UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA

Diploma of Design (199JA.5)

Please note these are the 2025 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	50
	Note:
	The selection rank is the minimum ATAR plus adjustment factors required for admission to the program in the previous year. This is an indicative guide only as ranks change each year depending on demand.
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	UC College, Bruce, ACT
Duration	1.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Arts and Design
Discipline	School of Design and the Built Environment
UAC code	360035
English language requirements	An overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 5.5, with no band score below 5.5. Students who have undertaken all of their education in an English speaking country (as defined on UC website) are deemed to have met our English language proficiency requirements.
	View IELTS equivalences

International students

Academic entry requirements	To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements

specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our academic entry requirements page.

View UC's academic entry requirements

Delivery mode	On campus
Location	UC College, Bruce, ACT
Duration	1.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Arts and Design
Discipline	School of Design and the Built Environment
CRICOS code	076136M
English language requirements	An overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 5.5, with no band score below 5.5. Students who have undertaken all of their education in an English speaking country (as defined on UC website) are deemed to have met our English language proficiency requirements. View IELTS equivalences

About this course

Your doorway to Design

Unleash your creativity and innovation with our Diploma of Design. Created for those seeking a pathway to a Design degree, this course will introduce you to the fundamentals of design thinking, processes, tools and technology. At the end of this course, you'll be able to apply to the faculty of Arts and Design's suite of design degrees, from which you can hone-in on any the design field of your choice.

Study our Diploma of Design at UC and you will:

- learn creative thinking skills
- develop an understanding of visual communication
- become familiar with design technology
- be introduced to 2D and 3D design
- investigate and develop design projects
- work in a design studio environment

- develop the knowledge and skills needed to enter the design industry

Study opportunities

On finishing your diploma you can enter directly into one of the following courses delivered by the Faculty of Arts and Design, with one year of credit!

- ARB007 Bachelor fo Design
- ARB201 Bachelor of Design (Industrial Design)
- ARB202 Bachelor of Design (Interaction Design)
- ARB203 Bachelor of Design (Visual Communication Design)
- ABB001 Bachelor of the Built Environment (Architecture)
- ABB002 Bachelor of the Built Environment (Interior Architecture)
- 290JA Bachelor of Landscape Design
- ABB101 Bachelor of Building and Construction Management (Honours)

Career opportunities

You may choose to enter the design industry directly as a team member or assistant designer in a range of fields, including:

- Architect
- Landscaper
- Interior Designer
- Graphic Designer
- Industrial Designer
- Visual Merchandiser
- Building and Construction Manager

Important information

- It takes 2 terms of full-time study (8 months).
- If English is your 2nd language you will need IELTS 5.5 or TOEFL equivalent. Further information can be found at the following link.

Note: UC College courses fees may differ – please visit our Course Fees page for more information.

Admission requirements

Completion of year 12 or equivalent and evidence of some previous design studies or submission of a scanned design portfolio. Students onshore will be selected by an interview process.

Assumed knowledge

None.

Periods course is open for new admissions

Year	Location	Teaching period	Teaching start date	Domestic	International
2025	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 1	03 February 2025	✓	✓
2025	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 2	26 May 2025	✓	✓
2025	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 3	15 September 2025	✓	✓
2026	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 1	02 March 2026	✓	✓
2026	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 2	29 June 2026	✓	✓
2026	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 3	26 October 2026	✓	✓
2027	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 1	01 March 2027	✓	✓
2027	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 2	28 June 2027	✓	✓
2027	UC College, Bruce, ACT	UC College Trimester 3	25 October 2027	✓	✓

Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current course rules and university policy.

Course requirements

Diploma of Design (199JA) | 24 credit points

Restricted Choice - Must select 1 of the following   Expand All | Collapse All

Building and Construction Management Stream - Must pass 18 credit points as follows

Digital Environment (8330) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Built Environment Technology 1 (10187) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Business Decision Making (11009) | 3 credit points — Level 1

BE: Visual Communication (11021) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Business Communication (11170) | 3 credit points — Level 2

Introduction to Management (11174) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Built Environment Stream - Must pass 18 credit points as follows

Required - Must pass 15 credit points as follows

Digital Environment (8330) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Built Environment Technology 1 (10187) | 3 credit points — Level 1

BE: Analysis Studio (11014) | 3 credit points — Level 1

BE: Design Studio (11020) | 3 credit points — Level 1

BE: Visual Communication (11021) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Design History, Culture and Society (11331) | 3 credit points — Level 1

BE Digital Design Techniques 01: Fundamentals (11624) | 3 credit points — Level 1

- Unit 11331 has been closed. From 2025, students must complete unit 11624 BE Digital Design Techniques 01: Fundamentals.

Design and Communication Stream - Must pass 18 credit points as follows

Required - Must pass 15 credit points as follows

Visual Representation Techniques (11041) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Industrial Design Fundamentals (11046) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Visual Communication Theory and Principles (11062) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Introduction to Interaction Design (11655) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Design Thinking and User Centered Design (11656) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

BE: Visual Communication (11021) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Design History, Culture and Society (11331) | 3 credit points — Level 1

- Unit 11331 has been closed. From 2025, students must complete unit 11021 BE: Visual Communication.

