SPICED

Program Curriculum

UX/UI
& AI

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SPICED was amazing on every level: the course content, the coaches and my classmates!

Thomas Le Corvec
From Researcher to UX Designer

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Hallo! 👋

Everyone has to start somewhere.

For us, it started in Berlin with a simple idea. To propel highly motivated people into the careers they want, through expert-led and meticulously curated tech courses.

We don't just teach the latest technologies, though.

Spiced is an attitude. It's a community and a melting pot. It's a place where you can meet and connect with people that could change the trajectory of your life. Those who help you develop professionally and personally. From your cohort and beyond.

Remember, no-one's born a genius - it's going to take hard work and dedication to get where you're going.

We're here with you, every step of the way 🚀

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Contents

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Be your own prototype.

Ready to turn your creativity into a career? You'll have the freedom and guidance you need to succeed in creating breathtaking products.

From day one, you'll roll up your sleeves and work on real-world projects, develop your skills in areas such as user research, design thinking, prototyping and user testing. You'll learn about accessibility, agile methods, and web development basics.

On top of that, our program combines hands-on experience, feedback sessions and training in important topics such as Scrum & Kanban.

It's not just dark mode or light mode, either. This is *you* mode. We focus on career development, including interview techniques, resume help, career guidance, LinkedIn tips, and job search guidance.

Ready for your next chapter? Let's get started.

I used to be a Flight Attendant and wanted to try something new. This field felt very exciting! SPICED was great - sometimes difficult and challenging, but the overall experience was *amazing.* Unforgettable memories!

Anastasiia Kiias
UX/UI & AI Graduate

I felt like I was on a rollercoaster of knowledge, everything was very fast, but also very fun and beneficial. I never had such cool classmates, and I loved the teachers and the SPICED team!

Ricardo Garcia
UX/UI & AI Graduate

SPICED had good vibes from the get-go: family feeling, amazing community support! The bootcamp is challenging, but SPICED was the best place for me!

Luca-Elia Salomon
UX/UI & AI Graduate

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Before the Course

(10-20 Hours)

The purpose of the Prep Course is to get you prepared for your 12 weeks of the on-site course. If you focus on this part, you'll find the transition into the new concepts during the boot camp phase of the course much easier.

The curricula presented here are intended as a guide to the course content. We expressly reserve the right to make adjustments to the content and structure for didactic and organisational reasons, and to adapt the course to reflect the state of the art and current labour market requirements, without affecting the character of the course and the overall quality of the content.

What You'll Learn

(16 Weeks)

Phase 1 - UX/UI basics & methodology 🌱

In this phase, you will learn the basics of UX and UI and how to visualize ideas using design principles. You will also learn the Design Thinking method, how to set up design workshops, document data, and improve presentation skills.

Important Topics

- Figma Basics
- FigJam
- Notion
- UX/UI Basics
- Requirements Management
- Documentation
- Design Thinking

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Phase 2 - UX deep-dive 🚀

This phase is about deepening knowledge in user experience (UX) design by conducting user research, creating user personas, journeys, flows, and wireframes, and using UX writing and storytelling to create inspiring content and personal connections with users.

Phase 3 - Advanced UI & Accessibility 🎨

In phase 3, you'll delve into advanced Figma functions and tools, making designs and concepts responsive, inclusive, and accessible for all users. You'll also establish basic style guides based on brand-guided inspiration.

Important Topics

- User Research
- UX Storytelling
- UX Writing
- User Persona
- User Flows
- User Journey
- UCD & HCD

Important Topics

- Figma Advanced
- Accessibly / A11Y
- Responsive Design
- Branding for Product Design

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Phase 4 - Design Systems & Prototyping 📲

Having acquired a good, in-depth knowledge of design, you will now learn what a design system is, why they're important, and how to create one. In a collaborative project, you'll create a component-based system and use prototyping to bring designs to life with interactivity, animation, and delightful experiences.

Important Topics

- Design Systems
- Prototyping
- Micro-interactions
- Animation

Phase 5 - User Testing & Design Ethics 🌍

User testing is a crucial step to ensure that designs meet user needs and can be improved upon. You'll conduct your first usability test, gather data, and gain valuable insights. Additionally, you'll learn about the impact of dark and light patterns in design and the responsibility that designers hold towards people and the environment.

