ME/IE 444/445 (IXD)
Interdisciplinary Solution ("X")
Development
is open for 2023-2024

Engineering, design*, and business students work together in teams.

IXD is a year-long curriculum in Interdisciplinary Solution ("X") Development (formerly Interdisciplinary Product Development) at UIC that partners with companies to generate innovation for the partner and provide a real-world educational experience for students from diverse disciplines including Business, Design, and Engineering.

Project teams conduct in-depth human-centered research and develop targeted, innovative concepts and prototypes for both physical and digital solutions.

Instructor and Time: The course meets Monday afternoons from 2-5pm. Michael Scott will be the MIE instructor, together with colleagues from design (Noah Wangerin) and business (Samantha Melchiori).

Course Content (What will you learn?): Developing innovative solutions requires understanding people, understanding design, understanding technical systems, and understanding the financial environment. In this class, you will learn how to work with students from non-engineering fields to identify what users need and develop solutions to address the real problems. Every solution will include both hardware and software – when defining your problem in the fall semester, you specify the problem you will work on spring semester.

Multiple sponsors. We expect multiple sponsors in 2023-2024. As of the end of May, Bosch and OSF Healthcare are expected to sponsor.

* Graphic design, industrial design, user experience design
**Timing:** This is a year-long course; students must commit to take the course both semesters on **Monday afternoons from 2:00-5:00.** Classes will meet at the UIC Innovation Center at 1240 W. Harrison. If you end up with a required class in Spring 2024 that conflicts with IXD, we can work that out.

**Some fine print:** All IXD students will need to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDAs), an IP agreement, and a photo/releasing of student work consent form that we send to the partner companies.

**ME** students will have an introductory CAD project coordinated with the ME396 labs, and **IE** students will have an introductory data science project coordinated with the IE396 labs. Graduate students may petition to demonstrate proficiency and skip the labs.

**How to Apply:** Please read and follow the following directions carefully. We are looking for people who are able to read, process, and respond to the level of detail included here. We can only take a limited number of students. If you are interested in the class, please send an email to Dr. Scott (mjscott@uic.edu) giving:
1) your name,  
2) your UIN,  
3) your UIC email,  
4) your degree program (e.g. MSME or MSIE) and when you expect to graduate,  
5) The following statement (please copy and paste): “I understand that the course is a year-long commitment. I understand that the course includes a significant amount of non-technical collaboration with other disciplines. If I am a graduate student, I understand that I will either have to take the same labs as undergraduates taking 396 or demonstrate proficiency in the lab content.”

**There are still spots in IXD. All graduate students who respond by Friday, June 9 will receive full consideration. If there are more applicants than spots, students will be chosen by lottery.**

**Registration:** Students who are admitted to IXD will be given an override to register.

The old IPD website at [http://www.ipd.uic.edu](http://www.ipd.uic.edu) has some information from past years.

Please contact the instructor (mjscott@uic.edu) with any questions.