

Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School

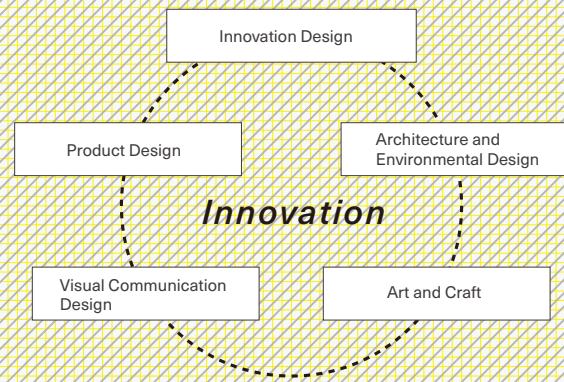
2018

In 2016, there are 777 universities in Japan.
86 universities are National Universities,
91 universities are Public Universities and 600
universities are Private Universities.
Public Universities provide high quality
of education subsidized by Japanese Government.
Therefore, tuition fee is reasonable.

They are located in medium scale cities in
all prefectures not like National Universities which
are located in mega-cities in Japan.
The size of Public Universities in terms of number
of students is approximately a quarter of
National Universities.
So students in Public Universities enjoy
family-like atmosphere.

Among 91 Public Universities, only
Nagaoka Institute of Design provides
professional education specialized in design

Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School
welcome foreign students
to challenge future creation.



Creating New Values Lead You to the Innovation

Innovation = Targeted at the various items and concepts that form the source of human prosperity, the act of bringing prominent and beneficial changes to lifestyle, culture and industry through the design process, by creating new values that capture the essential qualities of issues and needs.

At Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School, through our practical curriculum oriented towards future creation, we aim towards acquisition of the ability to create new

values in anticipation of the future that is one step ahead, on the basis of the capabilities for the creation and designing as a design institute.

Additionally, we have established the new specialist field of Innovation Design in our Master's Program, which pursues practical methods for the conception and realization of innovation, and will proceed to drive the creation of innovation at Nagaoka Institute of Design.

During the two years of the Master's Program, in order for students to strengthen their specialist abilities and develop additional capabilities for the creation of new values, we provide a curriculum in which the foundation subjects and specialized subjects that form the basis for these abilities are mastered in the first semester of their first year. As a result, this facilitates time to spend on tackling your own research steadily from the second semester of the first year, beginning with foundation research. In addition, students can receive research

guidance via a two-supervisor system that includes a faculty member in charge of providing thesis guidance, in order to produce a thesis composed of logical and precise written expressions.

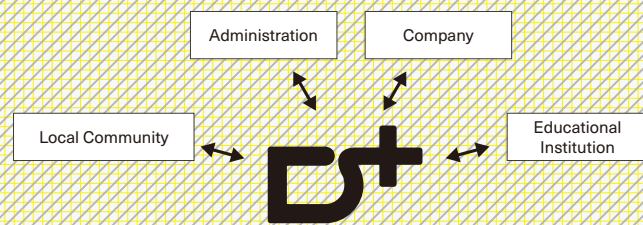
During the three years of the Doctoral Program, students consider design from multifaceted viewpoints and deepen their research to establish their independence as researchers in the field of design.

This opens the door to becoming a specialist who pursues research from both theoretical and practical aspects.

Research Steadily, and Becoming a Specialist

Design Thinker subconsciously carry out a linear process in which they adopt a broad-ranging perspective, grasp the essence of a problem, and attempt to resolve the problem through repeated trial and error. At Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School, students study Design Thinking, in which this design process is systematically organized, and through PBL via a practical project, put the application of the theory into practice. Students tackle a wide range of themes demanded by

society, from projects that are unique to the local city of Nagaoka, to projects that span across the whole of Japan. Furthermore, students cultivate social awareness by experiencing practical work in corporations and elsewhere, and create opportunities to confront themselves in anticipation of the future through Professional Internship, which broadens traditional career paths, and Business Startup Seminar, which fosters the ability to take their own steps forward.



Students tackle a practical project through PBL on various problems and needs faced by entities

Design Thinking with Real Project

Start from April 2018

A Future Creation-Oriented, Practical Graduate School

Graduate School

Doctoral Program Enrollment capacity 3

Design Theory

Master's Program Enrollment capacity 15

- Innovation Design Field
- Product Design Field
- Visual Communication Design Field
- Art and Craft Field
- Architecture and Environmental Design

Degree obtained / Doctor of Design

Degree obtained / Master of Design

New Field

Field

Innovation Education Based on Design Thinking, Spanning All Fields

In recent years Design Thinking has been incorporated into institutions including IDEO, Institute of Design at Stanford, i.school, the University of Tokyo, Kyoto University Design School, Graduate School of System Design Management and Graduate School of Media Design Keio University.

