

# **MA Product Design**

## **Programme Specification**

Academic Year 2024-25

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| <b>1. Course Overview</b>  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Full course/award title(s)</b>  | MA Product Design  |
| <b>Programme Code</b>  | PMAA_0008_FI   |
| <b>Fees</b>  | <a href="https://www.istitutomarangoni.com/en/schools/london-school-of-fashion-and-design/postgraduate-courses">https://www.istitutomarangoni.com/en/schools/london-school-of-fashion-and-design/postgraduate-courses</a>  |
| <b>Location of study</b>   | Istituto Marangoni London  |
| <b>Off campus elements / locations</b>                                   | Work Placement, various locations  |
| <b>Awarding institution</b>  | Regent's University London   |
| <b>Course entry points</b>   | October<br>February  |
| <b>Date of original validation / revalidation</b>                        | September 2023   |
| <b>Validated until</b>   | September 2028   |
| <b>Framework for Higher Education Qualification level of final award</b> | Level 7  |
| <b>Number of credits in award</b>  | 180 credits  |
| <b>UCAS codes</b>  | Not applicable for PG courses.   |
| <b>HECoS Code</b>  | N/A  |
| <b>Relevant QAA subject benchmark statements</b>                         | <a href="#">Art and Design Subject Benchmark Statement</a><br><a href="#">Studies Subject Benchmark Statement</a>  |
| <b>Other external and internal references</b>                            | Regent's University London Academic Regulations<br>IM Learning & Teaching Strategy<br><a href="#">UN Sustainable Development Goals</a><br><a href="#">QAA Education for Sustainable Development</a><br><a href="#">QAA Characteristics Statement (Masters Degree)</a><br><a href="#">UK Quality Code for Higher Education: Course Design &amp; Development</a><br><a href="#">SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Higher Education</a> |

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>Professional, statutory or regulatory body recognition/accreditation</b> | N/A                         |
| <b>Mode of study (Full Time / Part Time)</b>                                | Full time                   |
| <b>Language of study</b>  | English                     |
| <b>Minimum / Maximum duration of course for each mode of study</b>          | <b>Full time:</b> 15 months |
| <b>Date of production / revision of this course specification</b>           | August 2024                 |

## 2. Why study this course, including course aims and objectives

Istituto Marangoni has more than eighty years of experience in educating highly skilled future design professionals. During this time, we have built outstanding international networks within the fashion and design industries and have expanded to comprise 11 schools in 9 prime city locations, across 4 continents. Istituto Marangoni provides an outstanding, internationally recognised educational experience that responds to the evolving demands and requirements of tomorrow's industry professionals.

Our ethos as a school embraces the creative synergies that evolve constantly between the refined professionalism of the Italian luxury sector, the rebellious and provocative innovation of the London cultural arts and design scene, and the nuanced global perspectives offered by our international student and tutor body. This is a distinctive characteristic that offers unique opportunities to make a positive local and global impact. We are exceptionally well-placed to understand diverse international contexts, opportunities and challenges and the potential of design to influence meaningful change. With a strong emphasis on creativity and imagination, as well as professional standards, we apply our philosophy to the role and influence that design may have in driving positive change for the whole Earth community.

The creative industries are under scrutiny as never before, as the environmental and social impacts of its operations have become clear. New kinds of product design practitioners are needed, who are able to think critically, creatively and collaboratively, with the holistic understanding, vision and skills that will enable the product design industry to transition to a responsible and regenerative future.

### **Key themes of the programme:**

- Research, critical debates and ethical design processes within contemporary product design
- New and emerging design thinking strategies including regenerative approaches towards contemporary product design practice
- Responsible approaches towards material selection and manufacturing processes for the contemporary product design industry
- Creative problem analysis and problem-solving scenarios
- Connection between theory and practice in product design

The MA Product Design programme is offered to students wishing to pursue further studies within contemporary product design. The programme is structured to ensure that students are equipped with knowledge and skills in research, practice, critical analysis, new and emerging design thinking strategies, individual and collaborative projects, material selection, manufacturing processes, state of the art software and ethical design practice as a whole. Within the programme structure, research and

practical design skills are supported through developing ideas in rendering, CAD detailing, 3D modelling, prototyping and AR/VR applications.

**Career progression:**

- Being able to think critically and decisively
- Becoming a professional product designer
- Establishing own design practice
- Collaborating with other design practitioners
- Developing new design thinking strategies
- Providing professional CAD detailing, 3D rendering, 3D prototyping and AR/VR skills
- Developing collaborative projects with global entities
- Undertaking critical research within product design thinking systems and practice
- Progressing further onto PhD or MPhil academic programmes

**Programme aims:**

To engage in experimental and practical design strategies, considering new and emerging design thinking scenarios considering current and future developments within contemporary product design. Students are encouraged to assess the role of contemporary product design practice and the role of the product designer as a whole within an ever-changing, complex design environment.

