

# USER EXPERIENCE - M.S.

## College of Communication and Information

School of Information  
www.kent.edu/iSchool

## About This Program

Are you passionate about creating digital products that are both user-friendly and successful for businesses? In the M.S. degree in User Experience, you'll engage in all phases of the interdisciplinary design process, from learning and understanding to imagining, evaluating and informing. Enroll today to become a skilled professional who can make a real difference in the digital world. Read more...

## Contact Information

- School Director: **Meghan Harper** | iSchool@kent.edu | 330-672-2782
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

## Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
  - Fully online

## Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries\*

### Web developers and digital interface designers

- 8.0% much faster than the average
- 174,300 number of jobs
- \$77,200 potential earnings

\* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'

Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

## Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale<sup>1</sup>
- Official transcript(s)
- Résumé
- Goal statement
- 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:
  - Minimum 587 TOEFL PBT score
  - Minimum 94 TOEFL IBT score
  - Minimum 82 MELAB score
  - Minimum 7.0 IELTS score

- Minimum 65 PTE score
- Minimum 120 Duolingo English score

<sup>1</sup> Applicants who do not meet the minimum 2.750 GPA requirement must submit a statement that addresses the circumstances that contributed to the GPA and preparation for success in graduate study. Applicants should include recent professional achievements that indicate an ability to perform at a higher academic level to be considered for conditional admission to the program.

## Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
  - Application deadline: April 15
- **Spring Semester**
  - Application deadline: November 15
- **Summer Term**
  - Application deadline: March 15

*Applications submitted after these deadlines will be considered on a space-available basis.*

## Programs Requirements

### Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
UX 60501	INTRODUCTION TO USER EXPERIENCE	3
UX 60502	USER EXPERIENCE PROCESSES AND PRACTICE	3
UX 60503	FUNDAMENTALS OF INTERACTION DESIGN	3
UX 60504	ACCESSIBILITY AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN	3
Fundamentals Elective, choose from the following:		3
UX 60511	INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE FUNDAMENTALS	
UX 60521	DATA-DRIVEN INTERACTION FUNDAMENTALS	
UX 60531	DISCOVERY RESEARCH FUNDAMENTALS	
UX 60541	USER EXPERIENCE EVALUATION FUNDAMENTALS	
Major Electives, choose from the following:		15
EMAT 51510	PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND TEAM DYNAMICS	
EMAT 60999	PROJECTS IN EMERGING MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY	
ETEC 57403	INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN	
ETEC 67410	SIMULATIONS AND GAMES IN EDUCATION	
ETEC 67411	DESIGNING VISUALS FOR EDUCATION	
ETEC 67432	DESIGNING MULTIMEDIA FOR EDUCATION	
ETEC 67434	EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR EDUCATION	
ETEC 67435	VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY	
ETEC 67442	DESIGNING ONLINE AND BLENDED COURSES	
ETEC 67444	TEACHING ONLINE AND BLENDED COURSES	
ETEC 67445	DESIGNING INSTRUCTIONAL AND PERFORMANCE SOLUTIONS	
ETEC 67449	RESEARCH IN ONLINE AND BLENDED LEARNING	
HI 60414	HUMAN FACTORS AND USABILITY IN HEALTH INFORMATICS	

LIS 60636	KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION STRUCTURES, SYSTEMS AND SERVICES
UX 60117	USER EXPERIENCE LEADERSHIP
UX 60511	INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE FUNDAMENTALS <sup>1</sup>
UX 60521	DATA-DRIVEN INTERACTION FUNDAMENTALS <sup>1</sup>
UX 60531	DISCOVERY RESEARCH FUNDAMENTALS <sup>1</sup>
UX 60541	USER EXPERIENCE EVALUATION FUNDAMENTALS <sup>1</sup>
UX 60691	SEMINAR IN USER EXPERIENCE <sup>2</sup>
UX 60693	VARIABLE TITLE WORKSHOP IN USER EXPERIENCE <sup>2</sup>
UX 60792	ELECTIVE INTERNSHIP IN USER EXPERIENCE <sup>2</sup>
UX 61095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN USER EXPERIENCE <sup>2</sup>
UX 61096	INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN USER EXPERIENCE <sup>2</sup>
UX 66092	MASTER'S INTERNSHIP IN USER EXPERIENCE <sup>2</sup>
UX 66099	MASTERS PROJECT IN USER EXPERIENCE <sup>2</sup>
UX 66198	MASTER'S RESEARCH PAPER IN USER EXPERIENCE <sup>2</sup>
UX 66199	THESIS I <sup>2</sup>
VCD 60012	CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION
Any graduate course approved by faculty advisor	

**Minimum Total Credit Hours:** 30

<sup>1</sup> Students may apply the course as a major elective if the course is not already fulfilling the fundamentals elective.

<sup>2</sup> Maximum 6 credit hours, combined, may count toward the degree: UX 60691, UX 60693, UX 60792, UX 61095, UX 61096, UX 66092, UX 66099, UX 66198 and UX 66199.

## Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
	3.000

- Completion of all requirements with a minimum C grade.
- Completion of a minimum 50 percent of coursework at the 60000-level.
- Evidence of preparation for professional advancement as approved by faculty advisor.

## Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the program will be able to:

1. Articulate the values of a user experience professional in the context of agile, multidisciplinary design teams.
2. Design and conduct research to understand user needs.
3. Apply interaction design fundamentals to address user needs.
4. Create and evaluate information structures to support usability and content strategy.
5. Test and assess design ideas, prototypes and existing systems by employing data collection and analysis methods.
6. Communicate research findings and contribute design solutions to designers, developers and stakeholders.
7. Demonstrate professional competencies aligned with career goals.

## Full Description

The Master of Science degree in User Experience prepares students for careers in discovery research, information architecture, interaction design, prototyping, usability testing and user experience strategy and assessment. As essential members of multidisciplinary design teams, user experience professionals engage in a variety of activities to produce usable products that delight users and help organizations meet the needs of their clients, patrons, users and stakeholders. User experience analysis addresses the structural, informational, psychological and emotional dimensions that make interactive communication and information technologies useful and successful.

Kent State's program provides a broad introduction to all phases of the multidisciplinary design process, with the opportunity to build deeper knowledge and skills in a focus area. The program includes electives from aligned master's programs in the College of Communication and Information and related disciplines.