



Design

Postgraduate
Courses
2022

Faculty of Design,
Architecture & Building

Welcome

UTS School of Design is a world-renowned design school, both for the quality of its teaching and its research output. Our perhaps unmatched connections to industry, combined with our location on the edge of Sydney's CBD, mean students have the opportunity not just to develop projects but often to apply them in organisational settings.

Our school's focus is upon creating meaningful change, with a view to ensuring better futures for our students, their projects' stakeholders, and – equally importantly – for our society and environment as a whole.

The UTS postgraduate design program reflects this holistic, future-focused approach, and will equip you to not simply manage change but to be a driver of change – ensuring in the process that such change is positive, appropriate, equitable and sustainable.

I'm pleased to welcome you to the UTS design community, and to thank you for your interest in our unique postgraduate program.



Professor Kate Sweetapple
Head of School
UTS School of Design

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Acknowledgement of Country

UTS acknowledges the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, the Boorooberongal people of the Dharug Nation, the Bidiagal people and the Gamaygal people upon whose ancestral lands our university stands. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present, acknowledging them as the traditional custodians of knowledge for these lands.

Shaping the future

At UTS, we believe in the role of design as a means to drive societal and organisational change. When you study with us, you'll learn the tools and methodologies required to tackle challenges of all sizes, from those that shape your workplace to those that redefine our urban and social futures.



A global reputation

We're leading the world. Not only is UTS Design the top design school in NSW, we're also ranked among the top 25 in the world[^]. And when you study with us, you'll also become part of UTS – a young, dynamic, vibrant institution that's been ranked the #1 young university in Australia for the last six years.*

[^]QS World University Rankings by Subject (Art and Design) 2021

*QS Top 50 Under 50 2016 – 2021

Mature design practice

Our postgraduate courses are focused on service and transition design, two disciplines that require a mature understanding of design as a tool for transformational change. Our programs are a launching pad for established professionals from a wide range of fields, whether you're new to design or keen to build on previous design qualifications, including those with a focus on material practices, design leadership or design-led change.

Fuelled by research

The School of Design is a leader in industry-partnered research, delivering social design projects that transform the way that people, organisations and communities experience the world. This research approach informs our curriculum, which means everything you study will be based on our real-world tools, methodologies, projects and partnerships and their emphasis on socially just and sustainable futures.



Entwined with industry

We deliver design research perspectives to a vast range of government and industry partners – and when you study with us, you will too. You'll work on corporate briefs, case studies and live projects, immersing yourself in an established culture of co-creation to deliver sophisticated, design-led solutions. What's more, you can also start building professional networks that could help shape the next stage of your design career.



World-class learning, online and off

The UTS Campus is one of a kind, the product of a 10-year, \$1 billion campus redevelopment that has transformed southern end of the CBD. But our physical facilities will be just one part of your UTS experience: we're also experts in online teaching, delivering creative and collaborative learning opportunities that will transform how you engage with your studies.

Tailored to your needs

If you're already working on complex service or organisational transformation challenges, you can bring problems from your workplace into your degree. You'll explore a range of methodologies, such as problem framing, co-evolution and design futuring, and learn to integrate them into your real-life practice.

Learn from the best

Leadership matters – and at UTS Design, our research and teaching team is second to none. You'll study under the guidance of award-winning researchers, practitioners and teachers, all working at the forefront of truly transformative design. With an emphasis on leading complex transitions in dynamic environments, they'll help you expand your thinking about what design is and what design can be.

Meet our academics

Associate Professor Abby Mellick Lopes



Abby is the Director of Postgraduate Design Studies at UTS. An award-winning teacher, researcher and postgraduate supervisor, Abby's interdisciplinary, design-led social research approach advances the critical role of design in promoting the transition to more sustainable cultures and economies. She is a lead design researcher on multi-institutional research projects including Cooling the Commons, which explores the role of urban design interventions in creating socially just and liveable futures in hot cities; and Innovative Waste Economies: Redrawing the Circular Economy, an Australian Research Council funded Discovery project exploring the transition to a circular economy. Abby is highly regarded for her teaching and curriculum leadership. She is a passionate postgraduate supervisor and an advocate for the unique qualities of design research within the higher degree research setting.

