their professional goals in consultation with their adviser. Courses may be chosen from any 500-level IDN or IDX non-required course, and up to 12 credit hours from the 400-level Foundation courses (IDN 481–IDN 498), provided that those courses are not also applied as program prerequisites. Up to six credit hours may be taken outside of ID with the approval of the student's adviser.

A selection of the available elective courses is below. Note: Some courses are not offered every semester.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
IDN 502	Making the User-Centered Case	1.5
IDN 506	Research Planning & Execution	1.5
IDN 508	Principles/Methods User Rsrch	3
IDN 510	Research Photography	1.5
IDN 512	Interview Methods	1.5
IDN 514	Experience Modeling	3
IDN 516	Cultural Probes	1.5
IDN 517	Stimulus in Design Research	1.5
IDN 518	Survey Methods	1.5
IDN 520	Co-Design/Participatory Rsrch	1.5
IDN 522	Coding and Analysis	1.5
IDN 526	Online Research Methods	1.5
IDN 532	Business Frameworks & Strategy	1.5
IDN 534	Business Models and Value Webs	1.5
IDN 536	Intro to Portfolio Planning	1.5
IDN 537	New Venture Design	1.5
IDN 538	Design Planning Workshop	3
IDN 539	Social/Economic Context of Dsg	1.5
IDN 540	Planning Implementation	1.5
IDN 542	Behavioral Economics	1.5
IDN 543	Communication Strategies	1.5
IDN 544	Diagram Development	1.5
IDN 546	Metaphor and Analogy in Design	1.5
IDN 548	Advanced Diagramming	1.5
IDN 550	Communication Design Workshop	3
IDN 552	Fund of Visual Communication	1.5

IDN 554	Theories of Communication	1.5
IDN 562	Modeling Complexity	1.5
IDN 564	Info Structuring & Management	1.5
IDN 566	Systems Approach to Design	1.5
IDN 568	Service Systems Workshop	3
IDN 570	Structured Planning Workshop	3
IDN 571	Systems and Systems Theory	1.5
IDN 572	Platform-Based Design Strategy	1.5
IDN 574	Design Process and Knowledge	1.5
IDN 576	Systems Modeling & Prototyping	3
IDN 578	Human System Integration	3
IDX 502	New Product Definition	3
IDX 506	Fundamentals of Product Design	1.5
IDX 510	Design Develop/Implementation	1.5
IDX 512	Product Design Workshop	3
IDX 514	Prod/Ser Architecture/Platfrm	1.5
IDX 518	Interaction Design Methods	1.5
IDX 520	History of Interaction Design	1.5
IDX 522	Persuasive Interaction Design	1.5
IDX 524	Interaction Design Workshop	3
IDX 526	Physical + Digital Development	3
IDX 528	Prototyping Interactions	3
IDX 530	Interaction Dsgn Immersive Sys	1.5
IDX 532	Interaction Dsgn Embedded Sys	1.5
IDX 533	Engaging Stakeholders	1.5
IDX 534	Interactive Space	1.5
IDX 536	Extensions of Media/Technology	1.5
IDX 538	Networked Cities	3
IDX 540	Networked Objects	3
IDX 548	Innovation Methods	3
IDX 552	Manage Interdisciplinary Teams	3
IDX 560	Intro to Design Thinking	3
IDX 562	Multidisciplinary Prototyping	3
IDX 594	Faculty Research	1-10
IDX 597	Special Topics	1.5-10

