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 (a minimum of five semesters for those in the M.Des. with the Foundation sequence). 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 Success 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	66
Minimum Degree Credits with Foundation Course Prerequisites	69

Core Curriculum

Code	Title		Credit Hours
Required Courses			**(17.5)**
IDN 508	Principles and Methods of User Research		3
IDN 556	Strategic Communication		1.5
IDN 571	Introduction to Systems Theory		1.5
IDX 508	Modes of Human Experience		1.5
IDX 542	Analysis + Synthesis		3
IDX 550	Building and Understanding Context		3
Choose one course from below:			4
IDN 501	Communication Systems	4	
IDN 503	Embodied Design	4	
IDN 505	Digital Media	4	
Elective Courses			**(36.5)**
Select 36.5 credit hours from any 500-level or 600-level IDN or IDX non-required course. Up to 12 credit hours may be chosen from IDN 481 - IDN 497, provided that those courses are not also applied as program prerequisites.			36.5
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	Advanced Reading and Writing for Design I	3
IDN 462	Advanced Listening and Presentation in Design I	3
IDN 466	Advanced Reading and Writing in Design II	3

IDN 467	Advanced Listening and Presentation in Design II	3
Total Credit Hours		**12**

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	Introduction to Design Practice	3
IDN 483	Introduction to Visual Communication	4
IDN 485	Introduction to Objects & Artifacts	4
IDN 487	Introduction to Photography	4
IDN 489	Introduction to Interaction	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 or 600-level IDN or IDX non-required course, and up to 12 credit hours from the 400-level Foundation courses (IDN 481–IDN 497), 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 504	Introduction to Observing Users	3
IDN 506	Research Planning and Execution	1.5
IDN 508	Principles and Methods of User Research	3
IDN 510	Research Photography	1.5
IDN 514	Experience Modeling	3
IDN 518	Survey Methods	1.5
IDN 519	Evidence-based Design	1.5
IDN 520	Co-Design and Social Interventions	3
IDN 522	Research Synthesis	1.5
IDN 530	Innovation Frontiers	1.5
IDN 531	Adaptive Leadership	1.5
IDN 534	Business Design	1.5
IDN 535	Organizational Models of Innovation	1.5
IDN 536	Introduction to Product Strategy	1.5
IDN 538	Strategic Design Workshop	3
IDN 540	Implementing Innovation	1.5
IDN 541	Civic Design	1.5
IDN 542	Behavioral Design	1.5
IDN 544	Diagram Development	1.5
IDN 546	Design Rhetoric	1.5
IDN 548	Animated Diagramming	1.5
IDN 550	Communication Design Workshop	3
IDN 552	Fundamentals of Visual Communication	1.5
IDN 558	Innovation Narratives	1.5
IDN 562	Modeling Complexity	1.5
IDN 564	Bias + Sensemaking	1.5
IDN 568	Service Systems Workshop	3
IDN 571	Introduction to Systems Theory	1.5

IDN 573	Sustainable Solutions Workshop	3-4
IDN 575	Re-Thinking Systems	3
IDX 504	Prototyping Methods	1.5
IDX 505	Critique Methods	1.5
IDX 506	Fundamentals of Product Design	1.5
IDX 508	Modes of Human Experience	1.5
IDX 509	Data Literacy	1.5
IDX 512	Product Design Workshop	3
IDX 513	Generative Design	3
IDX 518	Interaction Design Methods	1.5
IDX 519	Fundamentals of Web Development	1.5-3
IDX 524	Interaction Design Workshop	3
IDX 528	Prototyping Interactions	3
IDX 530	Interaction Design for Immersive Systems	1.5
IDX 535	Politics of Design	1.5
IDX 537	Designing Futures	3
IDX 541	Critical Contexts	1.5-3
IDX 548	Innovation Methods	3
IDX 551	Facilitation Methods	1.5
IDX 554	Agile Culture	1.5
IDX 552	Managing Interdisciplinary Teams	3
IDX 560	Introduction to Design Thinking	3
IDX 562	Multidisciplinary Innovation	3
IDX 594	Faculty Research	1-10
IDX 597	Special Topics	1-10
IDX 598	Independent Study	1.5-6
IDN 685	Ph. D. Principles and Methods of Design Research	1.5
IDN 687	Ph. D. Philosophical Context of Design Research	1.5
IDN 689	Ph.D. Research Seminar	3