Dr Lindsay Asquith



Lindsay is a senior research fellow and a senior lecturer at the School of Design. With a PhD in architecture and human behaviour, Lindsay

brings her expertise to multi-stakeholder design challenges that span the disciplines of architecture, criminology and sociology. Her research is focussed on supporting public and private sector organisations to address complex problems, informed by her understanding of how people interact with their environment. In her role as a design research leader, she guides government and industry partners through outcomes-focussed design processes that deliver meaningful social impact. She has recently led projects to create healthy tenancies in the public housing sector, as well as to minimise the risk of violence and aggression in hospital emergency departments. She contributes to teaching in the Master of Design and the Graduate Certificate in Social and Service Design.

Professor Cameron Tonkinwise



Cameron is Professor in the School of Design and an international expert in design studies and transition design. He writes and speaks extensively on the power of design to drive systems-level change in order to achieve more sustainable and equitable futures. Cameron has established Design Studies programs at The New School, Parsons School of Design (New York), Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and UTS, among others, that have transformed international design curricula. Cameron's leadership in transition design has informed the DIRC research approach, which is now focused on tackling organisation-specific design challenges while simultaneously addressing the underlying systemic issues that cause these challenges to occur.

Bridget Malcolm



Bridget is a senior designer and researcher at UTS School of Design. Her work draws on leading design methodologies including systemic design, frame creation, participatory design and transition design to explore problems, propose pathways forward and build alliances for change. An expert facilitator, Bridget works with public and private sector organisations to deliver creative approaches that support the design of new systems, services and strategies. She has specific expertise working between community, business and public sector stakeholders to deliver creative solutions that meet current and emerging needs. Bridget publishes on emerging design practice and translates these findings into engaging postgraduate education and short courses.

Industry connections

Our industry links are part of the fabric at UTS Design. We work with a broad range of industry partners, delivering novel, design-led solutions across the fields of social, service and transition design.

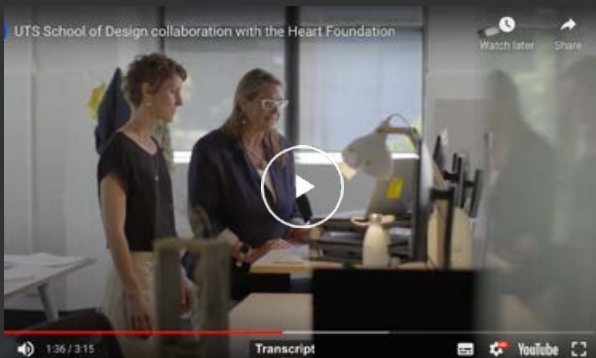
And it's far from a one-way street: our industry partners and projects are a critical component of our curriculum development, helping to shape the next generation of graduates who will use design to transform the future.

Partner profile

Supporting patients one heart at a time

A service design project led by UTS School of Design researchers is set to improve support services for people living with a heart condition. The project was a partnership with the Heart Foundation and delivered in collaboration with the UTS Centre for Business and Social Innovation.

The Heart Foundation approached UTS for help reframing the patient journey and understanding how and where support and education could be feasibly delivered. UTS Design researchers led a process to map the health care system, creating a powerful visual tool that identified new opportunities for engagement. For the Heart Foundation, it's revolutionised the way they engage with patients and the broader community.



Who we work with:

Our collaborative design-led research projects span a wide range of industry and government sectors.

Partners include:

- Commonwealth Bank
- Energy Consumers Australia
- Landcom
- Legal Aid
- Youth Justice NSW
- Corrections Research Evaluation and Statistics
- Office of Responsible Gambling
- NSW Department of Communities and Justice
- NSW Circular
- Nepean Health
- The Heart Foundation



Julie Anne Mitchell
Director of Strategy at
The Heart Foundation

“Traditionally our approach to patient education and support has been very linear. The UTS process has been fantastic. It has been a real journey of discovery. UTS is bringing a whole different skillset to really help us examine and look at the problem.”

