



HDK-VALAND - ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN

EMD21A Critical Perspectives on Design, 15 credits

Kritiska perspektiv på design, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by HDK - Academy of Design and Crafts on 2019-09-17 and was last revised on 2022-11-28 by HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design to be valid from 2023-01-16, spring semester of 2023.

Field of education: Design 100%

Department: HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design

Position in the educational system

The course is a programme course that is given semester 2.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) MFA in Design with Specialisation in Embedded Design (K2EMD)

Main field of studies

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Specialization

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

Entry requirements

A passing grade for the course EMD11A, Introduction to an Embedded Design Practice, 15 credits, or the equivalent.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- identify methods and approaches within a design process that facilitates critical analysis of complex issues within the area of embedded design practices in

organisational contexts.

- analyse how design methods can be used to understand, explore and reformulate complex problems and questions

Competence and skills

- problematise normative models in current design theory
- practice artistic methods to explore the relationship between design and organisational structures and systems
- analyse methods for collaborative design work in an explorative design process

Judgement and approach

- reflect on contemporary and future forms for collaborative design practice
- evaluate their own designer role in relation to critical perspectives on design
- critically reflect on the designer's responsibilities and prerequisites to incorporate ethical and sustainable perspectives in a collaborative design practice with various stakeholders.

The course is sustainability-related, 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.

Course content

The course covers critical perspectives on design in order to increase the student's understanding of an embedded design practice in organisational contexts. Normative models and contemporary development directions for the design practice and the role of the designer are examined individually and in groups.

The course identifies different approaches and working methods that can be used to shape the designer's role as an actor in a collaborative design process with several different stakeholders. Contemporary design practices are highlighted from different critical perspectives in order to explore alternative and new directions for collaborative design practice.

The student researches and develops, individually and in group, artistic methods for probing and materialising within organisational structures and systems. At the end of the course, the student carries out a critical reflection of the course's explorative elements on the basis of their own positions around the collaborative design practice and their own designer role.

Form of teaching

The course contains practical artistic exercises, workshops, lectures and literature seminars. Tutoring is offered individually and in groups.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Learning outcomes will be examined through:

- oral and visual presentations (design project)
- oral presentations of reading and writing assignments (seminars)
- written reflective assignment (project report).

If a student, who has failed the same examined element on two occasions, wishes to change examiner before the next examination session, such a request is to be submitted to the department in writing and granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

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, though at most two years after the course has ceased/been changed. As regards internships/placements, the equivalent applies, but limited to only one additional examination session.

Grades

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

Course evaluation

Students will evaluate the course orally and in writing at the end of the course. The results of the evaluation, as well as any changes in the course, shall be communicated to both the students who completed the evaluation and the students who are enrolled in the subsequent round of the course.

Additional information

The student pays for materials, literature and possible study trips.