



HDK-VALAND - ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN

DMA31A Engaging in the Design Practice, 30 credits

Att delta i designpraktiken, 30 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design on 2024-03-06 to be valid from 2025-09-01, autumn semester of 2025.

Field of education: Design 100%

Department: HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design

Position in the educational system

The course is a programme course given the third semester.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) MFA Programme in Design (K2DEN)

Main field of studies

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Specialization

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

A pass grade (G) on the following courses:

- DMA11A, Relational Practice, 22,5 credits
- DSG12A Design Studies, 7,5 credits
- DMA21A Social Transformation, 22,5 credits.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- articulate disciplinary issues in design underpinned by personal practice and field of

specialisation

- demonstrate comprehensive understanding of design practice from a sociocultural perspective, including its historical development, current knowledge formation, and impact on social change
- articulate how the methodology of a self directed design project address complex issues associated with vulnerable eco-social contexts through critical and practice-led approaches

Competence and skills

- autonomously articulate design questions with aim to contribute to the formation of knowledge, solve more advanced problems and develop aesthetic solutions to issues with relevant knowledge perspectives and discourses
- independently develop frameworks and methods for practice-led engagement in issues of social transformation through situated design practice

Judgement and approach

- critically evaluate and discuss the ethical framework of one's own explorative design practice, as well as that of others, within identified disciplinary issues concerning power and justice
- assess how sensory, emotional, intellectual, and imaginary dimensions of an independent design project can be used to generate new knowledge and drive social change.

The course is sustainability-focused, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria. The content also constitutes the course's main focus.

Course content

The purpose of the course is to develop a self-defined project that will become the Degree project. The course further introduces design as an academic knowledge producing discipline in regards to both artistic practice and research. The course offers opportunities to discuss and reflect on new research issues informed by students' own practical experience and field of interest. As such, it deals with alternative approaches and sources of inspiration in the search for a project idea, as well as how a project can be formulated in a project brief.

Written and oral exercises aim at improving the skill to verbally articulate the practice of exploration and the understanding of the discipline of design. Students' training include searching for and using relevant sources of references informing their personal investigations and critically discussing their results in the light of these sources.

Form of teaching

The course consists of artistic exercises in the form of individual practical project, exercises in written and oral accounts related to the individual project, lectures and reading seminars. Tutoring is offered individually and in group.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The learning outcomes are examined through

- an individual design project accounted for in an oral presentation and in a written report
- discussion assignments in the form of peer assessment accounted for orally at seminars.

Submission of complements to a carried out examination assignment may be allowed.

Absence from examinations may, based on the teacher's assessment, be replaced by another form of examination

If a student who has twice received a failing grade for the same examination component wishes to change examiner ahead of the next examination session, such a request should be made to the department in writing and should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance). If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for study support for students with disabilities, the examiner may, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment. In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to internships and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass (G) and Fail (U).

Course evaluation

Students are given the opportunity to evaluate the course anonymously at the end of the course. The result and any changes to the structure of the course should be communicated both to the students who carried out the evaluation and to the students who are to start the course.

Additional information

The student is responsible for any costs in connection with the implementation of the course.