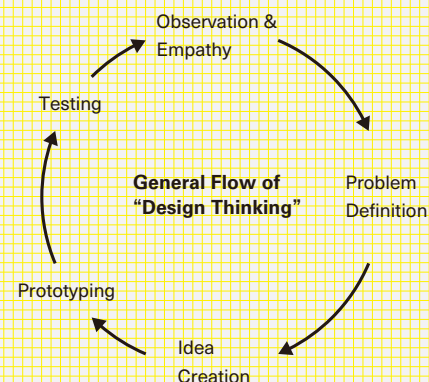
At Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School, we utilize our qualities as a Design Institute to implement Design Thinking education, which systematically organizes the design process carried out unconsciously by practitioners of design, in all fields of study, and aim towards innovation that considers not only modeling but also services and systems, and tackle projects and researches.



Topic

1st Year at Master's Program Foundation Subjects (Required) Advanced Course in Innovation Design

This course widens the design perspective from "items" to "concepts", and Design Thinking required for creation of innovation is studied in all fields. By studying Design Thinking comprehensively, a foundation for creation of innovation is built in each field of study.



Additions to a New Graduate School of Design

- + Strengthening of specialisms cultivated in the undergraduate departments and social experience
- + A mindset that proposes not only "good items" but also "fun concepts"
- + A sensibility that proposes not only "good work" but also "narrative"
- + Practical skills to launch from this sensibility and produce new values

Innovation is the power to mobilize these abilities and create the future



Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School perceives "innovation" as the act of bringing prominent, positive changes to lifestyle, culture and industry by creating new values that capture the essential qualities of issues and needs, and strives towards the creation of innovation in all fields of study at the Graduate School.

Seisuke Watanabe,
Dean, Graduate School of Design



Challenge of New Value Creation through PBL

In the Master's Program Project subject, practical projects are tackled through PBL on problems and needs faced by entities such as regional society or corporations. PBL is divided into two categories, teams are formed for both, and graduate students tackle the issues while constructing projects in which the students themselves play the main roles.

In particular, students of the field of innovation design tackle Problem-based Learning projects and pursue the challenge of new value creation as the foundation of Design Thinking.

Project image is as shown on the right.

Project Based Learning

How to design?

Problem Based Learning

What to design?

In the Project-based Learning category, students utilize their own specialisms from their design field to tackle new value creation. However, in the Problem-based Learning category, students discover latent problems and needs faced by entities such as regional society or corporations, and by pursuing the essential qualities of such issues, tackle solutions from new viewpoints and new value creation.

Example

Case of Redesign Proposal for Store A's Product Package Design

Project-based Learning Project

Based on purchaser demographics for Store A's products, the group tested designs that connect to sales promotion, and decided to propose a new package design that conveys the appeal of the products.

Utilize high design specialism to make an enhanced proposal.



Problem-based Learning Project

The group surveyed the shopping district surrounding Store A, and discovered a problem: sales in the entire shopping district are in decline. As the result of testing, the group considered that improving the appeal of the shopping district and increasing the number of visitors would lead to sales promotion of Store A's products. They decided to propose a plan for an event utilizing the shopping district's resources and a renovation of the district.

Search for various possibilities, not only one solution.



Innovator + Specialist

Master's Program

1

2

Foundation Subjects

Fundamental education is acquired efficiently by adopting a quarter (half semester) system, in which one subject is studied over eight weeks.

Specialized Subjects

Students select subjects that complement respective specialisms from a diverse range of ten subjects. Theory and methodology are reinforced, and further specialist fundamental abilities are acquired.

Social Skill Subjects

Students trace their future career paths, and challenge themselves at either Professional Internship or Business Startup Seminar in order to deepen their own specialisms while keeping a broad perspective towards society.

Project Subjects

Students tackle a practical project through PBL on various problems and needs faced by entities such as regional society or corporations, including corporate new product development, expansion of regional tourism, industrial revitalization, and more.

Field of Study Subjects (FoS Subjects)

Serving the role of a warm-up period for the Special Research, students conduct the foundation research that will equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary for their research, starting with literature-based study.

Special Research (Master's Thesis etc.)

Students settle on a research topic in accordance with their field of research, and through the process of survey, planning and design, study a research methodology in consideration of the characteristics of their topic.

Research results are compiled in a thesis or design work.



Requirements for Course Completion

For completion of the Master's Program, all of the following course requirements must be met.

- Students must be enrolled in the Master's Program at Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School for two years or longer.
- Students must earn 30 or more credits in the Master's Program subjects at Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School. Furthermore, with regards to credits earned at other universities' graduate schools, these may, depending on the contents, be accepted as credits earned in the Master's Program at Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School.
- Students are required to submit a Master's thesis or research results for a specific subject, and pass all the necessary examinations.
- *When research results for a specific subject are submitted, the submission of a research sub-thesis is required.

