

MINORS

PRODUCT DESIGN MINOR

Our Mission:

The Product Design minor offers students the opportunity to develop basic skills utilized in a variety of consumer product related industries through studio courses in Visual Communication, Digital Design, prototype and model making techniques related to industry applications. Communication of these creative concepts through thoughtful execution of projects displays student abilities in an organized body of work.

Participating Departments:

Program Learning Outcomes

Otis College Interdisciplinary Studies: Product Design Minor Program Learning Outcomes are action words describing our approach to learning, and what we commit to our students.

Product Design Minor Students:

Grow

Product Design Minor student work will demonstrate: Disciplinary knowledge and skills • Audience-focused research, historical context, and field-specific discourse
 Proficient knowledge and skills in product design including research, historical influences, aesthetics, materials, ergonomics, user experience design, marketing and manufacturing processes. Proficiency in industry-standard skills, technologies, and processes
 Proficiency in industry-standard software, tools, and processes including CAD software, 3D printing, and prototyping, to develop functional, market-ready, and appropriate products that meet user needs and also industry standards. Cross-disciplinary awareness and practice
 Developed practice grounded in two or more disciplines. Capacity to identify and solve creative problems
 Ability to navigate complex design challenges with innovation and creativity, delivering well-researched, user-centered solutions that move from initial ideation to final, manufacturable products.

Dare

Product Design Minor student work will demonstrate: Innovation • Experimentation and play • Challenge to the status quo • Bravery in their work and their interactions with others
 Capacity to combine aspects of product design with work in one's major and/or push the boundaries between each field.

Reflect

Product Design Minor student work will demonstrate: Capacity to communicate (orally, written, and/or visually) about their practice
 Ability to clearly articulate the relationship between their work in product design and their major and how these studies will help them achieve personal and professional goals. Analysis of both ethical and aesthetic impacts of art and design
 Analysis of the ethical and aesthetic impacts their work has on their fields of study as well as society, culture, and the environment.

Connect

Product Design Minor student work will demonstrate: Awareness of positionality – in the world, their field, their communities. • Integration of skills and concepts
 Successful integration of skills, information and concepts between their majors and Product Design minor, while understanding and articulating their positionality in their chosen fields.

Shine

Product Design Minor student work will demonstrate: Ability to define aspirations, future goals and their role within the creative economy.
 Defined aspirations, future goals and their role as an interdisciplinary creative within the creative economy. Awareness of audience and ability to cultivate relationships with others in their chosen fields. Compelling presentation and exhibition skills, through Annual Exhibition, Capstone, and portfolios.
 Successful completion and presentation of original product designs that are technically and economically feasible and strategically positioned for real-world impact, enhancing user experience and market viability.

Course Requirements

15 credits in Product Design and related courses are required to complete this minor. This can be 5 studio courses or 4 studio courses + 1 LAS course.

Students select courses based on guidance from the Director of Interdisciplinary Studies, Minor Area Heads and Academic Advisors and must follow prerequisites when applicable. For the full list of courses that will count for this minor, along with recommended courses to take first, see the Minors Course Lists on the Registration page of the Dashboard (my.otis.edu). Students are advised to take minor classes in place of studio electives (or in place of one LAS elective), or for majors without electives by taking one extra class in each of 5 semesters spread out between sophomore and senior year.

Electives

Electives

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Interdisciplinary Practices	INTR 330	3.00
ST: Design Lab	INTR 330	3.00
Design Studio II	PRDS 203	3.00
Design Communication II	PRDS 211	3.00
Methods & Materials II	PRDS 231	3.00
Design Studio III	PRDS 302	3.00

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Design Studio IV	PRDS 303	3.00
Design Communication IV	PRDS 311	3.00
Beginning Ceramics	PRDS 362	3.00
Intermediate Ceramics	PRDS 363	3.00
Design Studio VI	PRDS 403	3.00
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Elective Descriptions

INTR 330 - Interdisciplinary Practices (3.00)

This is an upper-division studio courses designed to foster interdisciplinary thinking and collaboration across media, genres, and disciplines. Students explore hybrid and cross-media practices that connect art and design with fields such as science, technology, politics, and culture. Emphasis is placed on experimentation, collaboration, and critical engagement across multiple methods and modes of making. Course topics are developed collaboratively and decided by the class, allowing students to shape the focus and direction of their collective inquiry. Guest speakers and visiting artists introduce models of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary professional practice.

INTR 330 - ST: Design Lab (3.00)

Upper division studio courses that facilitate student work across media, genres and disciplines, while also developing skills in interdisciplinary thinking in a supportive community. Topics vary each semester. Examples include: Design Lab, Interdisciplinary Practices, Interdisciplinary Career Pathways Fulfills studio electives.

PRDS 203 - Design Studio II (3.00)

PRDS 211 - Design Communication II (3.00)

Pre-requisites: PRDS 210

PRDS 231 - Methods & Materials II (3.00)

PRDS 302 - Design Studio III (3.00)

Pre-requisites: PRDS 210 PRDS 203

PRDS 303 - Design Studio IV (3.00)

Pre-requisites: PRDS 210 PRDS 203

PRDS 311 - Design Communication IV (3.00)

Pre-requisites: PRDS 310

PRDS 362 - Beginning Ceramics (3.00)

PRDS 363 - Intermediate Ceramics (3.00)

PRDS 403 - Design Studio VI (3.00)

Pre-requisites: PRDS 402

PRDS 403 - Design Studio VI (3.00)

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