

Faculty Recruitment 2027

Dubai Institute of Design and Innovation (DIDI), Dubai, UAE

Interdisciplinary Design Faculty Opportunities

**Expression of Interest for Potential Full-Time Faculty Appointments
Lecturer, Assistant Professor, and Associate Professor
Spring 2027**

Purpose of this Expression of Interest

The Dubai Institute of Design and Innovation (DIDI) invites Expressions of Interest from outstanding interdisciplinary design scholar-practitioners for potential full-time faculty appointments beginning in **Spring 2027**.

This Expression of Interest is intended to establish a pool of highly qualified candidates for future academic opportunities and does **not** constitute an announcement of an active vacancy. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and shortlisted candidates may be contacted as suitable opportunities become available.

About DIDI

Dubai Institute of Design and Innovation (DIDI) is the region's first university dedicated to interdisciplinary design education. Located in the heart of Dubai Design District (d3), DIDI prepares future design leaders through project-based learning that brings together design, technology, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Our undergraduate and graduate programs equip students to address complex challenges and create meaningful impact across industries.

Position Summary

DIDI invites Expressions of Interest from interdisciplinary design scholar-practitioners for potential full-time faculty appointments at the Lecturer, Assistant Professor, and Associate Professor levels beginning Spring 2027. We seek educators whose teaching, research, and professional practice span multiple design disciplines and who can contribute to our project-based, interdisciplinary curriculum across undergraduate and emerging graduate programs.

Indicative Teaching Areas

Applicants may be considered for teaching across one or more of the following areas:

- Strategic Design, Design Management, Innovation Strategy, and Strategic Foresight
- Product Design, Product Development, Service Design, and Product-Service Systems
- Creative Leadership, Systems Thinking, and Organizational Design
- Design Research, Human-Centered Design, and Interdisciplinary Studio
- User Experience, Interaction Design, Information Design, and Digital Experience
- Design Technology, Computational Design, Artificial Intelligence, and Emerging Creative Technologies

DIDI Academic Disciplines of Interest

Applicants should identify **one primary** discipline and at least **one secondary discipline** where they can demonstrate credible qualification, teaching experience, research, or professional practice.

Academic Disciplines	Indicative areas
Strategic Design and Innovation	Strategic Design; Design Strategy; Design Management; Innovation Strategy; Design-Led Innovation; Strategic Foresight; Systems Thinking; Service Design; Organizational Design.
Product Design and Product-Service Systems	Product Design; Product Development; Product-Service Systems; Service Design; Sustainable Product Design; Circular Design; Design for Innovation.
Creative Leadership and Systems Leadership	Creative Leadership; Design Leadership; Systems Leadership; Organizational Design; Social Innovation; Leadership for Creative and Innovation Contexts; Service Design; Transdisciplinary Design
Foundation Design and Interdisciplinary Studio	Design Process; Design Thinking; Human-Centered Design; Design Research Methods; Interdisciplinary Studio; Visualization and Communication.
Immersive Media and Digital Experience	Media Design, Information Design, Interaction Design, User-Experience Design, and Design for Emerging Media
Design Technology and Emerging Futures	Design Technology; Computational Design; Design and Artificial Intelligence; Creative Technologies; Digital Innovation; Future-Focused Design Practice.
AI and Design	AI for Creative Industries, Computational Design, Human-AI interaction, Prompt engineering, User Experience through AI, Generative Design and AI, Information Design, AI for Design workflows, Ethics and professional practice in in AI design

Responsibilities

- Teach undergraduate and, where appropriate, graduate-level courses in English across at least two relevant design domains.
- Deliver studio-based, project-based, and seminar-based learning experiences.
- Contribute to curriculum development, continuous improvement, student mentoring, and academic advising.
- Supervise capstone projects, independent studies, and graduate research where appropriate.
- Maintain engagement in scholarly activity, design research, creative practice, applied research, industry collaboration, and community service.
- Support quality assurance and accreditation activities, including course files, assessment design, learning outcome mapping, and documentation requirements.
- Contribute to institutional service and interdisciplinary initiatives across DIDI.

