Master of Science in User Experience Design

The online MS in UXD at Kent State University blends human-centered thinking, design and information architecture to take your UXD knowledge and skills to the next level.

Program At A Glance

User Experience Design addresses the structural, informational, psychological and emotional aspects of what makes a successful user interface, whether it’s web or mobile. This is a fast-growing, fast-evolving field, and Kent State is at the forefront of this emerging discipline. We offer one of the only Master’s degree programs in UXD in an accessible online format. Graduates of the program will come away with a solid understanding of usability, content strategy, information architecture and user research.

The program is 36 credits in length, consisting of 12 three-credit courses.
- Each course is seven weeks in length, with two courses taken sequentially each semester. This allows you to focus on one course at a time while still completing the program in two years.
- To keep class sizes small and maximize collaboration, multiple sections of each course are offered.
- The program consists of two core courses (6 credits), 9 specialist courses (27 credits) and a culminating experience (3 credit hours).
- Once you are admitted to the program, your student counselor will craft your personalized degree plan, giving you a clear course sequence and path to graduation.

Why choose Kent State’s online M.S. in User Experience Design?
- Earn an advanced credential in a fast-growing field that is in high demand in organizations across the country
- Experience courses that provide an up-to-the-minute and relevant academic structure behind UX design that will complement your job experience
- Join a nationwide alumni network who work for industry-leading employers across the nation
- Learn from professors who are UX leaders in national organizations, opening doors to employers in the industry
- Graduate in two years
- Experience a flexible online program structure created to fit the lives of full-time working professionals
- Submit your application with no GRE requirement
What You’ll Learn

The curriculum within the User Experience Design program revolves around a five stage process model — **LUMEN**.

**LEARN**

When we are faced with a new design project, the first thing we do is try to find out as much as we can about the client, the users and any other stakeholder. We look at what their competitors are doing and see what we can learn from that. We might conduct interviews, surveys or focus groups to learn about who and what we will be working with.

**UNDERSTAND**

Taking what we’ve learned in our research, we develop models such as personas and design principles to help guide our designs.

**IMAGINE**

Using the models we’ve developed, we design solutions for our clients. Here we develop schematics that we can later hand off to developers/engineers to build.

**EVALUATE**

As we design, we must constantly evaluate our ideas, so we conduct usability studies along the way to make sure our designs will actually work.

**INFORM**

Communication of our designs is crucial to implementing them. Here we focus on the professional preparation of deliverables and reports.

**FACULTY**

The faculty who teach the online Master’s in User Experience Design at Kent State University have an unparalleled passion for making the world better through human-centered design. They are pioneers in the field of UX design, and they bring with them:

- **Diverse backgrounds** that reinforce the program’s unique blend of human-centered thinking, design and information architecture
- **Active industry experience** and involvement in national UXD organizations
- Ability to serve as **industry contacts** for students and alumni