**Programme objectives:**

- To develop a critical awareness of key theories and practices within contemporary product design, considering ethical approaches towards new and emerging design scenarios.
- The articulation of complex and innovative ideas, considering environmental, social, economic and political impacts.
- Working collaboratively within peer groups to formulate, design and test new, theories, processes and practice.
- Professional development within the field of contemporary product design practice, through understanding the complexities within the role of product design in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Problem analysis and critical problem-solving scenarios within a client project brief.
- Research, analysis, reflection and testing design scenarios through a theory or practice-based dissertation.

### 3. Course structure

This is a guide to the overall structure of your course, mandatory elements, units (noting the terms that they are completed), and periods of assessment.

The MA Product Design programme, is completed over a duration of five terms, broken down into the following Units:

Term 1: ISM7028 Contemporary Product Design Practice  
 Term 1: ISM7030 Materials & Processes for Product Design  
 Term 2. ISM7031 Client Project  
 Term 3. ISM7033 Creative Design Project for Product Design  
 Terms 1. & 2: ISM7038 Contextual and Cultural Studies  
 Terms 2. & 3: ISM7037 Research Methods  
 Term 4. ISM7035 Professional Development  
 Term 5. ISM7036 Dissertation

| TERM 1  | TERM 2   | TERM 3   | TERM 4                                 | TERM 5                  |
|---|--|--|--|-------------------------|
| ISM7028<br>Contemporary<br>Product Design<br>Practice   | ISM7031 Client<br>Project  | ISM7033<br>Creative<br>Design Project<br>for Product<br>Design | ISM7035<br>Professional<br>Development | ISM7036<br>Dissertation |
| ISM7030<br>Materials &<br>Processes for<br>Product Design   | ISM7037<br>Research Methods (Theory)<br>Research Methods (Application) |  |  |                         |
| ISM7038 Contextual and Cultural<br>Studies<br><br>Elective Subjects:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● New Technologies<br/>OR</li> <li>● Artisanal Innovation<br/>OR</li> <li>● Sustainable Business<br/>Models</li> </ul> |  |  |  |                         |

### Units

The programme is composed of a number of units that each have a credit value. On successfully passing each of these units, students will gain credits that count towards the total credits needed for their MA Product Design programme.

One credit equates to 10 notional hours, which is the average time a student will take to achieve the specified learning outcomes. If a unit is worth 10 credits, then students would expect to spend 100 hours studying this. These will not all be

'taught' hours. Students will receive guidance and instruction through lectures, seminars, etc., but they will also need to engage in self-study. A percentage breakdown of teaching contact hours and self-study required on this programme is indicated in Section 6.

**Term 1:** Provides a conceptual framework demonstrating strong links between theory and practice in addition to linking new and emerging materials and processes within product design. (group and individual)

Unit: ISM7028 Contemporary Product Design Practice, mandatory, assessed end of Term 1

Unit: ISM7030 Materials & Processes for Product Design, mandatory, assessed end of Term 1

**Terms 1 & 2:** Theory, field trips and case studies in Term 1, application in Term 2.

Unit: ISM7038 Contextual & Cultural Studies - a unit comprising 3 elective subjects: Sustainable Business Models, New Technologies, Artisanal Innovation. This is a common, interdisciplinary unit across other MA Design programmes, in Terms 1. and 2., assessed at the end of Term 2.

**Term 2:** Builds upon Term 1. to conceptualise and propose new applications for a selected client. (group)

Unit: ISM7031 Client Project, mandatory, assessed at end of Term 2.

**Terms 2 & 3:** Research theory that underpins other units on the MA Design programmes, but most specifically the ISM7036 Dissertation unit.

Unit: ISM7037 Research Methods - a common unit with other MA Design programmes, mandatory, assessed at the end of Term 3.

**Term 3:** ISM7033 Creative Design Project for Product Design is based on research and practice-based development through synthesising elements taught in Terms 1. & 2. where students negotiate a self-proposed project in conjunction with their programme/unit leader. (individual).

Unit: ISM7033 Creative Design Project for Product Design, mandatory, assessed at the end of Term 3.



**Term 4:** Testing emerging theory and practice through work-based learning or project-based work. (individual).

Unit: ISM7035 Professional Development, mandatory, assessed at the end of Term 4.

