

This is the century for design.

We believe that no other discipline is as equipped to address current problems, forecast new futures, and shift conventional thinking. With sights on a new horizon for transdisciplinary innovation set against the backdrop of entangled social, cultural, technological and ecological contexts, we are forging Design Fusion as a new mode of practice.

The Joseph Ballay Center for Design Fusion serves as a unique design-led platform at Carnegie Mellon University that unites the arts, humanities, sciences, and business to foster transdisciplinary innovation. We partner with internal and external organizations to develop forward-thinking projects, cultivate creative solutions to complex challenges, and bring faculty, staff, students and partners together in collaborative, real-world settings. Through these partnerships, we aim to expand the boundaries of design and its impact on society.





Professor Eric Anderson and the 3rd Year Product Design class worked with Detroit-based Bollinger Motors to develop human-centered applications for modified EV platforms in critical environmental situations.

We aim for transformational partnerships.

Join us to be part of a transformative journey where you'll work with some of the brightest minds and innovate beyond boundaries.

In the School of Design, we are positioned at the leading edge of our discipline – our methods and practices have been refined over 90 years and through the Joseph Ballay Center for Design Fusion, we engage with organizations in pioneering design solutions that drive innovation and transformation.

The Ballay Center's approach is deeply rooted in collaboration and interdisciplinarity, drawing on a diverse range of expertise to tackle complex challenges. We partner with industry leaders, non-profits, and government entities to co-create impactful solutions that are aesthetically compelling, socially responsible and sustainable.

We are committed to fostering a dynamic learning environment where students and faculty alike can experiment, innovate, and push the boundaries of traditional design paradigms. By integrating advanced technology, human-centered research, and creative exploration, we prepare our students to become visionary designers who can navigate and shape the future with confidence and creativity.

Work with great design minds

Stay ahead of the innovation curve. Our faculty and students design daringly to drive strategic innovation through projects and practice-based courses.

We believe that design is a powerful tool for change, and we are dedicated to equipping the next generation of designers with the skills and mindset needed to make a meaningful impact in the world. Working in propositional, yet plausible ways, we aim to inspire innovation and envision a future where imaginative solutions and ground-breaking ideas intersect, shaping a world that is more sustainable. equitable, and inspiring for generations to come.

Let's have a conversation to explore how the Joseph Ballay Center for Design Fusion can enhance your organization.

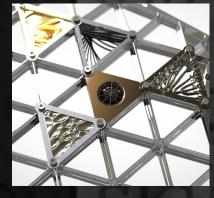
ballaycenter@design.cmu.edu

Joseph Ballay Center for Design

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Bollinger Motors Product Design Studio III Course

We teamed with alumnus-run Bollinger Motors to envision new ways to provide relief in a water crisis leveraging the unique advantages of their electric vehicle platform.



Moon Arts Group Experimental Form Course

The Moon Arts Group at CMU partnered with this junior-level product design course to design modules for a system of cultural payload on spacecraft.



Boeing Horizon X Design Senior Capstone Course

This full semester Senior Project course focused on future-casting personal air vehicle platforms for mobility challenges in densely populated urban contexts.



General Electric Appliances Product Design Senior Studio and Three Year Faculty-led Project

Sponsored coursework and faculty research intersected in a multi-year program with GE investigating the role of major appliances and autonomous living for elders.



Carnegie Museum of Natural History Design Senior Capstone and Facultyled Summer Project

Course sponsorship led to a funded design-build-installation of this experimental gallery and immersive learning environment on insects and invertebrate zoology that combined high-fi and low-fi technology.



Disney Research Faculty-led ProjectsDesign faculty and students worked with

Disney Research to apply immersive haptics technologies in conceiving of new interactions for everyday products.

Design with Us at the Leading Edge of Possibility

The Ballay Center provides project opportunities and tailored interdisciplinary design courses for sponsors to work with students and faculty on the most important contemporary design challenges.

From projects such as envisioning personal air vehicles of the future to collaborating with museums to educate children about biodiversity, sponsored projects and practice-based courses bring fresh thinking and insights that can lead to innovative and highly imaginative solutions. Shown are example sponsored courses and faculty-led projects that show the range of our intersts and expertise.

Design education plays an important role in preparing students to enter the profession. Through our Educational Project Agreements (EPA), we've learned over the years that industry engagement has a multitude of positive benefits for students, faculty and sponsors alike. Beyond professional preparation, students gain real-world experience with real-world problems contributing a diverse and varied response to prompts with well-researched and well-reasoned proposals. The sponsor gains new insights, alternative viewpoints and benefits from the enthusiasm of student engagement.

Our EPA rates for half and full semester courses are assessed annually and follow the profession. Micro courses are arranged separately due to timing, faculty/student availability and scope. Standard rates for this academic year are listed below.

Sponsored Projects external to courses typically run May through August but can extend across the academic year based on the nature of the partnership. Rates and terms are variable.

We aim to collaborate with partners through sponsored courses and faculty-led projects, fostering deeper engagement and knowledge sharing. Our Design faculty bring diverse expertise, connecting with fields such as arts, sciences, engineering, business, and humanities. For details on faculty interests, please visit:

https://design.cmu.edu/faculty-expertise

Design Fusion Course Sponsorship Educational Project Agreement (EPA)

For-Profit

Non-profit Organizations

3 Day Micro Course		1/2 Semester Mini		Full Semester	
≤15 Students	16≤ Students	≤15 Students	16≤ Students	≤15 Students	16≤ Students
\$5500	\$7500	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$30,000
\$2860	\$3900	\$5200	\$7800	\$10,400	\$15,600

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Design Fusion Sponsored Project Courses

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