UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

HDK-VALAND - ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN

EMD31B Engaging in an Embedded Design Practice, 30 credits

Att delta i en integrerad designpraktik, 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 that is given during semester 3.

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

Main field of studies	*Specialization*
-	A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

A pass grade (G) on the following courses

- EMD11B, Design as an Embedded Practice, 22,5 credits
- DSG12A, Design Studies, 7,5 credits
- EMD21B, Design Practice in Organisational Contexts, 22,5 credits.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- describe how knowledge and skills can be shaped in a collaborative design practice

based on theory, methodologies and their own experiences
- discuss issues of responsibility related to an examined organisational context from environmental, social, and economic perspectives
- identify a problem area, possible and well-defined research questions, as well as organisational contexts for an independent in-depth study within Embedded Design

Competence and skills
- initiate embedding of a design project in an organisational context in collaboration with an external party
- test the application of appropriate design approaches and methods for material and visual formations in an iterative collaborative design project
- develop appropriate material and visual formations in an iterative collaborative project based on relevant design theory and their own experience

Judgement and approach
- evaluate their own and others' collaborative design approaches in an organisational context
- critically access how the concept of sustainability and ethics has been addressed in the formulation of their design project
- reflect on the development of their learning and their role as a collaborative part of an organisational process
- argue for their choice of investigative design methods and methodology for an iterative collaborative design project
- critically discuss their own and others' work concerning the choice of methods and goals for an independent in-depth study within Embedded Design.

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 aims to provide an in-depth understanding and further training in collaborative design as a practical, investigative, exploratory process. The course allows the student to independently apply the role of a designer in an organisational context. The student independently formulates a design project and identifies one or more possible collaborative partners. The design project that is initiated within the scope of the course can be carried out in collaboration with an organisation or institution in the private, public, or third sector.

To develop the application of design in an embedded practice, the student uses appropriate design methods for material and visual compositions. This process is

conducted in an iterative format and contains recurring critical reflections. In the course, the student also deepens their skills in academic writing and analysis.

Furthermore, the student participates in a cross-program component focusing on design research methodology. Within this component, the student proposes a problem area, research question, and context for an independent in-depth study within the framework of a degree project in Embedded Design. The student composes reference material, identifies a collaborative partner(s), and defines the stakeholders' relationships concerning their own research area. From a chosen methodology, the student evaluates their previously applied methods to adapt these to the specialisation of the in-depth subject study in Embedded Design. The course deepens the student's knowledge of design as a research area and aims to formulate researchable questions relevant to an embedded design practice.

Form of teaching

The course contains practical project work, exercises, workshops, and lectures as well as discussions and literature seminars. Tutoring is done individually and in group.

Language of instruction: English
Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Learning outcomes will be examined through:

- oral and visual presentations of the work process in a design project
- written and visualised project documentation
- written and orally presented 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 pays for any costs associated with the implementation of the course.