**Term 5:** Dissertation project (individual).

Unit: ISM7036 Dissertation, mandatory, assessed at the end of Term 5.

The programme will be supported by a range of relevant trips and practical activities, guest speakers, field trips and workshops.

- Class times are scheduled between 08.30-20.00, Monday to Friday, normally spread over 3 days during the week. There may be some exceptions to this, when opportunities arise to add value to the student learning experience.
- Assessment periods are normally 2 weeks after the end of each term.
- Placements are normally scheduled to take place in Term 4, at Istituto Marangoni, for the ISM7035 Professional Development unit.
- Dissertations are completed in Term 5.

On a postgraduate degree programme, students can usually expect to study 180 credit per level (or year), with no more than 80 credits per term.

### Course units - Level 7

| Level 7  | Credits        |
|--|----------------|
| <b>LEVEL 7 TERM 1<br/>(Core unit)</b>            | <b>CREDITS</b> |
| ISM7028 Contemporary Product Design Practice     | 20             |
| ISM7030 Materials & Processes for Product Design | 20             |
| <b>LEVEL 7 TERMS 1 &amp; 2<br/>(Common unit)</b> | <b>CREDITS</b> |
| ISM7038 Contextual & Cultural Studies            | 20             |
| <b>LEVEL 7 TERM 2<br/>(Core unit)</b>            | <b>CREDITS</b> |
| ISM7031 Client Project                           | 20             |
| <b>LEVEL 7 TERMS 2 &amp; 3<br/>(Common unit)</b> | <b>CREDITS</b> |
| ISM7037 Research Methods                         | 20             |
| <b>LEVEL 7 TERM 3</b>                            | <b>CREDITS</b> |

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| <b>(Core unit)</b>  |                |
| ISM7033 Creative Design Project for Product Design  | 30             |
| <b>LEVEL 7 TERM 4<br/>(Common unit)</b>   | <b>CREDITS</b> |
| ISM7035 Professional Development  | 20             |
| <b>LEVEL 7 TERM 5<br/>(Common unit)</b>   | <b>CREDITS</b> |
| ISM7036 Dissertation  | 30             |
| <b>Total core unit credits</b>  | <b>180</b>     |
| <b>4. Exit awards</b>   |                |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MA Product Design (180 credits)</li> <li>• PG Diploma Product Design (120 credits)</li> <li>• PG Certificate Product Design (60 credits)</li> </ul> <p>Exit (interim) awards can be conferred where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) you withdraw from the University without completing all the credits required for your named award,</li> <li>and</li> <li>b) you have successfully completed the volume of credit at the relevant FHEQ level as indicated in Section 3 above,</li> <li>and</li> <li>c) subject to the decision of the relevant Progression and Finalist Board.</li> </ol> <p>Available exit awards for this course are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postgraduate Certificate (60 credits at Level 7)</li> <li>• Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits at Level 7)</li> </ul> <p>Exit awards are not available with classification.</p> <p>The full criteria for these exit awards can be found in the Assessment and Course Regulations section of Regent's University London Academic Regulations.<br/><a href="https://regents.ac.uk/policies">regents.ac.uk/policies</a></p> <p>Where classification of an overall award is possible this will be calculated upon completion of 180 credits at Level 7 as set out in the Academic Regulations.</p> |                |

### 5. Learning outcomes

This is a guide to the more specific knowledge and skills you will gain if you take full advantage of the learning opportunities available to you.

#### LEVEL 7 OUTCOMES

PLO1 Appraise and synthesise current debates that are the forefront of social, environmental and economic sustainability to inform own practice (Knowledge, applications)

PLO2 Integrate a holistic understanding of different disciplinary theories, concepts and their applications in the development of responsible product design practices. (Knowledge, applications)

PLO3 Demonstrate originality and creativity in the practical application of new and established techniques of research and enquiry, to create and interpret knowledge within the discipline of product design. (Research, applications)

PLO4 Critically reflect on one's own and/or others' values, perceptions and practices, reflecting on progress and taking appropriate action, in a process of continuous personal and professional development. (Critical thinking, empirical learning)

PLO5 Creatively employs advanced knowledge, techniques and tools appropriate to the discipline of product design. (Skills in disciplinary field)

PLO6 Anticipate the potential impacts of decision making at local level and further afield, assessing the consequences of actions and managing risk and uncertainty. (Ability to anticipate impacts)

PLO7 Manage complex issues both creatively and systematically, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate conclusions effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences. (Decision-making)

PLO8 Relate self-direction and originality to tackling and solving problems, acting autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. (Professionalism)

PLO9 Develop effective working relationships using teamwork and leadership skills, recognising and respecting different perspectives. (Collaboration)

PLO10 Find, evaluate, synthesise and use relevant information from a variety of sources. (Research, sourcing information, applications)

PLO11 Express ideas persuasively and communicate information appropriately and accurately using a range of relevant media and/or technologies. (Communication)

## **6. Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods (non-regulatory)**

This is a guide to the academic opportunities available to help you achieve the overall aims and objectives of the course and the intended learning outcomes in Section 5. It is also a guide to the assessment methods used to test your achievement of the intended learning outcomes. In order to meet the full intended learning outcomes of the course, you will be expected to study independently, participate in class discussions, ask for support in academic skills if required and engage with your personal tutors.

