The programme aims at educating researcher-designers who will contribute original knowledge to the field of design by tackling the problems and identifying the potential of contemporary society. Their contribution may be brought to bear in:

- creating designs, visions, and proposals (research through design);
- developing tools and methods for putting these into practice (research for design);
- critical analysis of design and its application domain (research on design).

The Programme develops project and analytical abilities, it proposes different methodologies of research, promotes the attitude to collaborate and offers professional opportunities in universities and research centres, design enterprises and public corporate bodies.

The PhD in Design is proposed and coordinated by the Department of Design (with the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Department of Chemistry, Materials and Chemical Engineering). The courses offered aim at training the candidates for the skills needed to carry out high quality research for companies, universities, research centers and other institutions.

The scientific field is Industrial Design. Other fields partially covered are Science and Philosophy, Language Theory, Sociology of Cultural Processes and Communication, History of Art, Design, Science and Technology of Materials, Industrial Engineering, Operations Research, Computer Science. The Programme offers the doctoral candidates the following opportunities:

- To develop an original theme of research, becoming an effective member of a research team.
- To participate in courses (Tools for Research in Design, Research in Design: Academic Case Histories, Design Lessons...) and seminars on design, on design research and on research in general, developing
competences concerning the discipline of the design, and the profession of the researcher.

• To participate in courses and seminars reported to a specific field of research, developing high-level specialist competences and acquiring knowledge and tools for the development of their own theme of research.

• To be an active part in a didactic programme and, in this way, to understand the relationship between research and didactics, and to develop the ability to clearly and effectively present the contents of their own work.

• To have an experience in an international research centre to verify the hypotheses, the methodologies and the results of their own work and to consolidate the network of international relationships within which it is situated.

The designer-researcher that the Doctoral Programme in Design intends to form is a flexible professional figure. On the one hand he/she is in fact a designer who knows how to make research and a researcher who uses design tools; on the other he/she is also an expert in knowledge management, in constructive interaction among different actors and in communication of ideas and proposals.

The whole of these abilities is useful in different working circles. Notably: in the institutions expressly charged with the development of the design research, as universities and research centres; in the design agencies and in the most innovative and design-oriented enterprises; as well as in public corporate bodies, in enterprises of services and in the organizations for the urban and regional development.

The PhD programme in Design admits candidates with a Master degree or equivalent academic qualification. They must have attended a five-year curriculum at both undergraduate (bachelor) and graduate (master) level. Candidates with academic curriculum in design disciplines are preferred ones.

Usually the PhD programme in Design does not accept candidates proposing a topic of their own. A list of preferred topics is decided each year by the Faculty and announced when the call for admission starts. A complete list of the topics is available on the website http://phd.design.polimi.it/ in the section Linee di Ricerca/Research Avenues.

For further information, please visit the following web site: www.dottorato.polimi.it/en/phd/DESIGN and contact the School of Doctoral Programmes - Politecnico di Milano at phdschool@polimi.it. For further information on specific aspects of the course and curricula, please contact: segreteriadottorato.design@polimi.it

Contacts

Career Opportunities

Eligible students

Scholarships

Contacts