Qualifications and Credential Alignment

Applicants should demonstrate the following qualifications and should be prepared to provide evidence of alignment between their doctoral qualification, research profile, teaching experience, professional practice, and proposed teaching areas. DIDI may request additional documentation to support faculty qualification mapping and course assignment decisions.

- Completed PhD by the appointment start date in Design, Design Studies, Strategic Design, Product Design, Service Design, Systems Design, Design Management, Design Research, Innovation Management with a demonstrated design research focus, or a closely related interdisciplinary design field.

- Demonstrated teaching, curriculum development, research, or professional practice aligned with at least two DIDI academic domains.
- Demonstrated ability to teach effectively in English across studio-based, project-based, and seminar-based formats.
- Evidence of scholarly, creative, applied, or practice-based contributions, such as publications, exhibitions, non-traditional research outputs, funded projects, industry partnerships, or public-sector engagement.
- Ability to contribute to accreditation, assessment, and academic quality assurance processes.
- Interdisciplinary curriculum design and program development experience.
- Graduate teaching, thesis, dissertation, or capstone supervision experience.
- Strong industry, government, cultural, community, or innovation-sector partnerships.
- Research and practice that bridges multiple design disciplines and supports DIDI's undergraduate and emerging graduate-level needs.
- Design practitioners with a PhD will be preferred.

Faculty Qualification and Teaching Alignment Matrix

As part of the application, applicants must submit a Faculty Qualification and Teaching Alignment Matrix, maximum one page. This matrix should help DIDI understand which academic domains and course areas the applicant is qualified to teach and the evidence supporting that claim.

The matrix should identify:

- DIDI academic domains and indicative course areas the applicant is qualified to teach;
- Alignment of doctoral qualification, dissertation focus, and relevant research methods;
- Relevant teaching, curriculum-development, supervision, or studio experience;
- Research, scholarly, creative, applied, or professional outputs supporting the proposed teaching areas;
- Relevant industry, government, community, cultural, or professional practice supporting proposed course assignments.

Suggested matrix format for applicants:

DIDI domain / course area	Doctoral qualification alignment	Teaching experience	Research / creative practice evidence	Professional practice evidence
Strategic Design / Innovation Strategy	PhD in Strategic Design; dissertation on design-led innovation	Design Strategy studio; innovation seminar	Publications or funded research in strategic design	Government or industry innovation projects
Service Design / Product-Service Systems	PhD research included service systems or product-service systems	Service Design or PSS course delivery	NTROs, exhibitions, articles, or applied research outputs	Service redesign, product-service, or public-sector collaboration

Applicant Fit

This call is best suited to applicants whose academic and professional profile sits at the intersection of design disciplines. Examples include, but are not limited to, candidates who bridge strategic design and service design, product design and product-service systems, systems design and social innovation, design research and foresight, or creative leadership and organizational design.

Applicants whose expertise is primarily in generic management, leadership training, marketing, branding, visual production, or product styling should apply only if they can demonstrate design scholarship, design research, and clear course-level qualification alignment.

Application Documents

Applicants must submit the following documents for review:

1. Cover letter identifying the applicant's primary and secondary DIDI academic domains and explaining fit with interdisciplinary teaching needs.
2. Curriculum vitae.
3. Faculty Qualification and Teaching Alignment Matrix, maximum one page, using the guidance above.
4. Teaching statement.
5. Research, scholarly, and/or creative practice statement.
6. Sample course materials or syllabi.
7. Portfolio or selected project evidence, where relevant.
8. Evidence of publications, exhibitions, non-traditional research outputs, grants, applied research, or funded projects.
9. Contact information for referees.

Application Instructions

Please submit your complete application package to employment@didi.ac.ae with the subject line:

Expression of Interest: Interdisciplinary Design Faculty Opportunities | Spring 2027

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Incomplete applications may not be considered.

Appointment Process and Additional Information

Appointments, where available, will be made in accordance with DIDI's institutional policies and the requirements of the specific role. Compensation, employment terms, relocation support, visa sponsorship, and benefits (where applicable) will be discussed with shortlisted candidates during the recruitment process.

DIDI is committed to fostering an inclusive academic community and welcomes applications from outstanding candidates from diverse backgrounds.