

# DESIGN



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CAMPUS

# PHD PROGRAMS

## Programme

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 analytical abilities and design skills, teaches different methodologies of research, promotes the attitude to collaborate.

The envisioned work opportunities are in universities and research centres, design enterprises and public corporate bodies.

## Mission and goals

The main academic field is Design. Other academic fields partially covered are: Philosophy; Language Theory; Sociology of Cultural Processes; History of Art; Science and Technology of Materials; Industrial Engineering.

The achievement of the PhD qualification in Design requires a study and research activity equivalent to at least three years of full time study. During this period, both educational and research activities are provided.

At the beginning of the programme, candidates become effective members of a research team, within which they develop an original research topic: this activity is the core of the learning process. Parallel to this, candidates are involved in training and specialist activities.

The Programme offers doctoral candidates the following opportunities:

- \* to develop an original theme of research, becoming an effective member of a research team;

- \* to attend courses and seminars on design research and on research in general, developing skills concerning the discipline of design and the profession of the researcher;
- \* to attend courses and seminars referred to a specific field of research, developing specialist skills and acquiring knowledge and tools for the development of their own research;
- \* to develop the ability to effectively present the contents of their own work;
- \* to spend a period abroad as visiting researchers in a research centre so to verify the assumptions, the methodologies and the results of their doctoral work.

## Career Opportunities

The PhD Program in Design intends to educate a flexible figure: a designer who knows how to carry out research and a researcher who uses design tools. At the same time, s/he is also an expert in knowledge management, in constructive interaction among different actors and in the sharing of ideas and proposals. The combination of these skills is useful in a variety of work environments. Specifically: in institutions expressly dedicated to the development of design research, such as universities and research centres; in design agencies and in design-oriented companies; in public corporate bodies and in organizations for territorial development which, increasingly, are faced with complex problems, which the designer-researcher can effectively address, analyse and contribute to resolve.

## Eligible students

The PhD Programme in Design admits candidates with a Master degree or equivalent academic qualification. Candidates with academic curriculum in design are preferred.

## Topics

Usually the PhD Programme in Design does not accept candidates proposing a topic of their own. A list of research topics is decided each year by the Faculty and announced when the call for admission is issued. The complete list of Research Avenues is available here: <http://phd.design.polimi.it/admission>.

## Contacts

For further information, please visit <https://www.dottorato.polimi.it/en/phd-programmes/design/design> or send an e-mail to the School of Doctoral Programmes - Politecnico di Milano at [phdschool@polimi.it](mailto:phdschool@polimi.it).  
For specific information on the PhD Programme in Design please visit <http://phd.design.polimi.it> or send an e-mail to [segreteriaidottorato-design@polimi.it](mailto:segreteriaidottorato-design@polimi.it)

