

UC School of Design

Graduate Program Applicant Information

School of Design Graduate Program

The School of Design is dedicated to educating students to be responsible design professionals and citizens in an increasingly complex world of evolving technology.

The School of Design is committed to educating students for life-long practice and service. The school is educating students today to work in local and global markets that respect diversity in the human community and in the environmental communities that sustain the world of design. The School of Design also recognizes new areas of design practice related to recent developments in design professions, technology, global economy, and society.

The School of Design offers the Master of Design degree through a two-year program intended for students with undergraduate degrees and work experience in interaction, communication, graphic, fashion, product, or industrial design. The School faculty support advanced work in each of these disciplines, including strategic design development and graduate research. The Master of Design is a post-professional terminal degree. There are two focus areas for graduate study:

P r o d u c t D e v e l o p m e n t

(for people with backgrounds in fashion design or industrial design).

V i s u a l i z a t i o n

(for people with backgrounds in digital communication design or graphic design).

Interdisciplinary graduate seminars and studios provide an opportunity to explore issues of common concern to all professional design fields, such as sustainable design, universal design, user experience design, design and identity, design perception and cognition, and collaborative design.

The Master of Design program prepares people for careers in design research, management, advanced practice, or university-level teaching.

Admission Information

School of Design Admission Requirements

The School of Design invites application for admission to the Master of Design program from those who have successfully completed their undergraduate degree in interaction, communication, graphic, fashion, product, or industrial design. Applicants with degrees in related design disciplines such as architecture may apply and will be considered. Each applicant pool is evaluated as a group with emphasis on both quality and diversity of experience.

People with backgrounds other than the above may not apply to the Graduate Program in Design. They should apply to one of the undergraduate programs in graphic communication design, fashion design, or industrial design. Specifically:

1. Applicants must hold a baccalaureate design degree from an accredited college or university. A 3.0 undergraduate grade point average (in a 4.0 grading system) is required.
2. Applicants should have at least one year of professional experience in an area of design practice or teaching. Internships and sponsored projects can count toward the professional experience requirement.
3. Applicants should arrange for the transmittal of Transcripts and Certifications of Degrees/Diplomas from all previously attended institutions of higher education to be sent to the Graduate School.
4. Applicants must submit a Letter of Intent (sometimes referred to as a 'Personal Statement') that briefly explains the applicant's reasons for attending graduate school and makes an argument for the kinds of knowledge and ability the applicant hopes to gain here and how this knowledge and ability relates to the applicant's personal and professional goals.
5. Applicants must submit a Resume or Curriculum Vitae summarizing accomplishments to date.
6. Applicants must send to the School of Design examples of visual work (printed portfolio; CD-ROM, DVD and website are also acceptable), generally 12 – 15 examples of completed projects with a few showing the development process that lead to the final project, as an indication of their level of skill development required to pursue graduate studies.
7. Applicants must complete the University application forms online at <http://www.grad.uc.edu/applyonline.aspx>.
8. Applicants must submit at least three personal references who can comment on past performance and future potential in academic and professional efforts online at <http://www.grad.uc.edu/applyonline.aspx>.
9. Applicants with English as a second language must have a score of 570 (paper-based), 230 (computer-based), or 88 (internet-based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The International English Language

Testing System (IELTS) is also accepted. For IELTS, an overall band score of 6.5 is needed.

10. It is recommended, but not required, that Applicants take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Our target scores are 1100 (Verbal + Quantitative) and a very high score in Analytical Writing.

A p p l i c a t i o n c h e c k l i s t

s e n d t o S c h o o l o f D e s i g n :

- ___ Portfolio (print, CD-ROM, DVD, or website) - *send portfolio to:*
University of Cincinnati
College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning
School of Design
342 Clifton Court
PO Box 210016
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0016
513-556-6828

s e n d t o U n i v e r s i t y o f C i n c i n n a t i G r a d u a t e
S c h o o l :

- ___ Academic Transcripts - *send transcripts to:*
Graduate School
University of Cincinnati
2614 McMicken Circle
110 Van Wormer Hall
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0627
513-556-4335

U n i v e r s i t y o f C i n c i n n a t i o n l i n e

- ___ University of Cincinnati Application Form
<http://www.grad.uc.edu/applyonline.aspx>
- ___ Statement of Intent
- ___ Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- ___ Three Recommendations
- ___ Application Fee
- ___ Financial Aid Form
- ___ TOEFL (Official Score Report)
- ___ GRE (Official Score Report) if taken

Please do not ask us to verify that we have received your materials. We will contact you if something is missing. If you have questions about your application, contact Sherui Cottingim: sheri.cottingim@uc.edu