Overview

The Master of Design is industry-engaged, intellectually rigorous and professionally relevant. As a Master of Design student you will extend and develop your practice through advanced practical design knowledge and skills. This will equip you with the personal confidence and professional capabilities needed to move into creative leadership roles in freelance, project or design business contexts.

The Master of Design has two main components: a core of design studio classes and courses in design contexts, and the choice to specialise in a design area of practice.

In the design core you will learn to integrate technology, design thinking, experimentation, strategy and communication, with a deep understanding of the role of design in innovation and the global economy.

The studio-based areas of practice enable you to either focus on a specific area of design and digital media practice, or to put together your own suite of courses from across design, material practice, and digital media.

Studio-based design courses can be taken in the following Areas of Practice:

- **Graphic Communication** addresses graphic design for paper and print, the screen and broadcast, encompassing contemporary typography, graphic design and cross-cultural communication strategies in designing for different audiences.
- **Spatial Experiences** engages with the design of processes, services, events and environments, with a focus on the quality of the user experience.
- **Interaction Design** covers visual communication and user-experience across graphics, media and emergent inter-actives.
- **Visualisation and Visual Effects** focuses on the practices of designing for animation, 3D, sound, film, video, illustration and computing.
Future Making: Materials and Objects focuses on the making of objects, with new materials and digital technologies and craftsmanship. It addresses the integration of technical knowledge and skills with material and contextual understanding. Future Making works with ceramics, jewellery, metal, textiles, furniture and lighting.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Faculty</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Art &amp; Design</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Campus</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paddington</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Study Level</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Typical duration</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Years</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Delivery Mode</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face-to-face</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Intake Period</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1, Term 3</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Academic Calendar</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3+ Calendar</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Minimum Units of Credit</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Award type</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Masters (Coursework)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Award(s)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Design -</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDes</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>CRICOS Code</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>082198B</td>
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Learning Outcomes

1. Apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, expert judgement, adaptability and responsibility as a practitioner
   - Global Citizens
   - Professionals

2. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of concepts and principles of design as an integrated practice
   - Scholars

3. Apply research principles and methods applicable to contemporary design practices
   - Scholars
   - Professionals

4. Demonstrate the qualities of an ethical practitioner
   - Professionals

5. Demonstrate cultural awareness, environmental and social responsibility, and a respect for diversity
   - Global Citizens

6. Plan and execute a substantial research-based professionally-focused project in design
   - Scholars

7. Justify, interpret and communicate knowledge, skills and ideas to specialist and non-specialist audiences
   - Global Citizens
   - Leaders
   - Professionals

8. Critically analyse, reflect on and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories and apply established theories to design practice
   - Scholars
   - Professionals

Graduate Capabilities:

For more information on Graduate Capabilities, please click on this link.
# Program Structure

Students must complete 96 UOC as a standalone program.

## Core Courses

Students must take 66 UOC of the following courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>UOC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAD9113</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills for Creative Disciplines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADAD9114</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Foundations in Art and Design</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ADAD9312</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership in the Cultural and Creative Industries</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAHT9143</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design History and Theory 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDES9203</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDES9204</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Studio: Insight, Processes and Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDES9210</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Approaches to Design Practice</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDES9211</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Studio: Culture and Identity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SDES9213</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design Studio Project A</td>
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Art & Design Prescribed Elective

Students must take at least 6 UOC of the following courses.

any level 9 Art and Design course

any level 9 Art History course

any level 9 Art course

any level 9 Design Studies course

Design Areas of Practice Electives

Students must take 24UOC from the following Areas of Practice.

Note: Units can be taken in a single Area of Practice or across multiple Areas of Practice.

Future Making: Materials and Objects

Students can take up to a maximum of 24 UOC of the following courses.

ADAD9211 | 6 UOC
New Technologies, Traditional Techniques

ADAD9212 | 6 UOC
Material Thinking

SDES9746 | 6 UOC
Textiles - Contemporary Studio
**Graphic Communication**

Students can take up to a maximum of 24 UOC of the following courses.

- **ADAD0901 | 6 UOC**
  Graphics and Contemporary Society

- **SDES9760 | 6 UOC**
  Introduction to Graphics Media

- **SDES9761 | 6 UOC**
  Contemporary Typography

- **SDES9762 | 6 UOC**
  Graphic Design for the Web

**Interaction and User Experience (UX) Design**

Students can take up to a maximum of 24 UOC of the following courses.

- **SDES9311 | 6 UOC**
  Interaction Design Foundations

- **SDES9312 | 6 UOC**
  Interaction Design: Human-Centred Design Methods

- **SDES9315 | 6 UOC**
  Tangible Interfaces and Interactive Displays

- **SDES9316 | 6 UOC**
  Wearable and Bio-Sensing Interactions
**Spatial Experiences**

Students can take up to a maximum of 24 UOC of the following courses.