Transforming design

Design is changing. The new design territory is designing with people. It's a socially engaged way of doing design. It's also designing change: leading transitions to more sustainable ways of living, being and doing. At UTS, our emphasis on societal and organisational change makes us the leading postgraduate design school in Australia.

Beyond design thinking

Our courses deliver the outcomes that design thinking promised but never achieved. That's because we're focused on design as a tool to lead complex change. We're not designing objects; we're designing interactions and transitions. We're using design as a tool to shape services, communities, businesses and economies.

With the exception of our Graduate Certificate in Design, which equips non-designers with the fundamentals of design practice, all our postgraduate degrees emphasise two key design disciplines:

Service design

Service design is the process of planning and enhancing experiences between people. It combines a range of design approaches with social insights in order to co-create value between service providers and recipients.

Service design jobs are everywhere, but true service designers aren't. Our courses stand alone in preparing students for mature service design practice, in stark contrast to short courses that deliver only superficial learning. True service design sits at the core of organisational and cultural change; as such, our students become leaders, negotiators, facilitators and co-designers with deep social expertise, ready to meet the challenges ahead.

Transition design

Transition design is an emerging, vision-led approach to designing major societal change. Building on service design, systemic design and design for social innovation, it seeks to deliver more sustainable ways of living and working.

Led by Professor Cameron Tonkinwise, one of three founders of this global field, the UTS transition design program is unparalleled in Australia. Our teaching and research have application in a vast range of contexts, such as transitions to distributed energy systems, circular economies and more sustainable urban futures.



About UTS Design research

Design research at UTS focuses on the use of design to drive social, community and organisational change. We're interested in how design can transform the world around us, from the companies we work for to the cities we live in and everything in between.

Our team is comprised of designers, architects, visual communicators, psychologists, anthropologists, engineers, criminologists, historians and organisational developers. Together, we work with a vast range of government and private sector partners to tackle the big problems facing our communities, from criminal justice to domestic violence, affordable housing and climate change.

Projects include:

- Transitioning Energy Practices | CBA
- Dismantling Domestic Violence with NSW Department of Community Justice
- Modular Housing Project | CSI and the Aboriginal Housing Council
- Managing behaviours and needs in the ED | Southern Cross Protection
- Creating cared-for properties and healthy tenancies | Broadspectrum

Shaping the postgraduate student experience

The robust connection between research and the Postgraduate Design Program means our expertise becomes yours: we'll equip you with industry-leading methodologies and tools, challenge you with live briefs and case studies of the projects we work on, and connect you to the evidence that supports design-led interventions.



Courses



Master of Design

Research led and industry engaged, this world-class design degree will prepare you to harness the power of design to shape social, community and organisational futures and drive multi-level, multi-stage change. With a choice of major in either Service Design or Transition Design, the degree is for students looking to build human-centred strategic design skills. You'll study under the guidance of studio leaders who are recognised for their expertise in a range of design disciplines, engaging with rigorous, research-led design concepts and methodologies and deepening your understanding of social systems and people-based interactions. By the end of your studies, you'll be ready to create and deliver high-level service experiences and design-driven change initiatives at both large scales and small.



Master of Design (extension)

This course mirrors the Master of Design but contains two majors rather than one. Complete both the Service Design and Transition Design majors or select one and build a second major from another discipline area using your 24 credit points of electives.



Research-led learning

All postgraduate course curriculum is informed by our extensive industry research program, which delivers real-world social, service and transition design opportunities directly into our degrees. Engage with live briefs and case studies and learn apply industry-leading methodologies in a range of practical settings. Our extensive industry connections will also support you to build your professional networks throughout your studies.

Courses



Graduate Certificate in Design

Created as a pathway into the Master of Design, the Graduate Certificate in Design equips non-designers with design practice fundamentals. No matter which field you come from, this course draws on the School of Design's highly regarded undergraduate program to introduce you to design research and practice concepts that underpin social, service and transition design. By the end of the degree, you'll be able to engage effectively with designers and embrace design-led approaches to thinking and doing.



