MASTER OF Design

The Master of Design, offered by the School of Industrial Design, is an interdisciplinary 2-year program focused on research for, on and through design. The School of Industrial Design provides a collaborative graduate studio space, a variety of prototyping and experimental labs, and more. A key aspect of the program is an interdisciplinary thesis co-supervised by a professor from the School of Industrial Design and a professor in another discipline from Business, Anthropology, Psychology, Music, Engineering, Science, Architecture and other disciplines depending on the faculty member’s area of interest and research.

Students examine and incorporate multi-faceted design principles and practices that contribute to the strategic value of design. Areas of research include:

- Accessibility, Inclusion, Universal Design
- Advanced Materials and Manufacturing
- Design Education
- Design Management
- Entrepreneurship
- Extreme Environments
- Health and Wellness
- Human-Centered Design
- Interaction Design
- Product Design
- Service Design (Public and Corporate)
- Social Innovation
- Strategic Design
- Sustainable Design
- User Experience (UX) Design

Degrees Offered
MDes

Career Options
Ottawa, as Canada’s capital and high-tech hub, is an ideal place to study design. Our faculty and students work in collaboration with a variety of organizations including technology companies such as IBM; healthcare research institutes and hospitals such as Bruyère Research Institute, the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario; regional and federal museums such as the Ottawa Art Gallery and the Canada Science and Technology Museum (Ingenium); the National Research Council of Canada; Transport Canada; the National Capital Commission, and more. Many career opportunities are just down the road, positioning our graduates to play a strategic role in championing design in a variety of enterprises, including academic institutions.

Fall Application Deadline
April 1, to be eligible for funding

Admission Requirements
A bachelor’s degree in a design discipline, or the academic equivalent, with at least a B+ standing is required. Applicants may be considered who have a background related to design, without a professional degree in design. However, applicants will need to demonstrate significant links between their academic background and professional experience within the design development process.

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