Career Paths

Innovation Design Field

Corporate planning and development divisions, planning, development and manufacturing divisions, innovation design managers, university administrative staff, design consultant companies, entrepreneurship, government, public service organizations, progression to Doctoral Program

Product Design Field

Major product manufacturers, media arts / high-tech-related corporations, entrepreneurship, progression to Doctoral Program

Visual Communication Design Field

Advertising agencies (directors, planning division), design production companies, broadcasters, internet-related corporations, media arts / high-tech-related corporations, entrepreneurship, progression to Doctoral Program

Art and Craft Field

Manufacturers, artisans, media arts-related corporations, freelance artists, entrepreneurship, studio directors, teaching staff, progression to Doctoral Program

Architecture and Environmental Design Field

General contractors, atelier-type architecture offices, major housing manufacturers, consultants, researchers (educational institutions, government offices), government, community development companies, progression to Doctoral Program

Doctoral Program

1-3

Design Theories

Students develop multifaceted viewpoints through a guidance system via multiple teaching staff from differing specialist fields, deepen their awareness of their own level of research, and connect this to the creation of their doctoral dissertation.

Applied Seminar in PBL

Students find problems and needs faced by entities such as regional society or corporations, construct practical projects, and strive towards new value creation in addition to tackling solutions.

Design Theories Research Instruction (Doctoral Dissertation)

Students settle on a research topic in accordance with their field of research, and through the process of survey, analysis and thesis-writing, study a research methodology in consideration of the characteristics of their topic. Research results are compiled in a doctoral dissertation.

Requirements for Course Completion

For completion of the Doctoral Program, all of the following course requirements must be met.

- Students must be enrolled in the Doctoral Program at Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School for three years or longer.
- Students must earn 12 or more credits in the Doctoral Program subjects at Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School. Furthermore, with regards to credits earned at other universities' graduate schools, these may, depending on the contents, be accepted as credits earned in the Doctoral Program at Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School.
- After receiving research supervision, students must pass all the necessary examinations regarding their doctoral dissertation.
- Students must present the required number, or higher, of research papers submitted for peer-review.

Career Paths

University teaching staff, researchers
Foreign students:
Government agencies in home country, university teaching staff
Working adult students: Specialist position in their own organization

At Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School, we accept a diversity of students to the Doctoral Program and other courses, including working adults and foreign exchange students. In cases where students enter the course via the working adult entrance examination, the requirement for the Applied Seminar in PBL will be waived in consideration of their practical experience.

Confront Yourself, Work towards Deeper Research

Shinji Hirota
Completed Master's Program in FY 2009
Towards architectural strata
Research on a layered curvilinear solid model of natural materials and artificial materials that creates duality
Model photograph of layered curvilinear solid, still shining radiantly



Hazuki Watanabe Completed Master's Program in FY 2015
Research on expressions using vessel shape via forging technique



Recipient of the Architectural Institute of Japan's Outstanding Master's Thesis Award (FY 2014)
Kaori Kawasaki Completed Master's Program in FY 2013
How should we inherit historical townscapes?
Exploring the status of scenery

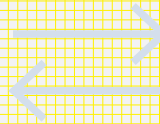


Ryota Hoshino Completed Master's Program in FY 2015
Pursuing illustration expressions using a pen tablet



Kota Nakamori Completed Master's Program in FY 2014
Research on a sidecar whose intrinsic performance can be demonstrated by one person via weight movement

Research Evolves Further through Reciprocal Reception of Stimulation



All facilities and equipment on the University's campus are materials for research activities.
Students can utilize every possible area, including ateliers, studios and exhibition spaces, to conduct research activities.
In addition, by departing from the campus, your research field expands to include the seasonally scenic region of Nagaoka.

Teaching Staffs Are Active at the Forefront of Each Field

The teaching staffs are in charge of research supervision in the five fields of study of the Master's Program and the single field of study in the Doctoral Program are an array of staffs with abundant research achievements and practical experience, who are active at the forefront of their fields. In addition, many teaching staffs are responsible for both graduate and undergraduate program, constructing an educational research structure with reciprocal coordination with the undergraduate departments.
For details of teaching staffs, please see the University website.



Graduate School Research Labs

Each graduate student is assigned their own research space. Movable furniture is provided to that the layout can be freely changed by students in accordance with research styles and specialist fields of study. Furthermore, spaces are provided for conducting collaborative work such as PBL subjects and research, and communication that transcends areas of research can be carried out.