The learning and teaching strategy adopted for this programme relates to the Regent's Hallmark Pedagogy as well as internal IM Learning and Teaching Strategy which comprises the below areas:

- A personalised student experience including individual and group projects
- Self-study and peer study groups
- Interactive and inclusive learning including debates, discussions, field trips, guest speakers, library resources, design lab, digital lab, material lab activities
- Focus on student individuality, skills and attributes through assessable components
- Developing professional practice skills, cultural awareness, research and practice through new and emerging design thinking scenarios to emerge as global design citizens

The MA Product Design programme combines theoretical approaches with practical investigations through a constant dialogue between theory and practice. The programme is taught by an international team of lecturers, researchers, design practitioners and industry professionals. This combination of expertise provides students with a highly informed and broad academic learning environment, challenging design ethics, research and practice on an international level.

### **Term 1. 'ISM7028 Contemporary Product Design Practice' and 'ISM7030 Materials & Processes for Product Design'**

During Term 1., students will study two units concurrently in addition to 'ISM7038 Contextual and Cultural Studies'.

The unit 'ISM7028 Contemporary Product Design Practice' focuses on new and emerging design thinking scenarios considering the values of contemporary product design practice and the role of the product designer in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Specialist subject tutors will deliver this unit through lectures, seminars, invited guest speakers and field trips. Students will also be assigned peer study groups and 1-1 tutorials.

The 'ISM7030 Materials & Processes for Product Design' unit focuses on the importance of materiality, process and practice considering new and regenerative solutions for future social, economic and environmental solutions in design. The unit will consist of lectures, seminars, field trips, 1-1 tutorials, self-study and workshop participation in the design lab, material lab and digital lab to investigate new and emerging digital processes and materials.

In addition to 'Contemporary Product Design', students will select an elective subject from the 'ISM7038 Contextual and Cultural Studies' unit undertaken by all MA programmes across Terms 1. and 2. These elective subjects include either 'New Technologies', 'Sustainable Business Models' or 'Artisanal Innovation'.

### **Term 2. 'ISM7031 Client Project' and 'ISM7037 Research Methods' (Theory)**

In Term 2. students have the opportunity to work with a real-life client to fully understand the nuances and demands of a specific project brief, (including budget and timeframe) when designing for a specified client. This could be for a commercial or residential project where students will be required to interpret the client's needs, the end-user and a regenerative approach towards product design including materiality and process, green design elements (such as biomimicry, clean air systems etc.) through independent research, lectures, field trips and seminars in addition to 1-1 tutorials and guest lectures. Students will be required to present their final design solutions to their group peers, the client, subject tutor, unit leader and programme leader. Peer evaluation will also be considered in the final presentation of the students' work.

In addition to 'ISM7028 Contemporary Product Design Practice', students will select an elective subject from the 'ISM7038 Contextual and Cultural Studies' unit undertaken by all MA programmes across Terms 1. and 2. These elective subjects include either 'New Technologies', 'Sustainable Business Models' or 'Artisanal Innovation'.

Students will study ISM7037 Research Methods concurrently in Terms 2. and 3, with lectures and seminars on research theory in Term 2 and 1 -1 tutorials and group tutorials in Term 3. as they develop and refine the research proposals for their dissertation projects, beginning in Term 5.

### **Term 3. 'ISM7033 Creative Design Project for Product Design' and ISM7037 Research Methods (Tutorials)**

In the unit 'ISM7033 Creative Design Project for Product Design', students will reflect on previous learnings in Terms 1. and 2. to focus on a self-directed project focusing on a specific area of contemporary product design research and practice. This self-directed project will be negotiated with their unit leader and subject tutor where students are encouraged to work independently in addition to 1-1 tutorials, practical workshops and invited guest speakers. Within this self-directed project, students are required to consider design values (purpose), end user, positive impacts as a result of this project (social, environmental, community etc.) materiality and processes and to analyse and communicate final design outcomes to peer group and subject tutor, unit leader and programme leader.