Required - Must pass 6 credit points as follows

Academic English (9487) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Professional Orientation (11330) | 3 credit points — Level 1

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you must meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the inherent requirements statement applicable to your course

Typical study pattern

UC - University of Canberra College, Bruce

Building and Construction Management Stream

Standard Full Time, Term 1 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 1

Academic English (9487)

Business Communication (11170)

Digital Environment (8330)

Professional Orientation (11330)

UCC Term 2

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Built Environment Technology 1 (10187)

Business Decision Making (11009)

Introduction to Management (11174)

Standard Full Time, Term 2 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 2

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Built Environment Technology 1 (10187)

Business Decision Making (11009)

Introduction to Management (11174)

UCC Term 3

Academic English (9487)

Business Communication (11170)

Digital Environment (8330)

Professional Orientation (11330)

Standard Part Time, Term 1 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 1

Academic English (9487)

Introduction to Management (11174)

Professional Orientation (11330)

UCC Term 2

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Built Environment Technology 1 (10187)

Business Decision Making (11009)

UCC Term 3

Business Communication (11170)

Digital Environment (8330)

Built Environment Stream

Standard Full Time, Term 1 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 1

Academic English (9487)

BE: Analysis Studio (11014)

Digital Environment (8330)

Professional Orientation (11330)

UCC Term 2

BE Digital Design Techniques 01: Fundamentals (11624)

BE: Design Studio (11020)

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Built Environment Technology 1 (10187)

Standard Full Time, Term 2 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 2

BE Digital Design Techniques 01: Fundamentals (11624)

BE: Design Studio (11020)

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Built Environment Technology 1 (10187)

UCC Term 3

Academic English (9487)

BE: Analysis Studio (11014)

Digital Environment (8330)

Professional Orientation (11330)

Standard Part Time, Term 1 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 1

BE: Analysis Studio (11014)

Digital Environment (8330)

UCC Term 2

BE Digital Design Techniques 01: Fundamentals (11624)

BE: Design Studio (11020)

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Built Environment Technology 1 (10187)

UCC Term 3

Academic English (9487)

Professional Orientation (11330)

Design and Communication Stream

Standard Full Time, Term 1 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 1

Academic English (9487)

Introduction to Interaction Design (11655)

Professional Orientation (11330)

Visual Communication Theory and Principles (11062)

UCC Term 2

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Design Thinking and User Centered Design (11656)

Industrial Design Fundamentals (11046)

Visual Representation Techniques (11041)

Standard Full Time, Term 2 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 2

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Design Thinking and User Centered Design (11656)

Industrial Design Fundamentals (11046)

Visual Representation Techniques (11041)

UCC Term 3

Academic English (9487)

Introduction to Interaction Design (11655)

Professional Orientation (11330)

Visual Communication Theory and Principles (11062)

Standard Part Time, Term 1 Commencing

Year 1

UCC Term 1

Introduction to Interaction Design (11655)

Visual Communication Theory and Principles (11062)

UCC Term 2

BE: Visual Communication (11021)

Design Thinking and User Centered Design (11656)

Industrial Design Fundamentals (11046)

Visual Representation Techniques (11041)

UCC Term 3

Academic English (9487)

Professional Orientation (11330)

Course information

Course duration

Standard 1 year full time or part-time equivalent. Maximum 4 years from date of enrolment to date of course completion.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
The objectives of this program are to develop the student's specialist technical and creative skills in: Creative design, including: - Generating abstract design ideas after gathering information and analysing sources and concepts. - Integrating a significantly developed knowledge base required to successfully address client briefs.	UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; take pride in their professional and personal integrity. UC graduates are global citizens: Understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives.

- Developing as a junior designer maintaining currency with past, present and future trends. - Gaining cognitive and skills to identify, communication analyse, synthetise and act on information from a range of sources.	UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; evaluate and adopt new technology.
The objectives of this program are to develop the student's skills in: Technology, including: - Seeking to achieve efficient use of materials, resources and energy for design projects - Creating effective and safe design solutions - Gaining specialist digital technical and creative skills to express ideas and perspectives.	UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; take pride in their professional and personal integrity. UC graduates are global citizens: Understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives. UC graduates are lifelong learners: Be self-aware; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; evaluate and adopt new technology.
The objectives of this program are to develop the student's skills in: Research, including: - Accessing and reviewing resources (historical, theoretical, physical, personal and cultural) that influence and support the design solutions; - Justifying own work in terms of design theory and innovative practice; - Gaining cognitive, technical and communication skills to analyse, plan, design and evaluate approaches to unpredictable problems and/or management requirements.	UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload. UC graduates are global citizens: Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings. UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.
The objectives of this program are to	UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and

develop the student's skills in: Communication, including:

- The development of effective communication skills with clients, colleagues and consultants;
- Working as a professional member of a project team;
- The development of communication strategies enabling the articulation of gained knowledge and specialised skills and to effectively demonstrate the understanding of that knowledge;
- The development of clear presentation skills leading to an individual portfolio of work for self-promotion.

skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; take pride in their professional and personal integrity.

UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; evaluate and adopt new technology.

UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways.

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Diploma of Design	Dip Des

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Prospective International Students	Email international@canberra.edu.au or Phone +61 2 6201 5342
Prospective Domestic Students	Email: study@canberra.edu.au or Phone: 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)
Current and Commencing	Please contact University of Canberra College, Phone +61 2 6201 2961 or Email

Students	ucc.studentservices@canberra.edu.au

Download your course guide

Scholarships

Find the scholarship that's the right fit for you

Explore Scholarships

and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.