



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Business, Economics and Design
School of Design

4DI409 Designteori, fördjupning, 4,5 högskolepoäng
Design Theory, Advanced Study, 4.5 credits

Main field of study

Design

Subject Group

Design

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by the Board of the School of Design 2009-11-19

Revised 2011-06-14

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2011

Prerequisites

Basic eligibility for second-level studies and special eligibility in:

- a minimum of 90 higher education credits in Design (including a degree project/independent project comprising at least 15 higher education credits) or the equivalent
- English B or the equivalent.

Expected learning outcomes

After completion of the course, the student is expected to have knowledge regarding the theoretical foundations for the relations that persons' create to artefacts in different contexts. The student is also expected to have acquired a deepened understanding for these created relations complexity and is able to discuss and articulate these relations on an advanced level.

Knowledge and understanding

The student:

- shall be able to account for and reflect over theoretical foundations for relations that persons create to artefacts in different contexts.
- shall be able to describe and reflect over how design is formulated within fields outside of design.

Skills and ability

The student:

- shall be able to use theories and methods in order to create understanding of how persons create relations to artefacts in a context.
- shall be able to study in a manner that may be largely self-directed or autonomous

Ability to judge and value

The student:

- shall be able to demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge, and handle complexity, and formulate relevant judgements with incomplete data.

Content

During the course the student's knowing regarding the theoretical foundations for the relations that persons' create to artefacts in different contexts. This can be socially mediated relations as well as individual relations to artefacts. The relations span from pragmatic, practical use, to taste and cultural aspects. The aim is that the student shall acquire a deepened understanding for these created relations complexity. The student shall be able to discuss and articulate these relations on an advanced level.

Attendance is mandatory during the scheduled occasions.

Type of Instruction

Instruction is based on seminars and lectures.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

The examination will be made by presenting in seminars, and reflections in the workbook. The judgment is also based on the workbook and its five dimensions; Production, Perception, Reflection, Way of working and Complexity.

Re-exams are arranged within the ordinary semester. The number of examination occasions is limited to five.

Course Evaluation

A written course evaluation will be carried out at the end of the course in accordance with the guidelines of the University. The compilation is delivered to the programme council, to the teacher of the course and the students. The next time the course is given, the students are informed of the results of the previous course evaluation and any changes that have been made in the course.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Obligatory

Sparke, Penny (2004) *An introduction to design and culture : 1900 to the present*. London : Routledge

Compendium with articles, papers and excerpts

Reference books

Attfield, Judy (2000) *Wild Things, The Material Culture of Everyday Life*, Oxford: Berg.

Cross, N. (2006) *Designerly ways of knowing*, New York, Springer.

Dunne, Anthony (2006/2008) *Hertzian Tales, Electronic Products, Aesthetic Experience, and Critical Design*, MIT Press

Forty, Adrian (1986) *Objects of desire, design and society 1750-1980*. London : Thames and Hudson.

Gell, A (1998) *Art and Agency*, Oxford University Press

- Krippendorff, K. (2006) *The semantic turn: new foundations for design*, Boca Raton, Fla.; London, CRC
- Nippert-Eng, Christena (1996) *Home and work: negotiating boundaries through everyday life*, Chicago, IL : University of Chicago Press.
- Sparke, Penny (1995) *As long as it's pink : the sexual politics of taste* London : Pandora.
- Thackara, John (2005) *In the Bubble, Designing in a Complex World*, Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.
- Valtonen, Anna (2007) *Redefining Industrial Design*, Helsinki: UIAH/TAIK.
- Verbeek, Peter-Paul (2005) *What things do, Philosophical Reflections on Technology, Agency and Design*, University Park PA: Penn State Press.
- Winner, Langdon (1980) Do Artifacts Have Politics? in *Daedalus*, Vol. 109, No. 1, Winter 1980. 12 p

Other teaching aids

Within the field of design, literature is one of the important sources needed to create knowledge and acquire experience from the field. Another very important source is experiencing a great deal of the artefacts that are considered trendsetting, pioneering, everyday, inferior etc. from a range of aspects. This is why several different study visits are included in the programme.

The literature can be subject to change.