

Graduate Certificate in Design (ARC801.1)

Please note these are the 2026 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	
Delivery mode	Blended On campus Online
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	1.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Arts and Design
Discipline	School of Design and the Built Environment
UAC code	
English language requirements	An IELTS Academic score of 6.5 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent).
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	

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Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	1.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Arts and Design
Discipline	School of Design and the Built Environment
CRICOS code	
English language requirements	<p>An IELTS Academic score of 6.5 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent).</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

About this course

Lead by design

Unleash your creative talents and learn to apply design-thinking to solve workplace challenges with this 12-month, part-time course. Whether you're looking to step-up into a leadership role or make a sideways move into a creative area, this course will give you the opportunity to get involved in senior-level design projects.

The Graduate Certificate in Design will teach you to apply creative problem-solving skills to workplace problems. You'll explore a wide variety of design concepts and master the ability to articulate your vision, instruct designers, manage creative projects and lead with confidence.

These sought-after skills will lay the foundations for a career leading through the application of design thinking across a rich array of design areas, from user experience (UX) design to graphic or industrial design and so much more.

Study a Graduate Certificate in Design at UC and you will:

- Interpret, analyse and solve complex problems using design-thinking techniques and processes.
- Synthesise design knowledge and ideas to communicate design solutions to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Prepare and present a professional design strategy to create design solutions and content.
- Build a sought-after skill set to stay in demand.

Work Integrated Learning

In addition to renowned academics in design, you will enjoy real-world course content thanks to guest lecturers with expertise in design

thinking and by being mentored and taught by local design experts.

Use actual scenarios from your workplace for your case studies and assignments.

Career opportunities

- Design Project Manager
- Studio Manager
- Creative Consultant
- Creative Director
- Brand Manager
- Creative Producer
- Creative Adviser
- Campaign Manager
- Various roles in government working with Advertising, Digital and Creative Agencies

Course-specific information

To be eligible for the Graduate Certificate in Design, applicants must have a bachelor's degree or equivalent from a recognised tertiary institution.

If you aren't sure if you meet the eligibility criteria, please get in touch.

Admission requirements




Applicants must have an undergraduate degree (AQF level 7) or equivalent as approved by the University Admissions.

Defence members at any rank (with a minimum of 3 years experience) are eligible for direct entry into this course through the Veteran Tertiary Support Program

Assumed knowledge

None.

Periods course is open for new admissions

Year	Location	Teaching period	Teaching start date	Domestic	International
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 1 	16 February 2026		

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

Graduate Certificate in Design (ARC801) | 12 credit points

Required Units - Must pass 9 credit points as follows

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

Visual Communication for Creative Businesses G (11869) | 3 credit points – Level G

UX Design G (11870) | 3 credit points – Level G

Digital and Tangible Design G (11871) | 3 credit points – Level G

Restricted Choice - Must pass 3 credit points from the following

Entrepreneurship PG (9691) | 3 credit points – Level P

Creative Decision Making G (11500) | 3 credit points – Level G

Leadership in the Creative Industries G (11865) | 3 credit points – Level G

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 - Canberra, Bruce

Standard Part Time, Semester 1 Commencing

Year 1

Semester 1

[UX Design G \(11870\)](#)

[Visual Communication for Creative Businesses G \(11869\)](#)

Semester 2

[Digital and Tangible Design G \(11871\)](#)

Restricted Choice Unit

Course information

Course duration

Standard 1 year part-time. Maximum 3 years from date of enrolment to date of course completion. This course is only available for part-

time enrolment.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
1. Interpret, analyse and solve complex problems using design thinking techniques and processes.	<p>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.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>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.</p>
2. Synthesise design knowledge and ideas to communicate design solutions to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	<p>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.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p>
3. Prepare and present a professional design strategy to create design solutions and content.	<p>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.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and</p>

social settings; behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners: Be self-aware.

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Graduate Certificate in Design	GradCert Des

Honours

None.

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Prospective Domestic Students:	Email study@canberra.edu.au or Phone 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)

Current and Commencing Students:

Email FAD.Student@canberra.edu.au or Phone 1300 301 727

Download your course guide



Scholarships

Find the scholarship that's the right fit for you

[Explore Scholarships](#)

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UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge 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.