Important Topics

- User Testing
- Design Ethics & Sustainability
- Planet-Centred-Design
- Dark & Light Patterns

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Now ✦ ✦ AI-flavored!

Phase 6:
Optimise Your Agile UX/UI Workflow With AI

- The Fundamentals of Gen. AI
- Current AI tools
- The Risks & Considerations when using AI
- Using AI in Product Development

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Phase 7 - Career Training & Self Management 👷‍♀️

This phase focuses on helping you take the next step in your UX/UI design career. You'll learn how to create a compelling CV and case study, and receive guidance on building your portfolio. You'll also gain an understanding of how work differs in various project, product, and consulting environments. Additionally, you'll learn effective time management techniques to help you succeed.

Important Topics

- Case Studies
- Portfolio
- Time & Stress Management
- Fields of Work

Phase 8 - Final Project & Presentations 🏆

In the culminating stage of the course, you'll have the opportunity to put your newfound knowledge into practice by working on a capstone project in a sprint environment with guidance from your dedicated coaches.
This final project will serve as a testament to your skills and be a key feature of your UX/UI portfolio.
At the end of the program, students will participate in Spiced demo day, an exciting event where they will present their capstone projects in front of students, graduates, friends and family.

Important Topics

- Final Project
- Mentoring
- Sprints & Presentations
- Graduation Event

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Remote Wednesdays

Wednesdays will be facilitated remotely so that students can gain experience in a remote-work environment (as many tech companies work solely remotely or in a hybrid format these days) - a situation that would only expand.

Project Fridays

Fridays will have some content but will be mostly used for hands-on Project work to develop their experience and portfolios as well as 1-on-1s with students.

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A Typical Day At Spiced

Time	Activity
8:30 am	Campus opens
9:30 am	Q&A
10:00 am	Morning session followed by supervised hands-on
1:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm	Spicy Flex-Time (Guest Lecture & Q&A)
2:30 pm	Afternoon session followed by supervised hands-on
5:00 pm	Day wrap-up (feedback sessions and free-learning)
6:00 pm	Campus closes. Time to head home and get some rest! 😴

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"Most importantly, Spiced feels like a family. When you're working 8–10 hours a day surrounded by the same people, it's good to have a supportive work environment and atmosphere."

Olof Reimegard
now working @ Zaplox

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Where practical meets personal

Our Career Services

Through our Learning Management System (LMS), you'll receive career tips and support from the preparation of application documents to job search strategy and personal branding - all from a single source!
Our expert Career Coaches help you excel at real-world interviews, and build your communication skills, critical thinking, teamwork and empathy. 💪

- **Job interview workshops**
- **Strategies for changing jobs and career paths**
- **Salary negotiations**
- **Career Cupid: networking event with companies,**
- **Alumni "Ask me anything" sessions**
- **Recruiter "Ask me anything" sessions**
- **Expert panels and Q&A**
- **Career roadmap for international students**

Phase 1

Identifying your skills

Phase 2

Understanding the Job Market

Phase 3

Tips for starting your new job

Phase 4

Networking

Career Opportunities

UX Designer   **UI Designer**

Product Designer   **User Research**

Community

Community rules at SPICED - after all, there's more to life than studying! For those in Berlin, we hold regular get-togethers with pizza and drinks in our beautiful campus so you can share ideas, grab a coffee, and generally unwind among fellow hungry minds.

We pride ourselves on our international culture and provide a supportive environment to both students and staff. If you need help with your code or a chat, we try to make sure there's always someone on hand for a quick Zoom, or a sit down.

Oh, and Friday drinks can be the stuff of *legend*.

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Our Campus

Welcome to Kreuzberg. Home to SO36 punks, döners and the loveable rogues of Spiced-World. Just at our doorstep you'll find a world of cuisine, upscale cocktail joints, downtrodden kneipes, and cafes ranging from artisanal to hole-in-the-wall.

We love hosting tech events and bringing our ever-growing network to campus and online for workshops and talks. Even after you've graduated, there's an open invite to our events - once a Spicedling, always a Spicedling.

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Thank you

For more information, please get in touch
info@spiced-academy.com