Planning Your Design Career

Course prefix: ID4863

Course number: 4863

Section: DCA

CRN
94729

Instructor first name: Roger

Instructor last name: Ball

Semester: Fall

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

What is your dream design job? Design Director for Tesla? VP of UX for Duolingo? Design Professor at MIT? Director Design Research at Google? Product Manager at Prada? Creative Director at Lululemon? Startup Founder? CEO of your own Brand? Trend Hunter at WGSN?

There are a lot of amazing Design jobs out there. But how do you get a dream job? You need a plan and that's what Planning your Design career teaches you. Planning your Design Career prepares you for that first design job and for every job after that. This course goes beyond portfolio development and writing a cover letter to develop a long range career strategy to achieve lifelong career success.

In this course we start by creating a design philosophy which defines where you are today. Next, we travel to 2045 to find that dream job and then work backwards to today. What profile is likely to land you the dream job? What types of education and work experiences will you need to make you stand out?

Next, we look at the hiring process and create a portfolio website suitable for a Design Job application then we develop your online profile.The online profile that every recruiter checks when considering your job application. Finally we create job application website that features 3 projects.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.