

International Joint MS Programme of Design Research for Interaction Programme Model

The programme is based on an educational model of four semesters. In this model, the students are enrolled in METU in the first semester and in TU-Delft in second and third semesters. In the last semester, students are enrolled in METU; however according to the requirements of the research, the students may choose to stay in either METU or in TU-Delft, and both parties will be equally involved in the students' work.

The total duration of the programme is 2 years (4 semesters) normally and cannot surpass 3 years (6 semesters). The students are dismissed unless they finish their studies within defined maximum duration. The courses are defined according to the requirements of the programme. The programme consists of at least 7 courses that add up to a minimum of 24 credits (METU-Credit System), one seminar course and thesis studies (ECTS: 50). The total ECTS credit list is shown in Table 3rd

The courses are carried on in METU in the first semester. In this semester, students define their thesis topics and supervisors from METU. The courses have a theoretical emphasis in this semester. The second and third semesters of the program is carried on in TU-Delft. The final semester of the program is allocated to thesis studies. The total duration of the program is 2 years (4 semesters) normally and cannot surpass 3 years (6 semesters). The students are dismissed unless they finish their studies within defined maximum duration.

Table 3: International Joint MS Programme of Design Research for Interaction Courses according to Location and Semesters

Semester	Location	Courses	METU Credits	METU/DUT ECTS equivalency
1.	METU	ID 503 Research Methods in Industrial Design (3-0)3	3	8
		ID 706 Design Methods (3-0)3	3	8
		ID 721 Designing Interactions (2-2)3	3	5
		<i>Elective course</i> ⁽¹⁾	3	6
			12	27
2nd	TU-Delft	ID 4220 Interactive Technology Design ⁽²⁾		6
		ID 4255 Product Usability Testing & Redesign ⁽²⁾		6
		ID 5501 Research Project		6
		ID 4290 M.S. Thesis ⁽²⁾		6
				6
				30
3rd	TU-Delft	ID 4210 Product Understanding, Use and Experience ⁽²⁾		6
		ID 4215 Context and Conceptualization ⁽²⁾		6
		ID 4250 Project Exploring Interactions ⁽²⁾		9
		ID 4290 M.S. Thesis ⁽²⁾		6
				3
				30
4.	METU or TU-Delft ⁽³⁾	IDDI 500 M.S. Thesis NC	0	50
		IDDI 592 Graduate Seminars in Industrial Design (0-2)	0	10
		IDDI 8XX Special Studies (4-2)NC	0	4
			-	64
ECTS Total (including thesis)				151 ECTS⁽⁴⁾

Explanations:

Compulsory and elective courses that the students have to take throughout the programme can be changed by the approval of both universities, meeting the minimum criteria set by both parties.

(1) 4XX coded elective courses (METU).

Joint programme students can take up to a maximum of two 4XX coded METU elective courses.

(2) 4XXX coded courses (TU-Delft).

4XXX coded courses that are offered in 2nd and 3rd semesters at TU-Delft are graduate courses.

(3) Registrations in the last semester.

Students will register at METU in the last semester. However, based on the content of their thesis and needs, students will be able to study at METU or TU-Delft in the last semester with the approval of their supervisors.

(4) Course requirements in the 2nd and 3rd semesters (TU-Delft)

Education programme at TU-Delft is modular. There is a sequential theme in the courses that are offered by the programme. Therefore, courses offered in the 2nd and 3rd semesters are pre-defined. According to the modular system, courses will be conducted consecutively, finishing one course module after another, instead of offering all of them in parallel. Hence, courses offered in the 2nd and 3rd semesters will provide 151 ECTS credits including programme thesis (50 ECTS), when they are evaluated according to the METU ECTS credits, although courses offered are high in number.

International Joint MS Programme of Design Research for Interaction Course Success in the Programme

Standard duration of the joint programme is 2 years (4 semesters). This period cannot exceed 3 years (6 semesters). Students will be dismissed from the programme if they cannot complete their studies within the maximum period. Students will be evaluated at the end of each semester according to the evaluation and grading system of the university that they are registered at (see Table 3). Students must get at least 'CC' (METU: 2nd00) in each course in order to be considered successful. However, after completion of all programme courses, students must maintain a GPA of at least 3rd00.

Students that complete course and thesis requirements successfully will finish the programme. In the event of failing a course(s) taken at METU or TU-Delft, students will need to either re-take the course(s) or take a course(s) suggested and approved by the joint programme committee.

**Table 4. International Joint MS Programme of Design Research for Interaction
Equivalency of Grading**

TU-Delft	<i>METU (value)</i>	<i>METU (letter)</i>
8,5 – 10	3,5 – 4,0	AA <i>or</i> BA
8,0 – 8,5	3,0	BB
7,5 – 8,0	2,5	CB
7,0 – 7,5	2,0	CC
6,0 – 7,0	1,0 – 1,5	DC <i>or</i> DD
≤ 5,5	≤ 0,5	FD <i>or</i> FF

Determination of supervisors, thesis topics and research methodology

The thesis studies in the proposed programme are co-supervised by a faculty member each from METU and TU-Delft. Thesis topic is determined in the students' first semester. The students choose their supervisors, and propose thesis subjects, research methodology and the structure of their thesis in 'Research Methods in Industrial Design (ID503)' course. In the second semester, which will be in TU-Delft, the students choose their supervisors in TU-Delft. The final semester is assigned for the completion of the thesis studies and thesis writing. Thesis evaluation is made within the dates that conform to the academic calendars and in accordance with the graduate programme regulations of both universities. The Master's thesis jury is appointed with the approval of the Joint Committee. The jury includes both thesis supervisors.

Format of the theses

Joint graduate programme aims to integrate METU's research-based approach and TU-Delft's practice-based approach. The studies are encouraged to be towards design

research. The research subjects can be about the design process, methods and outcome as well as being historical, theoretical and intended for users. The thesis must be submitted according to the specifications stated by METU Graduate School of Natural and Applied Sciences. Also, a copy of the study must be written in the format that is proposed by TU-Delft. The students are responsible for submitting their thesis in both formats, in the proposed number of copies.

Evaluation of the theses

Regular period to complete the Joint Graduate Programme is 2 academic years (4 semesters). The expected period for the completion of the programme is four semesters. Students are expected to present their thesis to an evaluation jury at the end of the fourth semester. This period can be extended for two semesters. At the end of the thesis evaluation, the students can be found *satisfactory* or *unsatisfactory*, or can be given a *3 months period for correction*. Under the condition that the student takes three months for correction, the thesis is re-evaluated at the end of the three months time. If the student can not complete the thesis and present it to the jury at the end of the fourth semester, the student is dismissed from the programme. Dismissed student can re-apply to the programme.

Diploma for the joint programme

The students who fulfil the requirements of ‘METU-TU Delft International Joint MS Programme of Design Research for Interaction’ will be awarded diplomas from both universities. Joint programme and partner universities are stated clearly on the diploma and diploma attachments.

Principles for publications and patents

METU, TU Delft and the student have common rights on the innovations to be patented, utility models, and industrial design registrations which may be developed within the research studies carried out in the joint programme. METU, TU Delft and the student have common rights on the publications regarding the studies carried out in the joint programme. The names of the three parties are mentioned clearly on all documents and publications.