Prototyping Room

Machinery and materials used in Master's Program seminar subjects and research activities, such as a 3D printer and laser cutter, are provided. The room can be utilized for trial manufacture, rapid prototyping and producing design works.



Entrance Examination

Admission Policy

- Master's Program** 1. Those who have extensively acquired a grounding in fundamental abilities as a member of society, conceptual abilities, and design abilities, and are in possession of outstanding character
 2. Those who are motivated towards practical research with regions or society as its field, based on a mastery of high-level knowledge and skills
 3. Those who are motivated to look into the heart of matters and solve problems with fresh creative abilities
- Doctoral Program**..... Those who are motivated to understand the design field comprehensively, and to become self-sufficient researchers taking into consideration links to regional and international society

Master's Program Entrance examination		First round:	Second round:
- General Entrance Examination	Application period	August 21 (Mon.) to 25 (Fri.), 2017	January 22 (Mon.) to 26 (Fri.), 2018
	Examination day	September 9 (Fri.), 2017	February 17 (Sat.), 2018
	Venue	Nagaoka Institute of Design (Japan)	Nagaoka Institute of Design (Japan)
	Results announcement:	September 15 (Fri.), 2017	March 2 (Fri.), 2018
Doctoral Program Entrance examination		First round:	Second round:
- General Entrance Examination	Application period	August 21 (Mon.) to 25 (Fri.), 2017	January 22 (Mon.) to 26 (Fri.), 2018
- Entrance Examination for Working Adults	Examination day	September 9 (Fri.), 2017	February 17 (Sat.), 2018
- Entrance Examination for Foreign Students	Venue	Nagaoka Institute of Design (Japan)	Nagaoka Institute of Design (Japan)
	Results announcement:	September 15 (Fri.), 2017	March 2 (Fri.), 2018

*For more information, please check the student application guidelines

Entrance Examination Fees & Tuition Fees

Master's program	Entrance examination fee		30,000 yen
Doctoral program	Admission fees	Nagaoka City residents	141,000 yen
		Other than	282,000 yen
	Tuition fees		535,800 yen

A financial support system is available, including JASSO scholarships and tuition fee exemption for foreign students. Specifically, please confirm WEB site http://www.jasso.go.jp/ryugaku/study_j/scholarships/index.html

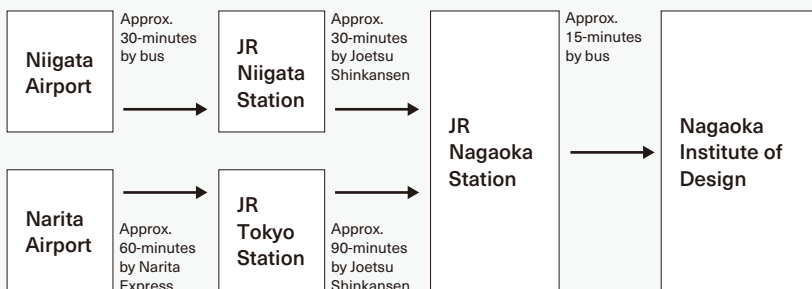
- "Persons resident in Nagaoka City" refers to persons who themselves, or their spouse, or a close family member such as a parent, have been continuously resident in Nagaoka City for one year or longer.
- [For students who have graduated from the undergraduate departments of design of Nagaoka Institute of Design, the Master's Program admission fee shall be waived.](#)
- [For students who have completed the Master's Program of Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School, the Doctoral Program admission fee shall be waived.](#)

International Exchange

We promote international exchange with our partner universities, in the aim of fostering human talent who possess an international perspective. Exchange is carried out via short-term study abroad programs, workshops and more. Partner Universities: University of Hawaii School of Architecture (Honolulu, USA), Norwich University of the Arts (Norwich, UK), Dongseo University (Busan, South Korea), Hanyang University (Seoul, South Korea)

* Nagaoka Institute of Design Graduate School has a six-month student exchange system with Dongseo University and Hanyang University, featuring a short-term exchange program at Graduate Schools. Additionally, there is a system by which students can acquire multiple degrees, if requirements are met, by simultaneously earning a Master's Degree in both Japan and at Dongseo University in South Korea.

Access to NID



How to access from each region

- From Hokkaido region: By plane via Niigata Airport or via Haneda Airport
- From Tohoku region: Tohoku Shinkansen via Omiya Station
- From Hokuriku region: Hokuriku Shinkansen via Joetsumyoko Station (approx. 60 minutes by limited express regular line from Joetsumyoko Station to Nagaoka Station)
- From Nagoya: Tokaido Shinkansen via Tokyo Station
- From Osaka: Tokaido Shinkansen via Tokyo Station
- By plane via Niigata Airport or via Haneda Airport
- From Fukuoka: By plane via Niigata Airport or via Haneda Airport



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