Graduate Certificate in Social and Service Design

This course will prepare you to deliver service design responses to a wide range of social and organisational challenges. Over four subjects, you'll explore the theory, methodologies and practical applications that underpin the critical and emerging disciplines of social and service design, gaining the skills to reframe problems, transform public engagement and respond to complex social challenges. You can complete this course as a standalone qualification or as a pathway into the Master of Design.



Careers

These postgraduate degrees will prepare you to progress or pivot an existing design career or to drive large-scale change in a range of other professions. Prepare for senior roles in social and service design or design leadership or apply your design expertise to solving social and sustainable transition challenges in almost any field.

Michelle Ou

Graduate Certificate in Social and Service Design



When Michelle Ou was given the chance to create her own service design project, she was instinctively drawn to the challenge of inclusive education.

“Every student’s needs are unique, but the dialogue around disability hasn’t thoroughly changed in the school system yet,” she says.

“I wanted to explore what could be done to create judgement-free learning environments that met all students’ needs.”

The project was part of Co-evolution of Problem and Solution, one of four interlinked subjects in the Graduate Certificate in Social and Service Design.

Using a technique called problem framing, which students learn as part of their degree, Michelle started trying to understand and contextualise the problem, as well as to map out the stakeholders and interrelationships that contributed to its complexity.

“From exploring the current context of the problem, we then thought, what are some of the points where we can really zoom in and start unpacking?” she says.

The project produced a series of recommendations, including advocating for more diverse representation of ability in teaching roles, thereby giving students role models with different needs and abilities, as well as communication and teaching styles.

Projects like these are typical within the Graduate Certificate, which combines theoretical learning with hands-on practice. Students explore designed-based creative problem-solving using tools and engage with case studies and live briefs to explore how service responses can be designed to solve social problems.

For Michelle, a user experience and service designer at the UTS-affiliated Centre for Inclusive Design, the curriculum helped her re-affirm her commitment to use design as a tool for social inclusion.

“As designers, we’re in a position where we can create products, services and experiences that really impact the people who use them, so I think it’s important to have these considerations of the social impact of what we’re putting out into the world,” she says.

“Who are we actually designing for? Who are we excluding? Why is this happening, and what can we do about it?”

“The graduate certificate really spoke to me because it addressed these questions and equipped me with a toolkit and a mindset to better my craft as a designer.”

Lauren Cass

Graduate Certificate in Social and Service Design

Lauren Cass was a digital marketer with a pretty specific career problem.



“I was finding myself in this position where I was progressing in my career but feeling less and less satisfied,” she says.

“I felt like I could be using the intellect and talent that I had in a better way that was more fulfilling for me and also a little bit more useful for the rest of the world.”

She started looking around online and discovered the UTS Graduate Certificate in Social and Service Design. Instantly, she knew she’d found what she was looking for.

“What made me choose UTS was actually the work they’d been doing in the Design Innovation Research Centre, particularly the partnership with the Department of Communities and Justice,” she says.

“That really struck me as something I had an interest in. [It was] an opportunity to tackle meaningful challenges that really aligned to the kind of work I’d like to do.”

Lauren quickly found herself immersed in the four-subject course, which spans fundamental service design theory all the way through to the practical application of design for social innovation.

The theoretical component, which explores service design from historical, philosophical and human-centred perspectives, was a revelation. Paired with the use of design tools and methodologies like service blueprinting, problem framing and system mapping, the course built her skillset and captured her imagination in a way she’d never expected.

“I’ve done a bit of study; I’ve previously done a master’s degree and had done a bachelor’s degree before that and this is by far the most engaged that I’d ever been in a course,” she says.

After completing her studies, Lauren was offered a role with QBE as a Senior Human-centred Designer – an opportunity she attributes in large part to her experience at UTS.

“I included examples of work completed during the course in my portfolio and it definitely contributed to securing the role,” she says.



Research degrees

Deepen your design capabilities with a traditional or practice-based research degree in the UTS School of Design. As a Doctor of Philosophy or Master of Design (Research) student, you'll join a dynamic community of researchers and practitioners making a meaningful contribution to the global design field.

