



Course syllabus

Faculty Board of Business, Economics and Design
School of Design

4DI421 Designarbeten, fördjupade studier I, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Design Work, Advanced Studies I, 7.5 credits

Main field of study

Design

Subject Group

Design

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1F

Date of Ratification

Approved by the Board of the School of Design 2010-03-12

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2010

Prerequisites

Basic eligibility for second-level studies as well as special eligibility:

- 90 credits within the main field of study of design, business administration, tourism science, human geography, informatics or media and communication science (including an independent project comprising at least 15 credits) or the equivalent
- English B or the equivalent.

Expected learning outcomes

After completing the course the students are expected to have developed knowledge about how design work at the beginning of a project may function as a strategic contribution, as well as how cooperation may be introduced together with other disciplines, companies and organizations with a view to achieving innovative results in new fields.

Knowledge and understanding

The students are to be able to:

- implement concept development intended to lead to innovative proposals through the strategic use of approaches, methods, knowledge, materials and ideas, and
- show competence in proposing and initiating complex design work in new or unknown contexts within broader (or multi-disciplinary) contexts,

Ability and skills

The students are to be able to

- show skills and abilities that are necessary for creating knowledge about possible design proposals at an advanced artistic level,
- show the ability to create and integrate knowledge, including handling complexity as well as being able to cope with complexity, as well as being able to formulate assessments based on incomplete information, and
- demonstrate an ability to communicate their concepts and proposal with an understanding of imaginable contexts both for specialists and for an audience not familiar with the design field.

Ability to judge and value

The students are to be able to:

- critically examine and assess ideas for design proposals in relation to presumptive users and several other interested parties,
- critically discuss different proposals for artefacts in relation to individuals, production and society at large, and
- demonstrate an advanced ability to reflect on their own and other people's design work and learning.

Content

The course primarily consists of initiating project work that can be designed as group work with other disciplines together with companies and organizations in the region. The aim is for the students to acquire experience and create knowledge of how design work may function as a strategic contribution during the initiation and conceptualization of projects in complex contexts.

The course offers the students great opportunities for individually chosen deepening and specialization. The students are enabled to gain experience in cooperation in professional contexts with pedagogical support. This enables design processes and design methods leading to innovative results to be explored within new or unknown fields with a view to creating the desired change and increasing utilization of local resources.

Attendance at scheduled items is mandatory.

Type of Instruction

Instruction is primarily based on project work. This is supported by tutoring, seminars, workshops and lectures.

Examination

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

For the Pass grade the expected learning outcomes have to be achieved.

The examination takes the form of presentation of artefacts and seminar presentations. The assessment is based on the five dimensions in the workbook: production, perception, reflection, work method and complexity.

Re-examinations are offered within six weeks in the framework of regular semester periods. The number of examination sessions is limited to five.

Course Evaluation

Towards the end of the course a course evaluation is conducted. The evaluation result is compiled in a course report, which is kept in the archives of the school administrator and will be discussed in the programme board. The result of the evaluation and any measures taken will be communicated to the course coordinator and be presented to the students on the following course date.

Other

In order to facilitate and visualize the students' own development the workbook method is used as a pedagogical instrument during the course. The method focuses on reflection in the learning process, which means that the students continuously formulate and carry out their own specialization and progression with the support of the tutor. Five different key aspects are used: production, perception, reflection, work method and complexity.

The students should be prepared to defray the costs of materials, expenses for study trips and related accommodation as well as the cost of travelling between campuses.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required Reading

Verganti, Roberto (2009) *Design-Driven Innovation*, Boston, Ma: Harvard Business Press

Laurell, Brenda (ed) (2003) *Design research: methods and perspectives*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Compendium with articles, papers and excerpts.

Reference books

The literature can be subject to change.