



HDK-VALAND - ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN

EMD41A Master's Degree Project in Design with Specialisation in Embedded Design, 30 credits

Examensarbete för konstnärlig masterexamen i Design med inriktning Embedded Design, 30 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 2024-03-06 by HDK-Valand - Academy of Art and Design to be valid from 2026-01-19, spring semester of 2026.

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 4.

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

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Entry requirements

At least 82.5 credits from Master's (120 credits) programme in Design with specialisation in Embedded Design, or the equivalent.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- define subject-specific questions in design based on a chosen organisational context
- describe the relevance of the collected reference material in relation to the research questions in an independent in-depth subject study

Competence and skills

- independently plan and carry out a design project in relation to a chosen organisational context
- artistically explore questions within an organisational context with appropriate design methods
- present the results from an independent design project in both visual and material formation as well as written form
- communicate an independent design project with artistic means for external parties

Judgement and approach

- critically evaluate their own and others' method choices and results regarding subject-specific questions
- argue how an independent design project has contributed to the knowledge field for embedded design
- situate their own independent design project in relation to sustainability aspects and ethics
- critically reflect on their own learning process in connection to process and results in an independent design project.

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

In the course, the student plans and carries out an independent in-depth subject study in the form of a Master's degree project in design. The degree project consists of a practical design work and a critical reflection based in relevant design theory. The student's own writing takes place in parallel with the practical design work as a tool for reflection and shall result in an individually written academic article that contributes to the framing of Embedded Design as a knowledge field.

The course deepens the ability to work independently with artistic methods to investigate research questions in design and to express the results of the project artistically. The final project must be able to be communicated to the project's involved parties and intended recipients as well as the outside world.

The student independently formulates a project brief for the practical work in a chosen

area of interest. The project brief should contain clearly defined research questions, methodology and description of expected results and contributions to the discourse of design in organisational contexts.

Form of teaching

The course includes discussion seminars on the formulation of the subject matter. The student plans and carries out the degree project independently with the support of an assigned supervisor.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

Learning outcomes will be examined through:

- a degree project where the result is compiled in a project documentation and presented with artistic means together with an oral presentation
- an individually written academic article
- a critical review on another student's degree project.

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 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.