INDUSTRIAL DESIGN, MDES

for the Master of Design in Industrial Design

The MDes Industrial Design program is a professionally oriented graduate qualification which supports those intending to go into the professional practice of Industrial Design. The program takes a broad view of design practice in this area to embrace all aspects of human-centered design including user interface and interaction design, but with a primary focus on industrial and product design. The program involves a high level approach to design thinking and design practice and so fits graduates for work in many sectors of activity. The program is highly project-based with an emphasis on hands-on creativity in both the physical and digital realms.

As a graduate qualification it is applicable to students with an undergraduate degree in design, but also those with degrees in Engineering or Business who want to broaden their career options, as well as mid career designers with similar ambitions. It builds on the long standing MFA in Industrial design and involves study alongside students on that program in dedicated studio spaces. The location of the program in the School of Art and Design enables connections with students and faculty in other programs in the School as well as with colleagues and facilities across the University. These connections could include the Business, Medical and Engineering Colleges as well as the new Siebel Center for Design.

Graduates of the program will work in companies and consultancies, as well as in many roles now opening up for designers and design thinkers in business and social sector organizations. Design is now a global function in many organizations.

For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s graduate studies requirements and the Graduate College Handbook.

At the end of the program, you should demonstrate the following....

INQUIRY AND INSIGHT...the ability to select and use appropriate research and experimental methods, to access existing data or to generate new data, to analyze and draw insights, with a particular emphasis on user needs.

IDEATION...the ability to produce creative proposals to identified design opportunities, using design thinking, modelling, and prototyping strategies, with an appropriate integration of functional, technical, ergonomic and visual factors.

IMPLEMENTATION...the ability to select and use appropriate making and manufacturing processes with an understanding of the potential of new technologies, and the demands of sustainability.

INFORMING...the ability to use visual and verbal communication, to explain and persuade, as appropriate for different audiences.

CONTEXTUALISATION...the ability to locate your own activity within the multiple contexts of design practice, including the theoretical, professional, cultural, environmental and technological contexts.

SELF DEVELOPMENT...the ability to carry out independent learning and reflexive evaluation of your work, as well as to plan and implement action, effectively managing self and others.

Graduate Degree Programs in Art & Design

- Majors
  - Art & Design, MFA (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-design-mfa/)
  - concentrations
    - Design for Responsible Innovation (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-design-mfa/design-responsible-innovation/)
    - Industrial Design (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-design-mfa/industrial-design/)
    - Painting (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-design-mfa/painting/)
    - Photography (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-design-mfa/photography/)
    - Printmaking (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-design-mfa/printmaking/)
    - Sculpture (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-design-mfa/sculpture/)
  - specialization
    - New Media
  - Art Education, EdM (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-education-edm/)
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- Art Education, MA [http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-education-ma/]
- Art Education, PhD [http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-education-phd/]
- Art History, MA [http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-history-ma/]
- Art History, PhD [http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/art-history-phd/]
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- Minor
  - Art History [http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/minor/art-history/]

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School of Art + Design
School of Art + Design (https://art.illinois.edu/)
Art + Design Faculty (https://art.illinois.edu/about/faculty-directory/)
School Director: Alan Mette
Associate Director & Director of Graduate Studies: Laurie Hogin
138 Art and Design Building, 408 East Peabody Drive, Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-0642

Graduate Studies Advisors:
MA; PhD in Art History: Lisa Rosenthal
MA; EdM; PhD in Art Education: Laura Hetrick
MDes in Industrial Design: David Weightman
MFA in Studio: Ryan Griffis and Emmy Lingscheit
MFA in Industrial Design: David Weightman
MFA in Design for Responsible Innovation:

College of Fine & Applied Arts
College of Fine & Applied Arts (https://faa.illinois.edu/)

Admissions
Graduate College Admissions Requirements (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 10/2023