



HDK-VALAND - ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN

EMD21B Design Practice in Organisational Contexts, 22.5 credits

Designpraktik i organisatoriska kontexter, 22,5 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 2025-01-20, spring 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 that is given during the second semester.

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

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Bachelor's Degree in Design of at least 180 credits or the equivalent. Applicants must prove their knowledge of English: English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS. In addition, approved work samples are required.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- discuss how design methods can be used to identify and weigh together the needs of

different actors in private, public and/or third sector organisational contexts

- give an account of how design practice relates to theories of change in complex organisational contexts
- discuss the role of the designer in an organisational context in relation aspects of sustainability, including social equity and actor responsibility

Competence and skills

- apply design methods to propose change through a practice-based project within an organisational context
- apply critical perspectives on sustainability in a design project within an organisational context

Judgement and approach

- evaluate the relevance and suitability of their own as well as others' design proposals in relation to the organisational issues explored within a design project
- critically discuss the designer's responsibilities, as well as the hindrances and limitations faced in design projects taking place in organisational contexts

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 course further trains the student's ability to analyse, investigate and interact within complex organisational contexts within private, public and third sectors from an embedded design perspective. Projects within this course are designed to closely mimic real-world conditions in the area of embedded design practices including some collaborations with external partners. Through collaboration with an external party, the student will gain a practical understanding of the conditions of the designer role across organisational contexts and in relation to societal issues. Through practical exercises the student have to explore methods used in an embedded design practices and critically reflect on how these methods relate to concepts of sustainability. To aid in forming critical perspectives, the course includes literature in organisation studies introducing and crossing the sectors, as well as literature in design and sustainability perspectives.

Form of teaching

The course contains practical design exercises in the form of project(s), workshops, lectures, and literature seminars. Tutoring is offered individually or in groups.

Language of instruction: English

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Assessment

The learning outcomes will be examined through:

- oral and visual presentations
- oral presentation of reading and writing assignments
- written reflective assignment

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

Absence from compulsory components may be compensated for by an alternative assignment

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 costs associated with the implementation of the course.