Students will study ISM7037 Research Methods concurrently in Terms 2. and 3., with lectures and seminars on research theory in Term 2 and 1-1 tutorials and group tutorials in Term 3 as students develop and refine the research proposals for their dissertation projects, beginning in Term 5.

### **Term 4. 'ISM7035 Professional Development'**

The 'ISM7035 Professional Development' unit encourages students to either undertake an industry placement with a product design practice in London, or to

participate in an 'alternative industry project' selected by their programme leader or unit leader.

### **Term 5. ISM7036 Dissertation**

In the final term, Term 5., students are required to undertake self-directed study in their dissertation which can be either a theory based or practice-based research project. Students will be allocated a specialised supervisor for the duration of the dissertation term, where supervision will be given to students as 1-1 tutorials on campus.

### **Breakdown of teaching methods by percentage**

The following breakdown is a guide to how much time students will spend doing each teaching and learning method. Programme taught learning hours = **360**

- **Consisting of:**
- **Lectures** = 1-1.5 hours
- **Seminars** = 1-1.5 hours
- **Group and/or individual supervision** = 20 minutes - 1.00 hour +
- **Workshops** – 2.5 – 5+ hours
- **Guest lectures, field trips, workshops, Design Lab, Material Lab and Digital Lab sessions, student-led events** - variable
- 'Taught' learning typically refers to timetabled sessions led by a member of the academic team, delivering lectures/seminars/ tutorials. Lectures and seminars will typically be held for approximately 1 hour but may be followed by a longer workshop or discussion group, or by practical work in the design lab, material lab or digital lab, as students respond to the ideas that they are exposed to in diverse and dynamic ways. Tutorials - individual or group - are part of the signature pedagogy at Istituto Marangoni, London that enables tutors to respond to the specific needs and ambitions of the students. The academic team strongly believes in the individuality of each student and the importance of them discovering, refining and articulating their identity as future creative practitioners in the field of contemporary interior design practice.
- 'Practical' sessions are also timetabled and led by an academic member of staff, or a guest practitioner/lecturer and are focused on learning through experience, e.g., field trips, studio or Design/Material/Digital Lab work.
- 'Self-Study' is time dedicated to self-directed learning guided by the students' own requirements to further their studies, outside of timetabled classes.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Level 7</b>   |     |
| Taught   | 10% |
| Practical  | 15% |
| Self-Study   | 75% |
| <p><b>Course management and teaching staff</b></p> <p>The MA Product Design programme is led by the Programme Leader for MA Product Design, MA Product Design and MA Jewellery Design, supported by a committed team of Unit Leaders, Senior Tutors and Tutors. Tutors are, in general, educated to Master's or Doctoral level. Exceptions are where particular specialist skills are required and are delivered by visiting lecturers and/or industry practitioners. The academic team is also encouraged to undertake a Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education to support their academic and professional currency.</p> <p>The academic team is engaged in design research and/or professional development and practice within the product design industry, in addition to attending and participating in conferences, exhibiting and publishing their work and through membership of professional networks and organisations.</p> <p>Guest speakers including academics, industry experts and industry practitioners, deliver lectures and /or specialist workshops throughout the programme in addition to field trips, studio visits and exhibitions.</p>     |     |
| <p><b>Assessment strategy and methods</b></p> <p>There is a combination of formative and summative assessments. Formative assessments are undertaken for developmental purposes and are designed to help students learn more effectively by giving feedback on their academic performance and how the student can improve and/or maintain their academic progress. Formative assessments do not contribute to the award mark and are carried out in Week 5. of each term.</p> <p>Summative assessments are used to determine the students' success in meeting the intended learning outcomes of a unit and how this contributes to the award. 100% of assessment (group or individual) is through coursework. Assessed work from projects will largely be portfolio based, comprising a range of potential outcomes including design proposals, annotated research/sketchbooks, material samples, maquettes, scaled models, 3D models, CAD plans/details, sketches, renderings, material boards, AR/VR applications, essays, reports and reflective writing.</p> <p>Individual assessments include a Research Proposal (Term 3.) and ISM7036 Dissertation (Term 5.).</p> |     |



In the 'ISM7035 Professional Development' unit (Term 4.) work is assessed through the submission of a 2,500 word 'Critical Reflective Review'.

### **Ethical approval of research**

All research conducted within and outside the University by students at Istituto Marangoni, London should comply with internal research ethics policy and process prior to its commencement. This will include, but not limited to, all research involving human or other living participants, and all experiments, investigations and procedures involving human or other living participants, or data relating to such living entities.