- **ADAD9311**  |  6 UOC  
  Designing the Experience: Exhibitions and Beyond

- **SDES9300**  |  6 UOC  
  Transforming the Everyday: Domestic Futures

- **SDES9305**  |  6 UOC  
  Participatory Design for Commercial Contexts

- **SDES9350**  |  6 UOC  
  Urban Intervention: People Places and Cultural Contexts

**Visualisation and Visual Effects**

Students can take up to a maximum of 12 UOC of the following courses.

- **SDES9320**  |  6 UOC  
  Exploring 3D Visualisation

- **SDES9321**  |  6 UOC  
  3D Digital Aesthetics

**Enrolment Disclaimer**

Unless advised otherwise by your program authority, you should follow the rules for the handbook for the year you commenced your program. You are also responsible for ensuring you enrol in courses according to your program requirements. myUNSW enrolment checks that you have met enrolment requirements such as pre-requisites for individual courses but not that a course will count towards your program requirements.
Admission Requirements

Entry Requirements

Depending on the level and related nature of your prior qualifications, admission to the Master of Design makes provision for four entry points:

1. Bachelors degree [AQF Level 7] or Honours degree [AQF Level 8] in any field with a record of achievement equivalent to a UNSW credit average (65%) as determined by the UNSW postgraduate entry score calculator. This provides admission into the foundational disciplinary course component of the program - requiring completion of 96 UOC (2.0 years). Applicants who apply from non-cognate fields will be admitted on successful assessment of a submitted Portfolio.

2. Bachelor’s degree in Design [FOE code 1005], or Architecture [FOE code 0401] with a record of achievement equivalent to a UNSW credit average (65%) as determined by the UNSW postgraduate entry score calculator, provides admission into the disciplinary course component of the Master of Design - requiring completion of 72 UOC (1.5 years).

3. Honours Degree [AQF Level 8] or equivalent in Design [FOE code 1005], or Architecture [FOE code 0401], permits admission to the advanced disciplinary component of the Master of Design - requiring completion of 48 UOC (1 year).

4. Applicants who apply with a Bachelors degree [AQF Level 7] in any field with a record of achievement below a UNSW credit average (65%) as determined by the UNSW postgraduate entry score calculator, a Bachelors degree [AQF Level 7] in any field completed more than 10 years ago, or without a Bachelors degree, can be admitted to the Graduate Certificate in Design on successful assessment of a submitted Portfolio. Students may articulate into the Master of Design upon completion of the Graduate Certificate with a credit average (65%).

Portfolio Submission Minimum Requirements are detailed under Additional Information below

For more information about admission requirements for various UNSW programs, visit the following website(s):

 Domestic Students
 International Student
Program Requirements

Progression Requirements

Candidates whose entry to the Masters is approved may carry 48 units of credit from the Graduate Diploma to the Masters, whether the lower award has been conferred or not, provided the student has achieved a Pass in all courses, and a credit average overall.

Students who wish to exit the Masters program early may nominate to transfer to and graduate from the Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma provided the requirements for the program have been met.

For more information on university policy on progression requirements please visit Academic Progression.
Pathways

Post Graduate

Doctor of Philosophy - PhD
1292 PhD Art, Design and Media

Faculty: Faculty of Art & Design
Campus: Paddington
Units of Credit: 144
Typical Duration: 3 to 4 Years

Read More

Articulation Arrangements

Other program(s) within articulated suite:

Graduate Diploma in Design - GradDipDes
5306 Design

Faculty: Faculty of Art & Design
Campus: Paddington
Units of Credit: 48
Typical Duration: 1 Years

Read More

Graduate Certificate in Design - GradCertDes
7306 Design

Faculty: Faculty of Art & Design
Campus: Paddington
Units of Credit: 24
Typical Duration: 0.7 Years

Read More
Recognition of Achievement

Award with Excellence

The Award with Excellence is awarded in coursework masters programs, including Masters (Extension) but with the exception of Masters (Extended) such as JD and MD, when a Weighted Average Mean (WAM) of at least 80% has been achieved and at least 50% of the requirements of the award are completed at UNSW. All eligible programs will award 'with Excellence' except in special circumstances where approval of Academic Board has been given for a program to opt out.

For more information, please visit:

Current Students Award with Excellence
Additional Information

Portfolio Submission Minimum Requirements

1. A 10 page A4 digital portfolio of original design work undertaken by the applicant including a critically reflective text.

2. A cover letter that explains your interest in studying at UNSW Art & Design, and your interest in the degree. The letter should tell us about your interests, achievements and experience and be no more than 400 words.

3. Verified evidence of professional experience in a design or media-related field, in the form of a written statement of service from an employer, client or commissioning agent verifying the position, role, responsibilities, duration and/or project outcomes of employment, service contract or other professional design engagement.

4. A two page CV that details your experience in, or related to design including contact details for two referees.
Program Fees

At UNSW fees are generally charged at course level and therefore dependent upon individual enrolment and other factors such as student's residency status. For generic information on fees and additional expenses of UNSW programs, click on one of the following:

Domestic Students
Commonwealth Supported Students
International Students
Pre-2019 Handbook Editions

Access past handbook editions (2018 and prior)

Pre-2019 Handbook Editions
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Authorised by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
CRICOS Provider Code 00098G
ABN: 57 195 873 179