

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR MASTERS BY COURSEWORK
COLLEGE OF DESIGN AND ENGINEERING, NUS

Master of Design in Integrated Design (MDes)

Applications for our MDes programmes for August 2025 intake will open from
1 October 2024 – 28 February 2025

If you are a graduating student, please note that you must be able to provide evidence of degree conferred before the end of July 2025 otherwise, please apply for the subsequent intake.

Please check all your details and documents uploaded carefully before submission as you will not be allowed to make changes after you submit. Submission of hardcopies are no longer required, hence you DO NOT NEED to print or send us anything by post to apply.

Please refer to the [Applicant guide to the GDA System](#) for step-by-step instructions when completing the online application, except for:

- **Full name:** Please enter your FULL NAME in ENGLISH in the (Family Name Given Name) order of your passport or NRIC.
- **Source of finance:** You are not required to upload payslips and bank statements.
- **Specialization/ Area of Study (AOS):** You are not required to select specialization during application.

Compulsory Documentary Evidence to be uploaded (in pdf format):

- Passport page bearing your name and passport number (*for international applicants*)
- Singapore NRIC or citizenship certificate (*for Singaporean Citizens*)
- Singapore NRIC (blue) and Entry permit (*for Singapore Permanent Residents*)
- Employment Pass / Work Permit / S Pass (*for International applicants working in Singapore*)
- Documentary proof of change in name (*if you had your name changed and your name on NRIC / Passport is not identical to the name printed on your degree scroll / certificate and university transcript*)
- Polytechnic results and certificate or its equivalent (*if applicable*)
- University Transcript (showing results from 1st year to final / Honours year), including explanatory notes on grading system and overall CAP/CGPA/Average Mark obtained. [*Current students, please submit your latest transcript/results slips for all of the semesters taken up to date in the meantime*]
- Degree scroll / certificate (if you are a current student, please state the expected date of conferment of your degree)

- Official IELTS/TOEFL Scoresheet meeting the requirements below (*Only required for applicants whose first language is not English; may be exempted if they completed their full bachelor degree programme taught entirely in English, situated in an English speaking country, for example (non exhaustive list) Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, United Kingdom, USA.*)

85 (for [TOEFL internet-based test*](#)) or
6.0 (for [IELTS \(Academic\)*](#))

The TOEFL score or IELTS result is only valid for 2 years after the test and should be valid at the beginning of the application period for the designated MSc degree. You must upload a copy of the official scoresheet (screenshots not accepted other than IELTS indicator) otherwise your application will be rejected. IELTS scoresheets must display your Test Report Form Number. For verification purposes, scores will be verified online hence there is no need to post the hardcopies of the results to us. For TOEFL iBT test scores, please nominate our Institution code: 9084 to be accessed electronically through

ETS Data Manager. IELTS scores will be verified through IELTS Test Report Form (TRF) Verification Service without any nomination.

- **Statement of Purpose**

Respond to the questions below (**max 800 words**):

1. **What initially sparked your interest in design?**

Was there a defining moment or experience that confirmed your decision to pursue this career?

2. **What core principles or values guide your design practice?**

Why are they fundamental to your approach?

3. **How do you plan to challenge yourself and grow during this master's program?**

Are there specific skills, perspectives, or areas of knowledge you are eager to develop?

4. **Why have you chosen NUS and the Master of Design in Integrated Design?**

What specific aspects of the program resonate with your goals?

- **Detail CV & Design Portfolio : Case study of previous works**

- **This should be submitted under the field “Academic Design Portfolio” in GDA3.**

You will be required to incorporate your detailed CV in the first two pages of your Design Portfolio.

Please share a selection of your best works (**3-4 case studies**). The selection of case studies should showcase your design approach, process, and areas of interest.

Max. 5 pages per case study and submission will be in PDF format (max 20 MB).
For each case study, include the following:

- **Context:**

- What was the project about?
- What was the timeframe?
- Was it a student project, or a live project with a client?

- **Specify your contributions:**

- What was your role in the project? (eg. work independently or as part of a team).

- **Key Learnings & Reflections:**

- What aspects are you most proud of?
- What did you learn from this project?
- What would you do differently if you were to approach it again?

- **Challenges:**

- What were the main challenges you faced during the project?
- How did you address or overcome them?

- **Video Submission (Velfie)**
- **This should be submitted under the field “Video Assessment Link” in GDA3**
- **You may share external link to your video (i.e youtube link, google drive link, etc)**
- **For external links, kindly ensure that access has been granted for viewing and downloading.**

Create a short video (maximum 4 minutes) responding to the following prompts:

- **Design Inspiration:** Identify a design object, experience, service, or solution that has profoundly influenced your approach to design. Explain how and why it has impacted your practice.
- **Dream Project:** If you could work on any challenge, product, or brand, what would it be and why? How would you approach solving or enhancing it
- **Passions Beyond Design:** What topics, activities, or ideas outside of design excite you the most? How do these interests influence or inspire your design practice?

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Candidates who do not submit the above documents by the application closing date will not be considered.
- Shortlisted candidates will be notified via email to submit a video as part of their compulsory application materials. The submission of this video will be outside of GDA3 and further instructions on its submission will be provided to shortlisted candidates.
- The following documents are not required for Master of Design in Integrated Design : GRE, GATE, evidence of financial support. You may choose to upload additional documents which may include (i.e scholarships, prizes or awards certificates, professional membership certificates) but it is not necessary. Please do not email us documents that are not stated as per our list of documentary evidence, unless you have been contacted.
- All supporting documents submitted in a language other than English MUST be accompanied by an officially translated and certified copy in the English language. Original documents submitted will not be returned for any reasons.
- All supporting documents are to be uploaded at GDA3 during the [application period](#). Certified true copies of English translation of the document(s) must accompany any document(s) not in English.

PAYMENT

- A non-refundable, non-transferable application fee of \$163.50 (inclusive of 9% GST) is payable before you are allowed to submit your application.
- Refer to Point 4.1 in the GDA3 [Userguide](#)

STATUS AND OUTCOME:

- Applicants *may* be contacted via email by the Office of Graduate Programmes and/or Division of Industrial Design assessing your application for any outstanding documents. Do check your email regularly.
- The admission outcome will be released in batches from October 2024 to mid-May 2025. Successful candidates will receive an email on their offer accordingly. Due to the large number of applicants seeking admission, we are sorry that we will not be able to attend to enquiries on the status of applications.
- The University is not obliged to give reasons for unsuccessful applicants. Do note that our selection of candidates for admission is on a competitive basis. Application fee paid is non-refundable and non-transferrable.
- Successful applicants will receive an email offer in batches, kindly refrain from checking with us if you heard of someone that has received the outcome earlier as you will be notified in due course.
- Upon receipt of your offer, please complete the online acceptance procedures and pay the acceptance fee before the deadline.
- The non-refundable/non-transferable acceptance fee will be credited to the tuition fee upon registration.

Do also refer to our **FAQ** at

<https://cde.nus.edu.sg/graduate/graduate-programmes-by-coursework/faqs-graduate-coursework/>

For application related enquiries, please contact us at

Division of Industrial Design: askid.postgraduate@nus.edu.sg

College of Design and Engineering (Coursework): CDEGradcoursework@nus.edu.sg

Important

The University has not engaged any external agencies to undertake graduate student recruitment on its behalf. Candidates interested in our graduate programmes are advised to apply directly to the University and not through any agents. Candidates who apply through agents will not have any added advantage in gaining admission and the University reserves the right to reject such applications without giving reasons.