In Research Methods (theory) in Term 2. and in Research Methods tutorials for application (Term 3) tutors work closely with students to familiarise them with ethical issues and to pre-empt these during 1-1 tutorial sessions. The Research Proposal requires that ethical concerns are discussed and adequately addressed. In Term 5, students submit an 'Ethical Approval' form to their Dissertation supervisors to be signed off by them prior to the commencement of any primary research.

### **7. Relationship to other courses**

Some courses share units or have other connections to other courses. This is a guide to whether this is applicable for your course.

The units 'ISM7038 Contextual & Cultural Studies', 'ISM7037 Research Methods', 'ISM7035 Professional Development' and 'ISM7036 Dissertation' are shared with other MA programmes at Istituto Marangoni, London.

In the 'ISM7038 Contextual & Cultural Studies' unit, students on each Design MA programme at Istituto Marangoni, London are required to select one of three elective subjects to study, either 'New Technologies', 'Sustainable Business Models', or 'Artisanal Innovation'. In Term 1, students will form a group with other students in the elective, attending lectures from tutors and guest speakers and in Term 2, students will be placed in a cross-disciplinary group with others in the elective subject to develop a research project as a group. This is coordinated by the elective subject lead or Programme Leader.

'ISM7037 Research Methods' is a unit that all MA Design students undertake, targeted to specific programme specialisations. In Term 2, research theory lessons are delivered, in addition to research workshop activities. In Term 3, sessions are tutorial-based, as students actively develop personal research proposals for their dissertation projects with support from their subject tutors.



The 'ISM7035 Professional Development' unit is managed by the Unit Leader or Programme Leader, with support from a tutor team that supervises either an industry placement or other professional 'Alternative Industry Project' arranged by the Programme Leader.

## 8. Student support

Istituto Marangoni provides a range of student support mechanisms which include (but not limited to):

- **Admissions:** the department provides information about all the programme and study opportunities at Istituto Marangoni, supports and assists applicants throughout all stages of admission from initial enquiry, application to enrolment.
- **Academic and Student Services department:** the aim is to support and enhance student experience allowing individual growth and success. The department provides pastoral, academic, social and wellbeing support and guidance as well as advice regarding timetables, deadlines, and School regulations.
- **Library:** the library service aims to deliver a high quality engaging and supportive service for students in support of an outstanding, inspiring, diverse, innovative, and creative educational experience. The service intends to inspire students to discover more about their subjects and other relevant disciplines as well as provide information and materials to support the syllabi for all subjects taught in the School.
- **Careers Service:** the department supports students and alumni, offering guidance on all aspects of their career journey, providing practical advice and helping students connect with industry.
- **SEN support:** it is available to all students with learning disabilities by booking 1-2-1 sessions with the SEN tutor. It devises a Personal Learning Plan, monitors students' progress and formalises reasonable adjustments.
- **Coaching and Mentoring service:** it offers 1-2-1 appointments with a professional coach / mentor. The service provides advice, guidance, and encouragement, equips students with problem solving skills / tools, improves self-confidence, encourages reflection and enhances individual performance.
- **Counselling service:** the aim of the service is for students to receive immediate professional support as well as set up a safe and healthy path for student journey in a longer term. The service can assist with resilience building, setting up home in London, time and stress management, homesickness, creativity stress, anxiety etc.

## 9. Learning support

Istituto Marangoni London offers a variety of different facilities and technologies to support your studies. These include lecture theatres, seminar rooms, the library, IT labs and specialist software.

Istituto Marangoni uses the IM VLE and IM App to support access to information and student learning.

The IM library team offers you support by organising one-to-one sessions on academic writing and Harvard referencing. You can come to the librarians to ask for help if you need support in writing techniques for your assignment or organising citations and lists of references.

In addition, the IM Library team organise workshops to help you to achieve your best in your assignments and have created resources and workshops to support your research. For example, helping you to understand how to search the library resources; research methodology; how to evaluate the information that you find online (for example, defining and identifying fake news and tips for evaluating online information).

Research workshops cover how to research from library resources, using the library catalogue and locating books, the various online resources available to you. Research methodology workshops include finding keywords, formulating research questions, conducting preliminary research and the differences between primary and secondary research. Harvard Referencing workshops cover the principles of referencing, what constitutes plagiarism, how to cite and reference.

Academic writing workshops help you to understand a brief, to collect and link resources, and the components and structure of essays, dissertations or reports.

In addition, in practical subjects, specialist support is provided by fashion technicians and the Atelier Manager, an accessory technician, a design technician and a photography technician.

