

MA/MSc Product Design

Induction Activities and Bibliography

Dear MA/MSc Product Design Students,

Welcome to MA/MSc Product Design at De Montfort University (DMU) in Leicester, UK.

Please find the below activities and bibliography. The suggested activities or readings are not mandatory, but they will help you to be more prepared for your study.

The team is looking forward to meeting you soon.

Yours sincerely,

MA/MSc Product Design Team

Activity 1. Learn about library, learning and research

DMU library: <https://library.dmu.ac.uk/DMU>

Learning academic skills / digital skills / support: <https://library.dmu.ac.uk/navlss>

Research: <https://library.dmu.ac.uk/researchportal>

Activity 2. Review and horn your design skills

DMU MA and MSc Product Design programmes require students to be excellent in their design practice including hand or digital drawing, prototyping (e.g. using papers, cardboards, foams), 3D modelling (e.g. SolidWorks), 3D rendering (e.g. KeyShot), technical drawings (e.g. SolidWorks), and proof of concept or model making (e.g. using plastic fabrication, wood work, metal work). Review and improve/horn your skills if you can.

Activity 3. Think about your major project

Your Major Project is essentially your degree project throughout the entire academic year: Block 1 (horizon scanning), Block 2 (secondary research and primary research planning), Block 3 (primary research ethics application), Block 4 (primary research, idea generation and single concept development), and Block 5 (design development, testing and final design presentation). Choosing a good project topic/issue is very important for your success in study and also for employability. Write out 2 or 3 100-word proposals for your research-based design project. You can be inspired by RSA design competition briefs (<https://www.thersa.org/student-design-awards/design-briefs>) and/or UN Sustainable Development Goals (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>).

Selected bibliography

Braungart, M. and McDonough, W., 2009. *Cradle to cradle: remaking the way we make things*. Random House.

Eppinger, S.D. and Ulrich, K., 2000. *Product design and development*. McGraw-Hill.

Norman, D.A., 2013. *The design of everyday things*. The MIT Press.

Papanek, V., 2019. *Design for the real world*. Thames & Hudson.