Four areas of practice

Our postgraduate research programs span four areas of design practice:

- Fashion and Textiles,
- Product Design
- Visual Communication
- Social, Service and Transition

When you enrol in a research degree, you'll deepen your knowledge of design across these fields and deliver practical outcomes that resonate with industry, government and the wider community. All [School of Design research](#) aligns with one or more of our five research themes:

- **Material Ecologies:** Bringing together studies in material culture, material thinking and material futures.
- **Visual Knowledges:** Exploring the capacities and politics of the visual in shaping the critical issues and stories of our time.
- **Intersectional Design Histories and Theories:** Revealing new inter-disciplinary histories and theories across intersectional genders, communities, workers, ethnicities and sexualities.
- **Change Design:** Advancing the capacity of design practices and perspectives to support transition toward more just, diverse and safe futures.
- **Design Sovereignty:** Actioning Indigenous self-determination through partnered projects and investigations.

Kimberley Crofts

Doctor of Philosophy

For PhD student Kimberley Crofts, design is a form of activism.



Through her research, she's exploring the role of community participation in planning the phase-out of coal mining and power generation in the Hunter Valley region of New South Wales, with an emphasis on how designers can contribute to the transition process.

"My hunch is that designers are able to help people think through problems, and one of the key things that we can do is help raise community voices in these sorts of processes," she says.

"I also want to understand what the role of design can be in community-led transition planning, and for any designer working with communities that aren't their own."

The research was inspired by Kimberley's own climate activism, as well as her interest in the work of UTS Professor Cameron Tonkinwise, international expert in the field of transition design. Kimberley's PhD is co-supervised by Cameron and Associate Professor Abby Mellick Lopes, an expert in design-led social research.

"Having both Abby and Cameron as supervisors is a great balance. I admire the way that Cameron brings activism into the design world, and that Abby has such a deep understanding of humans and identity," she says.

This supervision arrangement has further strengthened Kimberley's belief in design as key to achieving more sustainable futures. And at UTS, she's found the perfect home.

"Design, as I think about it, is not just aesthetic. The sort of design that I'm talking about now is about the collective shaping of worlds and futures," she says.

Ania Zoltkowski

Doctor of Philosophy

Ania Zoltkowski lived and breathed fashion – until she took a long, hard look below the industry’s surface.



She’d spent years working in design, sales and production in Europe but was increasingly concerned by fashion’s impact on the environment – as well as its narrow, Western-centric point of view.

“In fashion, we’re always looking to London, Paris, New York. I’m interested in decentring these monolithic ideas,” she says.

Ania’s concerns got her thinking about how else she could use her skills and experience. A PhD in the UTS School of Design, with its emphasis on design’s potential to drive systemic change, felt like where she needed to be.

“I want to transition worldviews of fashion away from this very Western-dominant, colonial way of looking at what fashion is towards the pluriverse where many worlds, worldviews, ways of being and philosophies can co-exist,” she says.

“The School of Design felt like a place where I would be supported [to] bring these ideas to life.”

At UTS, Ania’s research is supervised by Professor Cameron Tonkinwise, an international expert in transition design, and Associate Professor Timo Rissanen, who is known for his work in sustainability and social justice as they relate to the contemporary fashion industry.

These differing but complementary skillsets have allowed her to dig deep when it comes to the work.

“I couldn’t ask for two better supervisors. I just feel really supported,” she says.

“The ideas I’m exploring are quite radical for fashion, and Timo and Cameron are both really supportive of that.”

While she may have left the fashion industry, she hasn’t lost her love of textiles. Ania’s practice-based PhD will see her produce a series of material experiments that embody the theoretical underpinnings of the work and its relation to place.




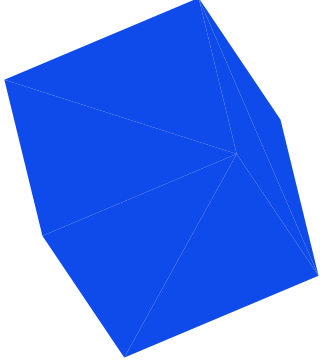
Glossary



Transition design is the process of designing major societal change toward more sustainable ways of living and working. It prepares designers to play a critical role in these transitions by designing vision-led, multi-level, multi-stage change.

