The Master of Science in Technology Innovation is a full-time, 15-month (five quarter) degree program from the University of Washington that integrates three key disciplines: technology development, design thinking, and entrepreneurship. Pioneering a project-based learning model, GIX immerses students in the fast-moving, hands-on culture of rapid prototyping, critique, and iteration.

PREPARE TO LEAD NEW VENTURES
The UW Master of Science in Technology Innovation (MSTI) program provides students with the technical expertise, design thinking skills, and business confidence to launch their own startup, join a new venture team at a leading company or nonprofit, or support the development of products at large tech companies.

Design Thinking
Design intuitive and elegant technology that solves a clear design problem and fits the needs of its intended user.

Technology Development
Learn the fundamentals for developing end-to-end hardware and software prototypes. Cover topics like managing data and signal processing, and robotics mobility and navigation.

Entrepreneurship
Understand the basics of starting a start up, including team building, marketing, and intellectual property law. Develop the skills and knowledge to successfully bring innovations to the market.

WHO SHOULD APPLY
The program is designed for recent graduates, early career professionals, and anyone looking to transition their skills to solving large technology challenges. All applicants must have a bachelor’s degree and basic computer programming proficiency. We’re seeking a diverse cohort with a clear capacity for innovative thinking, creative problem-solving, and collaboration.

For more program details or to sign up for an information session, visit us online at www.msti.washington.edu.

I got the chance to do lots of hands-on training making prototypes. It helped me learn to be the one who could have really critical insights on the big picture. You have to make something that meets the real needs of the user, not just something that's cool.”

— Linzi Xu, UW MSTI Class of 2018

DESIGN. BUILD. LAUNCH.
From smart homes to smart health, computer technologies are rapidly transforming our daily lives and powering innovation around the globe. Learn how to design, build, and launch innovative solutions for connected devices or robotic applications in this interdisciplinary master’s degree from the University of Washington.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MSTI DEGREE
DEVELOP TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS THAT ADDRESS REAL-WORLD PROBLEMS

CAREER OUTCOMES

We invest heavily in career development and placement services, which means that 96% of our students have jobs within six months of graduation.

Students have access to a variety of resources as they prepare for their future careers, including:

- 1-on-1 advising appointments
- Workshops
- Mentor program
- Resource website
- Employer information & hiring events
- Career tips newsletter

MSTI graduates have accepted jobs in companies around the world, working at large global corporations and small startups. Typical roles include:

- Technical project manager
- Product manager/designer
- UX designer/researcher
- Software engineer/developer
- Machine learning engineer

LOCATION

Bellevue, Washington (USA)
Beijing (China)

DURATION

15 months
MSE(DSIT) + MSTI: 27 months

FORMAT

Full-time (daytime) / project-based
Full-time (daytime) / thesis-based

"When I joined the MSTI, my focus was on the business side, but it also taught me the importance of being user-focused. Knowing the needs of your user should be the backbone of every product. If it doesn’t do that, it won’t be successful."

— Ibtasam Sharif, UW MSTI Class of 2018
GIX PROTOTYPING LABS

Designed to compliment the MSTI program, the GIX Prototyping Labs feature a professionally-staffed makerspace and a number of studios and workspaces to foster collaboration and team-based learning. Students have access to an extensive variety of professional-grade equipment that can help them with anything from a simple prototype to a high-fidelity product.

The GIX Prototyping Labs also offer workshops on each of the tools and technologies available for their use. Students have the opportunity to work with expert staff to gain skills relevant to their projects and interests, and are encouraged to share what they've built and get input from colleagues and mentors through each phase of design and development.

Learn more at gixnetwork.org/prototyping-labs.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The UW MSTI program is designed to be fast-paced and highly interactive. Students come to Bellevue from across the world, bringing diverse experiences and areas of expertise, ready to work in teams and tackle a complex problem facing a real community or market.

Students take a combination of seminar, studio, and lab courses in preparation for a culminating project, which provides teams the opportunity to design and develop a workable prototype and explore how to bring it to market.

Each year, companies from the GIX Consortium each propose a challenge for MSTI launch project teams. Throughout the 6-month Launch Project, students have the opportunity to learn from outstanding UW faculty who are pioneering connected device and robotic solutions. MSTI students work alongside industry experts from GIX Consortium companies, and receive unique mentorship while working together on their Launch Projects.

Outside of class, students are part of the thriving Seattle community, with access to leading companies and world-class outdoor activities. Students often spend their free time together hiking, having potlucks, competing in game nights, and celebrating holidays at each other's homes.

LAUNCH PROJECTS

Uniband (Student-led)
Each year, roughly 60,000 Americans are diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, but there is no sustainable service or product to consistently track their medical progress over time. The Uniband team developed a tremor tracking device and a companion mobile app. As a result, the solution provides an insightful data report of tremor intensity changes to individuals with Parkinson's disease and their doctors to aid in understanding of the disease.

Gaia Cam (Microsoft AI for Good)
Microsoft's AI for Good team partnered with GIX students to develop an integrated system of IoT devices that use computer vision devices to collect data on plastic waste in rivers. By deploying multiple devices along rivers, they can locate pollution sources based on data analysis.

― Will Buchanan, UW MSTI Class of 2019

"The great part about the MSTI program is they encourage you to take risks; you have all the facilities and resources you need. Fundamentally, it is a collaborative space, and we're all working toward the same goal."
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING
DATA SCIENCE & IT

PURSUE A SECOND MS DEGREE FROM GLOBALLY RENOWNED TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY

Expand your skillset by delving deeply into the fields of technology and data science at China’s top research university. Students will complete coursework in technology, design thinking, and entrepreneurship, gain first-hand insights into the rapid economic and social growth of one of the world’s largest tech markets, and begin work on their research thesis with a Tsinghua faculty advisor.

Students who elect to participate in this 27-month dual degree program will spend their first 10 months at Tsinghua University in Beijing, taking courses and completing research in the Master of Science in Engineering (Data Science & Information Technology). After a two-month break for an optional internship, students will move to Bellevue, Washington, to begin the UW MSTI program and continue work on their thesis under the guidance of their Tsinghua advisor.

DUAL DEGREE TIMELINE

MSE(DSIT) (10 MONTHS)
Tsinghua University, Beijing

MSTI (15 MONTHS)
University of Washington, Bellevue

GRADUATION
Continue work on MSE(DSIT) thesis while earning MSTI degree

ABOUT THE GLOBAL INNOVATION EXCHANGE

The University of Washington's MSTI and Tsinghua University's MSE(DSIT) are the flagship program offerings developed by the Global Innovation Exchange (GIX).

GIX has assembled a network of leading universities and cross-sector partners committed to experiential learning and technological innovation in a global context. Its mission is to build the talent that leverages emerging technologies in new and impactful ways. It provides project-based graduate degree programs and a growing array of innovation experiences for executives and professionals, in a variety of flexible formats.

GIX is headquartered just outside of Seattle in the Steve Ballmer Building in Bellevue, Washington. The building features state-of-the-art prototyping labs, event facilities, and space for the UW MSTI program, as well as Tsinghua University’s North American headquarters, GIX professional learning programs, and a variety of tech startups.

Learn more about GIX and the amenities within the Steve Ballmer Building at gixnetwork.org.