Master of Innovation Design

The complexity of today’s technology requires innovators from multiple disciplines to come together as a team and translate ideas into something transforming through non-traditional means. The Master in Innovation Design (MID) curriculum will merge Arts, Science, and Technology curricula, creating opportunities for students and faculty to collaborate across WSU’s colleges. The MID program will be individualized for each student and will focus on developing students’ “design thinking skills.” These include the capabilities to:

- develop creative solutions,
- effectively communicate,
- practice entrepreneurship, and
- develop prototypes.

The development of these capabilities will be grounded in a research-based, academic curriculum. The program will engage with businesses and focus on innovation, product development, effective communication, flexibility, and small business generation.

After completing the program, students should have developed a:

- Portfolio, patent application, process, or prototype
- Willingness and ability to experiment with their ideas
- Network of individuals and businesses with whom they can continue to collaborate
- Desire to continue to design solutions to problems they identify

Application

Applicants should submit the following:
- Graduate School application and nonrefundable application fee
- Two official transcripts of all college-level academic work, including community colleges and transfer work posted on other school’s transcripts.

Applicants will be given the opportunity to include in their application any credentials they believe represent their accomplishments and help explain why they wish to join the MID program. Additional application materials may include but are not limited to:

- Documentation of prior learning or experience relevant to design
- Examples of prior design work in whatever format best showcases that work (e.g., a portfolio of artwork)
- A video of a performance
- Links to software applications
- Descriptions of products developed
- Published articles or reports
- A resume
- A personal essay

Deadlines for applications are as follows:
Fall admissions: June 1
Spring admissions: September 1
Summer admissions: February 1

Application materials should be submitted to the following address:

The Graduate School
Wichita State University
1845 Fairmount, 107 Jardine Hall
Wichita KS 67260-0004
USA
A personal interview will be scheduled with the admission committee if minimum qualifications are met as determined by Graduate School policy.

An admissions committee consisting of faculty from all of WSU’s existing colleges will review student applications. In reviewing applications, the admissions committee will look for the student’s level of commitment to completing a master’s degree, interest in learning design thinking skills, and whether there is a fit between the student’s goals and the resources of the MID faculty. If admitted, a faculty advisor will be appointed and assist the student in developing a plan of study (see below).

**Plan of Study Options**
The MID degree requires the completion of a plan of study approved by the student’s advisor which must be filed within the first 12 credit hours of graduate coursework. Two options are available:
- The thesis option requires a minimum of 27 hours of coursework plus a minimum of 6 hours of thesis; and
- The directed project option requires a minimum of 27 hours of coursework plus a minimum of 3 hours of directed project:

**Degree Requirements**
The MID program consists of at least 30 (non-thesis option) to 33 (thesis option) credit hours including 12 hours of required coursework that align with the four “design thinking” capabilities – creativity, communication, entrepreneurship, and prototyping. In addition, students must complete:

**Electives (12-18 credit hours)**
These courses will be customized for each student in consultation with a student’s advisors and based on the student’s design goals. Courses will be selected from existing WSU graduate courses. Some existing WSU graduate courses that relate to collaborative design include:
- Special Investigations in Psychology
- Human Factors Psychology
- Professional Practices in Graphic Design

**Major Project (3 credit hours for non-thesis option) or Thesis (6 credit hours)**
Students would have the option of completing a major project or a thesis
- Completing a major project would require the development of a portfolio, patent application, process, or prototype
- Completing a thesis would require a thesis defense in accordance with WSU Graduate School policies

Students will also complete Professional and Scholarly Integrity Training (PSIT) and satisfy other general graduate degree requirements. An optional zero credit hour practicum will be available to allow students to network with other MID students and faculty. No internship will be required.

**For more information**
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316-978-3010
Email: Jeremy.Patterson@wichita.edu
Website: www.wichita.edu/IIC

Apply On-Line: www.wichita.edu/apply