Social design uses design to respond to social challenges. As a creative process, design can deliver novel perspectives to complex challenges that often can't be solved using conventional approaches. Social designers learn to design with (rather than design for) individuals, organisations and entire communities to drive social innovation.

Service design is the process of planning and enhancing experiences between people. It combines a range of design approaches with social psychology in order to co-create value between service providers and recipients.



How to apply & fees

The Academic Year

There are three teaching sessions at UTS:

- Autumn Session: February to June
- Spring Session: July to October
- Summer Session: November to February

While not all subjects offered by UTS are currently run during Summer session, make sure you check out which ones are - it's a great way to get ahead or to reduce your study load during Autumn and Spring Sessions.

Application Closing Dates

If you want to start studying at UTS in either the Autumn or Spring sessions, you need to apply by:

- Autumn session: 30 January 2022
- Spring session: 26 June 2022

Local Applicants: Coursework

In a postgraduate by coursework degree you'll attend tutorials and lectures, and do assessments, like writing essays and exams. Submit your application for a postgraduate by coursework degree online:

through the UTS Online Application system at uts.edu.au/pg-admissions, or at one of our Postgraduate Expos or postgraduate information sessions. Find out everything you need to know about upcoming information sessions at uts.edu.au/dab-events

Local Applicants: Research

A postgraduate by research degree will see you undertake and complete a research project. Before you submit your application though, you'll need to consider what you want to research, write a research proposal and find a supervisor. When you've done that, send your application to the UTS Graduate Research School.

Visit uts.ac/apply-for-research or email grs@uts.edu.au to find out more about the application process and to apply.

International Applicants

If you're an international student, head to uts.edu.au/international to find the course information, fees and application details relevant to you.

Non-Award Study

Do you want to study a single subject without committing to a full degree? You can! It's called non-award study and it's a great way to upgrade your skills or just learn more about something you enjoy. What's even more exciting is that any subjects you complete may be recognised in future study. To apply, visit uts.ac/non-award-study

English Language Proficiency

There are English language proficiency requirements for all courses. These requirements may apply to you, even if you are not an international student.

Visit uts.edu.au/english-language-requirements to find out more.

Offers

UTS will begin making postgraduate offers for 2020 from 18 September 2019.

Fees

If you're studying a postgraduate by coursework degree, you'll need to pay tuition fees. You can find out more about what your degree will cost at uts.edu.au/tuition-fee-calculator

For postgraduate by research degrees, you will need to either pay a fee or, if you're eligible for the Research Training Program, the Australian Government will cover the cost for you. To find out more visit uts.edu.au/domestic-hd-fees

If you do have to pay a fee and you're a local student, you may be eligible for FEE-HELP, an Australian Government loan scheme. Using FEE-HELP means you don't have to pay for your tuition fees up front. More information can be found at uts.edu.au/government-help-schemes

You can choose to repay your FEE-HELP loan simply by notifying your employer who will then withhold your payments through the PAYG tax system. You can also make payments directly to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Timetable Information

Do you like to plan ahead? Then check out the UTS Timetable Planner. The online tool lets you see the timetable for the current session, so you can get an idea about when the subjects for your degree may be scheduled and offered. The 2022 timetable will be published in end of November 2021.

Visit mytimetable.uts.edu.au

Connect with us



Information sessions

See upcoming information events, one-on-one chats and webinars at uts.edu.au/dab-events

dab.uts.edu.au

UTS CRICOS 00099F

Disclaimer: Courses and electives are offered subject to numbers. The information in this brochure is provided for Australian and New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents. If you are an international student, please consult the International Course Guide available from UTS International. Information is correct at time of printing (October 2021) and is subject to change without notice. Changes in circumstances after this date may alter the accuracy or currency of the information. UTS reserves the right to alter any matter described in this brochure without notice. Readers are responsible for verifying information that pertains to them by contacting the university.

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