Instructional Design & Technology (M.S.)

Learn to assess, create and manage job training in business, government and other organizations.

Ongoing job training to managers, staff and employees is essential. By earning a master’s degree in instructional design and technology from the University of North Dakota, you’ll be prepared to work as a training designer or developer.

Program Snapshot

Program type: Master's Degree  
Format: On-campus or online  
Est. time to complete: 2+ years  
Credit hours: 34 (scholarly project option), 36 (thesis option)

Why Earn a Master's in Instructional Design Technology at UND?

Learn from leaders in the field, including an expert in the use of digital games and problem-based learning. Gain practical experience with projects designed by faculty members who worked as professional instructional designers.

The IDT curriculum is part science and part art to develop effective instruction. In addition to core requirements, you’ll take courses in: education or psychology, scholarly tools/research, electives and an area of emphasis.

Choose between two alternatives to earn your M.S. in Instructional Design & Technology:

- Thesis Option for pursuing a Ph.D.
- Scholarly Project for planning to become a professional instructional designer

Online IDT Master's Degree

We offer a personal online experience with live evening classes (held to a 15-student maximum) and support services such as online tutoring, library and tech support. All online students receive in-state tuition.

Application Deadlines

Fall: Aug. 1  
Spring: Dec. 1  
Summer: May 1

Instructional Design Tech Overview

- Our program is ranked in the Top 25 Best Online Master in Educational Technology Degree Programs by thebestschools.org.
- An internship is a culminating experience in which the student will work in a real world instructional design project.
- Small classes enable the instructor to give students personal attention.
- Study computer-based instruction, multimedia, web-based instruction, video-based instruction, simulations and games.
- Two courses, Human Performance Design and Instructional Design Consulting, are designed specifically for students planning to work in corporations, the government or the military.
- Synchronous live classes via video conference give online students an on-campus classroom experience.
Careers as an Instructional Designer

10%  Projected job growth for instructional coordinators through 2026.* The growth reflects the need to meet new educational standards, train teachers and employees and develop new materials.

100%  Job placement rate for UND graduates, with every student finding a job in the field one to three months after graduation. Starting salaries are between $35,000 and $60,000.

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Training is a part of virtually every organization, but some are large enough to have their own human resources department or training program. In these organizations, instructional designers generally are part of a design and development team, working with graphic artists, programmers and subject-matter experts. You may be a pure designer, or you may develop or implement the training you design.

Industries Hiring Instructional Designers

If you prefer to work in the corporate or organizational sector, you are likely to work as a training designer and/or developer for the:

- Military
- Government
- Health care organizations
- Banking industry
- Any business or organization that requires systematic and frequent training

Instructional Designer Jobs

An instructional designer helps to design and develop training. Popular job titles for instructional designers are:

- Corporate trainer
- Instructional Design Manager
- Learning & Development Strategist
- Media Collections Director
- Technical Services Specialist
- Training & Development Specialist

When You Earn a master's degree in Instructional Design & Technology

A master's degree in Instructional Design & Technology gives you the strategic skills you need, including:

- Instructional Design
- Curriculum Development
- Educational Technologies
- Adult Education
- Learning Management Systems
- Adobe Photoshop

UND Instructional Design & Technology Alumni

Instructional Design & Technology alumni have gone on to a variety of successful careers with:

- Pearson PLC
- Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group
- Deloitte, LLP

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