## 10. Opportunities for personal development planning

Personal development planning is built into the programme, as students are expected to reflect upon and evaluate their thinking, activities, and performance most specifically in terms 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. In addition:

- An elective option is available within the ISM7038 Contextual and Cultural Studies unit, where three diverse themes/classes are open to choose based

on the students' preference, in line with their interests and future research and career intentions

- Career planning workshops and tutorials are offered to each student in preparation to the ISM7035 Professional Development unit, assessing their skills and career aims
- Extra-curricular Content is provided throughout the programme, which can offer guidance to students regarding career opportunities and activities
- Within the ISM7036 Dissertation unit, Tutor Supervision is available to all students, assisting them in the development of their research project and in preparation for the final submission

The SEN tutor and Career Service offer support with personal development and preparation for employment. The purpose of the Istituto Marangoni Career service is to bridge the gap between course completion and entering the world of work. Monitoring, guidance, and counselling activities are organised throughout the academic year. The careers service organises various activities including seminars and round table discussions with fashion professionals, HR managers and head-hunter agencies on specific topics such as future career paths, personal research methods and job profiles. Individual meetings are also arranged to assist with CV preparation, revise portfolios and encourage students to talk about their career goals and expectations.

### **Careers support**

Career Service works to support students and alumni in enhancing their career, employability, and entrepreneurial skills. While working closely with the academic staff and industry partners, Istituto Marangoni provides targeted approaches to career development, starting from year one of students' studies. Recognising the vast importance of this area, the Career Services department has developed a range of informative workshops and annual events to provide advice and guidance for students and alumni. These sessions are organised by the careers team and delivered by internal staff as well as industry guests. Key areas covered include professionalism, industry ready CV and cover letter, interviewing, personal branding, networking, and portfolio presentation.

Careers Services staff regularly undertake industry networking initiatives, visits and along with an extensive database provide strong mechanisms for ensuring up-to-date opportunities for placements as well as graduate jobs. Career Service has introduced an online platform Career Network (SYMPPLICITY), ensuring approved placements and jobs are promoted to the existing students and Alumni. Their ability to reach a wide number of students through one digital platform enables them to be a leading School in promoting employability for Istituto Marangoni students, regularly offering competitive opportunities.

## 11. Admissions Information

### Entry requirements for the MA Product Design programme:

- Copy of a high-school diploma or high school certificates
- A relevant undergraduate qualification: BA (Hons) Design degree with a minimum of a 2i PASS grade achieved
- Portfolio submission
- 2 Reference Letters
- Non-native English speakers are required to provide an acceptable proof of their English Language ability. The English Language test score should be at least B2 on the CEFR level (e.g., IELTS Academic with 6.5 overall, no less than 6 for each element)

## 12. Visas and immigration

Students holding a visa to study in the UK should familiarise themselves with the conditions and details of their visa. Key expectations for visa holders include:

- Ensuring the School retains an up-to-date copy of a student's passport and visa documents.
- Updating the School with any changes to your address, personal email address and personal phone number.

Students must be aware of the requirements of their visa, including the limitations on your working rights and permitted work. For any further questions, students should contact the Visa Manager directly using an email address included in the Student Handbook.

## 13. Assessment and progression regulations

You will be assessed on how well you are achieving the intended learning outcomes at different stages throughout your time of study at Istituto Marangoni.

Current regulations are published within the Academic Regulations on our website at the link below. These are subject to review and amendment each year. We will let you know if there are any major changes to the regulations that may affect you.

<https://www.regents.ac.uk/policies>

You will be provided with guidelines on what you need to achieve in each assessment to ensure you receive a good mark. A generic description of each grade is available at:

[regents.ac.uk/about/regents-teaching-exchange/learning-teaching/assessment-framework](https://www.regents.ac.uk/about/regents-teaching-exchange/learning-teaching/assessment-framework)

#### 14. Award criteria

To qualify for a master's degree, you will be expected to obtain 180 credits at Level 7.

You must also meet the requirements of any specific regulations as stated under the Assessment and progression regulations section.

For further details on award requirements, please see the Academic Regulations, available at: <https://www.regents.ac.uk/policies>

#### 15. Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Continuous monitoring and evaluation of programmes is an essential part of Istituto Marangoni London's quality assurance framework enabling discussion and consideration regarding potential enhancement of learning opportunities within specific programmes, resulting in a higher quality student academic experience. The academic team is encouraged to evaluate the programmes and propose content, teaching delivery or assessment related changes for reasons such as quality improvement, in response to feedback from students, academic faculty or subject External Examiners, to ensure currency of programmes, annual monitoring and data outcomes and/or alignment with any regulatory body requirements or changes.

