

NID DAT SYLLABUS 2027

B.Des & M.Des • Prelims & Mains • Topic-Wise Syllabus

B.Des DAT Prelims Syllabus

Drawing & Sketching

- Freehand drawing
- Object drawing
- Still-life drawing
- Human figure drawing
- Gesture drawing
- Facial expressions
- Memory drawing
- Scene drawing
- Environment drawing
- Perspective drawing
- Light and shadow
- Proportion and scale
- Line quality
- Visual representation

Visualisation & Spatial Ability

- 2D to 3D visualisation
- 3D form visualisation
- Geometrical forms
- Spatial relationships
- Object rotation
- Perspective
- Foreshortening
- Folding and unfolding
- Mirror images
- Visual transformation
- Pattern recognition

Observation & Perception

- Visual observation
- Attention to detail
- Visual memory
- Image interpretation
- Picture analysis
- Object identification
- Difference identification
- Pattern identification
- Visual relationships
- Perception-based problems

Creativity & Imagination

- Creative thinking
- Imagination
- Lateral thinking
- Divergent thinking

- Idea generation
- Alternative uses of objects
- Visual metaphors
- Concept development
- Theme development
- Creative storytelling
- Doodling

Design Thinking & Problem-Solving

- Design problem identification
- User-centric design
- Everyday-life problems
- Product redesign
- Product improvement
- Functional design
- Innovative solutions
- Ergonomics
- Accessibility
- Inclusive design
- Sustainable design
- Social design

Colour Theory

- Primary colours
- Secondary colours
- Tertiary colours
- Colour wheel
- Warm and cool colours
- Complementary colours
- Colour harmony
- Colour contrast
- Colour psychology
- Colour associations
- Colour schemes

Composition & Design Principles

- Balance
- Contrast
- Emphasis
- Proportion
- Rhythm
- Unity
- Variety
- Visual hierarchy
- Focal point
- Symmetry and asymmetry
- Composition
- Layout
- Form and function

Graphics & Visual Communication

- Symbols
- Icons
- Pictograms
- Logos
- Signage
- Posters
- Typography

- Lettering
- Visual identity
- Graphic composition
- Visual storytelling

Art, Culture & Design Awareness

- Indian art
- Indian crafts
- Traditional Indian textiles
- Traditional motifs and patterns
- Indian architecture
- Folk art
- Design history
- Art movements
- Design movements
- Famous designers
- Contemporary design
- Sustainable design
- Design-related current affairs

B.Des DAT Mains Syllabus

Studio Sensitivity Test

- Creative problem-solving
- Design thinking
- Visualisation
- Sketching
- Drawing
- Doodling
- Idea generation
- Concept development
- Theme interpretation
- Visual storytelling
- Composition
- 3D visualisation
- Model making
- Material exploration
- Material manipulation
- Paper and cardboard construction
- Form development
- Spatial understanding
- Product development
- User-centric design
- Functional design
- Innovative design solutions
- Sustainable design
- Presentation of ideas

In-Person Sensitivity Test

- Observation
- Design sensitivity
- Creative thinking
- Visual communication
- Design problem-solving
- Interpretation of prompts
- Verbal communication
- Concept explanation
- Idea development
- Visualisation
- Situational response
- Awareness of surroundings
- Design awareness
- Interaction and expression

M.Des DAT Prelims Syllabus

Design Aptitude

- Design thinking
- Design principles
- Design elements
- Form and function
- Aesthetics
- User-centred design
- Design process
- Design development
- Design problem-solving
- Innovation

Drawing & Visualisation

- Freehand sketching
- Object drawing
- Human figure drawing
- Gesture drawing
- Memory drawing
- Perspective
- Proportion
- Scale
- Light and shadow
- 2D–3D visualisation
- Spatial relationships
- Form visualisation

Observation & Perception

- Visual observation
- Attention to detail
- Visual memory
- Image interpretation
- Picture analysis
- Visual relationships
- Pattern recognition
- Situational observation

Creativity & Ideation

- Creative thinking
- Lateral thinking
- Imagination
- Divergent thinking
- Concept development
- Theme development
- Alternative uses
- Visual metaphors
- Storytelling
- Idea generation

Colour & Composition

- Colour theory
- Colour wheel
- Colour relationships
- Colour harmony
- Colour contrast
- Colour psychology
- Composition

- Balance
- Proportion
- Rhythm
- Emphasis
- Visual hierarchy

Forms, Patterns & Motifs

- Geometrical forms
- Organic forms
- Natural forms
- Abstract forms
- Patterns
- Textures
- Motifs
- Ornaments
- Decorative elements

Graphics & Visual Communication

- Typography
- Lettering
- Symbols
- Icons
- Pictograms
- Logos
- Signage
- Graphic composition
- Visual communication

Art, Culture & Design Awareness

- Indian art
- Indian crafts
- Indian textiles
- Traditional motifs
- Architecture
- Art history
- Design history
- Design movements
- Contemporary design
- Famous designers
- Sustainability
- Social design
- Design-related current affairs

M.Des DAT Mains Syllabus

Studio Test

- Design problem-solving
- Creative thinking
- Concept development
- Visualisation
- Sketching
- Drawing
- Doodling
- Model making
- Material manipulation
- Material exploration
- Form development
- 3D visualisation
- Spatial thinking
- Product and system thinking
- Design process
- User-centred design
- Functional design
- Innovative design
- Sustainable design
- Visual communication
- Creative interpretation
- Presentation of design concepts

Interview

- Portfolio discussion
- Design process
- Concept explanation
- Design fundamentals
- Design awareness
- Contemporary design
- Art and design history
- Indian art and culture
- Design movements
- Discipline-specific knowledge
- User-centred design
- Design problem-solving
- Sustainability
- Innovation
- Personal design interests
- Motivation for pursuing M.Des
- Communication skills
- Critical thinking
- Analytical thinking
- Awareness of current design developments

NID DAT 2027 Topic-Wise Preparation Checklist

B.Des Prelims — Highest Priority

- Drawing & Sketching
- Visualisation & Spatial Ability
- Observation & Perception
- Creativity & Imagination
- Design Thinking & Problem-Solving

B.Des Mains

- Studio Sensitivity Test skills
- Model Making
- Material Manipulation
- Doodling & Ideation
- Visual Communication
- In-Person Sensitivity

M.Des Prelims

- Design Aptitude
- Drawing & Visualisation
- Observation & Perception
- Creativity & Ideation
- Colour & Composition

M.Des Mains

- Studio Test skills
- Model Making
- Material Exploration
- Creative Problem-Solving
- Portfolio Discussion
- Interview & Discipline Awareness