Master of Science in

Human Factors in Information Design

At Bentley University, we believe that a human-center process improves all that we design and create. In our MSHFID program, you'll gain a deep understanding of human behavior through research that informs today's design trends, and a keen appreciation for the strategic role of UX in building competitive advantage for your organization.

You'll tackle real research and design problems sponsored by leading tech companies, sharpening your skills and building your portfolio. And, by mastering emerging technologies such as VR/AR, voice interaction, IoT, wearables, and behavioral design, you'll set yourself up with a strong and diverse portfolio of skills and a career that's future proof.

Program Features

- Learn about human behavior relative to product design, universal accessibility, minimal design, usability and the user experience.
- Master UX research methods, including ethnography, field research, interviews, survey design, and formative and summative usability testing.
- Become adept at moving quickly from research and data to innovative design solutions.
- Gain a firm grounding in business strategy that embraces the critical role of UX in adding value for organizations of every kind.
- Study here at Bentley, online from a home or office, at our San Francisco satellite campus, or a combination of the three.

Experiential Learning

The campus-based User Experience Center (UXC) is the hands-on research centerpiece of the MSHFID program. Its full-time staff of UX professionals provide consulting services to corporate and nonprofit clients around the globe. Graduate students accepted to the Research Assistantship program receive financial support and gain valuable experience by working in the UXC on client projects. Many clients return to recruit our students for their expertise.

Career Outcomes

Our program emphasizes the strategic role of UX in enhancing an organization's competitive advantage. As a result, Bentley graduates routinely land senior-level positions at top companies across the country and around the world. Some initial job titles of our graduates are:

- UX researcher
- Interaction designer
- UX designer
- Senior usability specialist
“For me, Bentley was about becoming an innovator, an influencer and a leader.”

Ben Huggins
Interaction Designer
YouTube

Curriculum

Admission to MSHFID program requires a Bachelor of Science in communication or engineering; a Bachelor of Arts in new media, design or psychology; or permission from the program director. Candidates should have relevant experience in design, software, mobile or hardware development; industrial design; information architecture; interaction design; front-end development; product management; social media or usability testing. Three years of experience is recommended.

Core (3 courses)

- HF 700 Foundations in Human Factors
- HF 710 Managing a User-Centered Design Team
- HF 725 UX Leadership and Management
- HF 715 Innovation Bootcamp (required of California online students only)
- HF 750 Testing and Assessment Programs

Human Factors Electives (5 courses)

Select five courses from the following:
- HF 720 Localization and the Global Market
- HF 730 Visualizing Information
- HF 740 Information Architecture: User-Centered Design for the World Wide Web
- HF 751 Measuring the User Experience
- HF 760 Intelligent User Interfaces
- HF 761 Mobile Design
- HF 765 Emerging Interfaces
- HF 770 Prototyping and Interaction Design
- HF 780 Field Methods in Human Computer Interaction
- HF 785 Ethnography for Experience Design
- HF 790 Internship in HFID
- HF 795 Research Methods in Human Factors
- HF 800 User Experience Thesis

Non-Human Factors Electives (2 courses)

Select two courses from an approved business area such as:
- CS 603 Algorithmic Thinking with Java
- CS 607 Cybersecurity
- GBE 790 Global Business Experience
- IPM 652 Managing with Analytics
- MG 632 Leading Effective Work Teams
- MG 646 Leading Technology-Based Organizations
- MG 652 Strategic Innovation
- ST 625 Quantitative Analysis for Business

For complete degree requirements and most up-to-date course options, visit bentley.edu/graduate.