

## Master's Program in Design

Name of the degree to be conferred	Master of Design
Educational purpose	The goal of this program is to train advanced professionals with the qualities of an international top leader who can master the practical skills to create products and environments that improve the state of people's minds and hearts, to create social systems that create connections between people and make them brighter and more fulfilling, and who can utilize their creativity to nurture and sustain an affluent and constructive community and society.
Vision of human resources development	Students who have the will to propose solutions to problems that transcend regional and cultural barriers through cross-sectional, practical, and international studies, who have the tenacity to produce results, and who have the ability to judge (task extraction capability), the ability to break through (planning ability and logical persuasiveness), and the ability to complete duties based on their expertise.

### Diploma Policy

The degree of Master of Design is commenced to those who have fulfilled the requirements for the completion of the Master's programs, as set out in the Graduate School Regulations of the University of Tsukuba and related university regulations, and who are deemed to have the following competencies.

Competencies	Evaluation perspectives
1. Knowledge application competence: Ability to contribute to society with advanced knowledge	① Can you apply knowledge gained through research and other activities in society? ② Can you identify new problems, even in other fields of expertise, based on broad knowledge?
2. Management competence: Ability to appropriately address challenges from broad standpoints	① Can you take on major tasks with systematic planning? ② Can you understand and solve problems from multiple perspectives?
3. Communication competence: Ability to accurately and clearly communicate expert knowledge	① Are you capable of efficient communication for research purposes? ② Can you discuss research or research-specific knowledge with experts from your own field and from other fields?
4. Teamwork competence: Ability to work with a team and actively contribute to the achievement of goals	① Do you have experience cooperatively and actively working on challenges as part of a team? ② Have you helped promote projects and activities other than your own research?
5. Internationality competence: Willingness to contribute to international society	① Are you aware of making contributions to international society and getting involved in international activities? ② Have you obtained the linguistic skills necessary for international information collection and action?
6. Conceptual and expressive skills: problem identification (discernment) and planning skills	Has the student mastered the ability to plan and express research and production using problem identification skills, while also being familiar with specialized issues?
7. Analysis: Expert problem analysis to solve problems from a broad perspective	Has the student acquired the ability to analyze specialized problems in order to carry out excellent research in their field of specialization? Has the student acquired the ability to analyze comprehensive design issues from a wide range of fields?
8. Solvency: Ability to create new solutions and propose outcomes to society and academia, backed by expertise	Has the student acquired problem-solving (task completion) and breakthrough (planning) abilities through internships and practical exercises.

## Dissertation evaluation criteria

The purpose of this course is to evaluate students' ability to analyze and apply design issues and their ability to solve complex problems from an interdisciplinary perspective, while fulfilling the courses prescribed in the Graduate School Rules of the University of Tsukuba. Applicants will be evaluated based on one of the following a. b. criteria, and the final examination by the dissertation review committee based on each of the following criteria.

The Doctoral Dissertation review committee will consist of one primary examiner and two or more secondary examiners, and reviews are conducted through oral examination.

### a. Paper

1. The ability to think and analyze based on interdisciplinary knowledge of design and the ability to apply it to society.
2. Expertise in design and analytical techniques with a recognized ability to promote interdisciplinary applied research.
3. Recognized ability to apply design and manufacturing in domestic and international social settings, based on an academic background in design studies.

### b. Works and research reports

#### (Works)

1. The problem-setting, production methods, and means of realization are clear and original.
2. It has a high degree of completeness and can contribute to the development of the field.

#### (Research reports)

1. The content of the research must be found to be relevant to the work.
2. The student must have specialized knowledge and analytical skills in design and the ability to promote interdisciplinary work.
3. Academic knowledge of design and the ability to apply it to design and manufacturing in domestic and international settings.

## Curriculum Policy

The Master's Program in Design provides students with the ability to tackle problems from a broader perspective by combining specialized problem identification skills (discernment), specialized fields and integrated methodologies in order to research and design for a variety of industrial and social issues such as products, planning, entertainment, composition, architecture, and spatial planning as a system. The course fosters mission completion, logical persuasion, and international communication and proposal skills. Specifically, in addition to the various fields of design, including composition, sensitivity science, and visual psychology, faculty members from related fields such as systems information technology, environmental engineering, physiology, ergonomics, and disability science will provide cross-disciplinary and practical training courses.

Curriculum organization policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students acquire knowledge and logical thinking skills ranging from basic design theory to application and practice through General Foundation Subjects.</li><li>• Interdisciplinary knowledge and broad knowledge are acquired through the Graduate General Education Courses and the Inter-disciplinary Foundation Courses.</li><li>• Students acquire a wide range of design theory and research and development methods that support its application through Major Subjects across disciplines.</li><li>• Through project exercises, students will acquire problem identification, planning and presentation skills that correspond to the implementation of the design.</li><li>• Through internships, etc. students acquire the ability to identify practical issues, as well as planning and persuasion skills.</li><li>• Through overseas training, etc., students acquire international negotiation and networking skills to succeed in design, layout, and planning.</li><li>• Students acquire comprehensive planning ability and task completion ability through special design study exercises.</li></ul>
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Learning methods · Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the first year, students will submit a "notice of research plan", and the primary and secondary academic advisors will be decided according to the content of the research.</li> <li>• In addition to General Foundation Subjects and Major Subjects offered every other year, students will take Graduate General Education Courses and Inter-disciplinary Foundation Courses.</li> <li>• Students will undertake systematic project seminars, internships, and overseas training to deepen research.</li> <li>• In the second year, students receive research guidance through biennial Major Subjects and special exercises in design.</li> <li>• (2) In the fall semester (end of December), final research (articles or works (including projects) and reports) is submitted and reviewed, and the final achievement level is reviewed.</li> </ul>
Evaluation of learning outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the end of the fall semester of the first year, all research advisors will review the level of achievement in the first stage and evaluate the academic progress.</li> <li>• In the second semester, the second stage achievement test and the mid-term evaluation of completed research will be held from the end of the spring semester to before the autumn semester.</li> <li>• At the end of the second year, a public presentation of the completed research (dissertation or work (including projects)) and a review of the completed research by a dissertation review committee consisting of a primary examiner and 2 or more secondary examiners will be held, along with the final achievement examination.</li> </ul>
Admission Policy	
Desired students	We seek individuals who have talents and are willing to propose solutions to problems that transcend regional and cultural barriers, and individuals who are willing to constantly challenge themselves to create new solutions and develop the tenacity to produce results.
Selection policy	<p>Through general selection process, special selection process for self-recommended applicants, and special selection process for overseas residents, those who excel in expressive skills in design and in various research and educational fields related to design will be selected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In general selection process, professional aptitude is evaluated through written and oral examinations, and fundamental research capabilities are evaluated based on application document screening.</li> <li>• In special selection process for self-recommended applicants and special selection process for overseas residents, professional aptitude and fundamental research capabilities are comprehensively evaluated by application document screening and oral examination.</li> </ul>