USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN - M.S.

College of Communication and Information
School of Information
314 University Library
Kent Campus
330-672-2782
slisinfo@kent.edu
www.kent.edu/slis

Description
The Master of Science degree in User Experience Design prepares students for careers that require them to apply a solid understanding of usability, content strategy, information architecture and user research. The user experience designer engages in a variety of design activities that help produce aesthetic interfaces and help organizations meet business goals. User experience design addresses the structural, informational, psychological and emotional aspects of what makes a successful user interface, whether it is Web, mobile, tablet or any other device.

At Kent State University, user experience design is thought of as a process where students learn, understand, imagine, evaluate and inform. The design team begins by gathering data/information about users, clients, the organizational culture, common tasks and work environments. After sufficient data/information is gathered, the team seeks to understand the context in which the project will be undertaken. This phase is the bridge between data collection and design. Design in the imagine phase involves brainstorming, iterative prototyping and critiquing. The design team needs to constantly evaluate their designs to see if they work in the real world. This may involve usability testing at Kent State's usability lab, eye tracking studies, paper prototyping or heuristic evaluations. The results of design must be communicated to appropriate audiences. This informing process involves giving presentations to clients and stakeholders, report writing and other forms of communication.

Fully Offered At:
• Online Only

Admission Requirements
• Official transcript(s)
• Goal statement
• Résumé
• Three letters of recommendation
• English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following (effective spring 2018):
  • Minimum 587 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
  • Minimum 94 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
  • Minimum 82 MELAB score
  • Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
  • Minimum 65 PTE score

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education website.

Program Learning Outcomes
Graduates of the program will be able to:
• Design and conduct research in a variety of ways necessary to understand users, stakeholders and competitors.
• Apply principles of information architecture and content strategy to web and mobile design problems.
• Create and evaluate structures to support information and content organization.
• Test and critique existing designs and prototypes by employing usability testing methods.
• Communicate design ideas in a variety of ways to design teams, stakeholders and developers.

Program Requirements
Major Requirements
[MS-UXDE]

LIS 60636 KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION STRUCTURES, SYSTEMS AND SERVICES 3
UXD 60001 USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND CONCEPTS 3
UXD 60002 USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN IN PRACTICE 3
UXD 60101 INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE I 3
UXD 60103 RESEARCHING THE USER EXPERIENCE I 3
UXD 60104 USABILITY I 3
UXD 60106 CONTENT STRATEGY I 3

Major Electives, choose from the following: 12
UXD 60110 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES
UXD 60111 INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE II
UXD 60113 RESEARCHING USER EXPERIENCE II
UXD 60114 USABILITY II
UXD 60116 CONTENT STRATEGY II
UXD 60691 SEMINAR IN USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN
UXD 60792 ELECTIVE INTERNSHIP IN USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN
UXD 61095 SPECIAL TOPICS IN USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN

Heath Informatics (HI) Courses
Knowledge Management (KM) Courses
Library and Information Science (LIS) Courses
User Experience Design (UXD) Courses

Culminating Requirement, choose from the following: 3-6
UXD 66080 PROFESSIONAL PORTFOLIO DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT
UXD 66092 MASTER’S INTERNSHIP IN USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN
UXD 66098 MASTERS PROJECT IN USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN
UXD 66198 MASTER’S RESEARCH PAPER IN USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN
UXD 66199 THESIS I

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 36
Students may take a maximum 6 credit hours of HI, KM and/or LIS courses.