Below are examples of continuous programme management and quality arrangements:

- **Course validation or revalidation:** the programme approval is based on a process of internal and external peer review and ensures alignment against all relevant UK external reference points as well as internal and external policies and procedures.
- **Periodic reviews:** the programme re-approval process is based on a process of critical reflection of the programme's operation and continued relevance with internal and external peer review and student feedback being integrated to the process. It also ensures continued alignment against all relevant UK external reference points, internal and external regulations etc.
- **Annual programme / unit modifications:** the academic team is encouraged to evaluate the programmes and propose content, teaching delivery or assessment related changes for reasons such as quality improvement in response to feedback from students, tutors or subject External Examiners to

ensure currency of programmes, annual monitoring and data outcomes and/or alignment with any regulatory body requirements or changes.

- **Programme Continuous Improvement Plans:** the process provides an important source of information for programme teams on the operation of the programmes as these documents provide a complete record of enrolment and Assessment Board related information, progress of actions, good practice identified, student and External Examiner feedback, complaints overview etc.
- **Unit performance reports:** the purpose of those reports is to continue and enhance the quality of units and act upon any concerns in a timely manner.
- **Student engagement and feedback:** student participation in quality assurance and enhancement processes helps to improve the educational experience of students, benefiting the wider student body, the Higher Education sector as well as engagement with collaborative partners within industry. Student engagement contributes to quality assurance and enhancement processes by effectively capturing the student voice, acting upon student feedback, student academic engagement as well as their engagement with the School. Students have an opportunity to provide ongoing information and formal feedback as part of their studies. The ways of providing feedback include (but not limited to): student voice and NPS surveys, National Student Survey, industry engagement, monthly events, School forums, Student Representative meetings, formal School Boards and Committees, academic related activities.
- **Staff Development:** Academic staff are supported in further developing their teaching skills and in acquiring teaching qualifications:  
LTA, Learning Teaching Assessment  
FHEA, Fellowship  
SFHEA, Senior Fellowship  
PgCert

Istituto Marangoni London also financially supports, partly or fully, costs for academics to attend conferences and for training that can benefit both the staff and the institution.

The Director of Education, with the support of the QA and HR teams, selects on a yearly basis the academic staff to whom professional development will be offered.

### **LTA programme**

This programme provides participants with the opportunity to develop their practice through critical reflection and contextual debates informed by relevant theories and perspectives. Participants will consider their own teaching practice in the context of the wider HE landscapes from both the teacher and learner perspectives. The assessment strategy for this programme requires an observation of practice, and

participants will be expected to demonstrate that they can plan, deliver, evaluate, and reflect on learning episodes using this process to inform planning for their CPD.

This programme is designed to offer participants maximum flexibility and the opportunity to personalise their own learning and practise through engagement with online learning resources. These resources will consist of key elements for the unit – e.g., principles of effective session planning, inclusive practice, assessment and curriculum design all linked to relevant learning and teaching theory. The unit focuses on the enhancement of the student experience and the development of critical reflective practice with a particular emphasis on observations of practice.

Throughout the programme participants consider how they can demonstrate the application of:

- underpinning theories and models of teaching and learning and reflective practice;
- methods to ensure inclusive teaching and learning strategies;
- techniques for session planning within constructively aligned teaching learning and assessment;
- models of reflective practice;
- theory applied to practice;
- engagement with the disciplinary and contextual drivers and strategies appropriate to their practice;
- quality measurement and enhancement mechanisms.

### 16. Curriculum map

This table indicates which study units assume responsibility for delivering the learning outcomes detailed in Section 5.

| Unit   | Programme Learning outcomes |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |
|--|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
|  | PLO1                        | PLO2 | PLO3 | PLO4 | PLO5 | PLO6 | PLO7 | PLO8 | PLO9 | PLO10 | PLO11 |
| ISM7028<br>Contemporary<br>Product<br>Design<br>Practice | X                           | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    |      | X    |      |       | X     |
| ISM7030<br>Materials and<br>Processes for                | X                           |      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    |      |      | X     |       |

|  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Product Design                                     |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| ISM7038 Contextual & Cultural Studies              | X |   | X |   | X |   |   |   | X | X | X |
| ISM7031 Client Project                             | X | X |   | X | X | X | X |   | X |   | X |
| ISM7037 Research Methods                           | X |   | X |   | X |   | X |   |   | X | X |
| ISM7033 Creative Design Project for Product Design |   | X |   |   | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| ISM7035 Professional Development                   |   |   |   | X |   |   |   | X |   |   |   |
| ISM7036 Dissertation                               | X |   | X |   | X |   | X | X | X | X | X |