



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN INFORMATION DESIGN

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Masters and Doctoral degree in Information Design

The Department of Visual Arts offers both Masters and Doctoral programmes in Information Design. These allow you the opportunity to build upon and develop knowledge, refine skills and nurture applied competence in the specialist discipline of communication design. The intention is to present you with the opportunities for continued intellectual growth and career development, and to foster a willingness to contribute meaningfully to society as a design researcher. The outcomes of each degree will be slightly different depending on the level and type of research required.

For the MA Information Design degree, the outcome of your research will be either a mini-dissertation that is accompanied by suitable research-orientated practical project (IOW 801) or a full dissertation (IOW 800).

For the PhD Information Design degree, the outcome will be a complete thesis together with a defence of the thesis (IOW 900 & IOW 990).

Research areas

You are free to choose your own area of research and we recommend that you find a subject that allows you to contribute meaningfully to understanding of an area of design in South Africa. Design is a very broad field and therefore allows for a range of possible areas of exploration. However, to ensure that you get the most out of your studies, you will be encouraged to select a subject that can receive sufficient guidance from a supervisor.

Several design paradigms may be suggested, although this list should not be taken as comprehensive:

- An area of imaging and visualisation.
- Visual identity, branding and nation branding.
- Design thinking and design strategy.
- Philosophy of design.
- Design education.
- Ethics in design theory and praxis.
- Research for design praxis.
- Visual rhetoric in design and illustration.

Selection and admission requirements

Selection for the study programme is on an individual basis and may require an interview. To qualify for entrance into the MA Information Design, a four-year degree in the field of communication design or an equivalent qualification (with approval by Senate) with an average of at least 65% is required. To qualify for entrance into the PhD Information Design, an MA degree or equivalent qualification (with approval by Senate) is required. Applications must be coupled with a suitable research proposal, subject to approval by the Research Committees of the Department of Visual Arts and the faculty of Humanities. You will also need to submit the following to the Departmental Research Committee:

- A complete academic record of tertiary qualifications obtained;
- A current CV;
- A written research proposal;
- If relevant (if you are planning to do a project with your research for PhD Information Design), a portfolio of practical work. This may be submitted in photographic/digital format.

Bursaries

The University of Pretoria offers a variety of excellent bursaries for post-graduate students. To find out more about them, please consult the University of Pretoria bursary office at (012) 420-2846.

Visit our website www.up.ac.za/visualart/ under Postgraduate Studies for further information. You can apply online at www.up.ac.za/apply