

KONSTFACK

Department of Design, Interior Architecture and Visual Communication

Master's Programme in Design

Course code: MDE105

Course name: In-depth studies in the subject and environment / Fördjupning ämne och omvärld

Test code: IP14 and IP15

Level: Advanced level

Valid from: VT20

COURSE MODULE DESCRIPTION

Explorative Outlooks:

Explorations 3 (8 ects), Explorations 4 (8 ects) & Outlooks (9 ects)

Course module description for students in Individual Study Plan in Design, spring 2020.

Responsible teachers: Ingrid Troiero (Explorations 3 & 4) and Nadav Shir (Outlooks)

Participating teachers: Martín Ávila, Magnus Lindfors

Visiting lecturers: Timotheos Mavropoulos (Outlooks), Jonas Pettersson FUWL (Explorations 3+4), Björn Florman Materialbiblioteket (Explorations 3+4)

Examiner: Magnus Lindfors (Explorations 3 & 4) and (Outlooks)

General

As there are many connections and synergies between the course modules *Explorations 3*, *Explorations 4* and *Outlooks*, they share the same course module description: *Explorative Outlooks*.

Together with the previous module *Re-orientations* the overarching aim of the course *In-depth studies in the subject and environment* is for the students to broaden and deepen their design competence by relating their work to different societal contexts including interaction with an external organisation.

Explorations 3

For Explorations 3, the focus is on design explorations based on a design-driven combination of investigation and reflection, thinking and making, theory and practice. In Explorations 3 the students should use their standpoints from Explorations 2 as an analyzing tool when shaping new inquiries in relation to an organisation, and evolving the design work in a particular context. The students lead their projects individually or in small groups. During the module they should personally demonstrate their ability to conduct an independent design exploration, while collaborating, cooperating or co-creating with an external organisation. An integral part in Explorations 3 is the making of probes, prototypes, drawings, material explorations, the execution of design experiments, and communicating their methodologies. The students should aim to position their practice and interests in relation to their discipline.

Explorations 4

During Explorations 4 the intention of the exploration as well as the interaction with the external organisation should be further articulated and evolved. This will be done through the refinement of a design proposal and also through continuous evaluation of the ongoing interaction with the organisation.

How is the relation with the external organisation structured? How does the student steer the process?

See separate document for Explorations 3+4 module description with more detailed information and schedule

Outlooks

Outlooks provides an educational approach to personal engagement and development through the landscape of art entrepreneurship. The overall purpose of the course is to encourage and help students understand themselves better and provide them with necessary tools to take action in the world (and deal with their design projects) in a manner that reflects their core values and life aspirations. Using this framework, the course will discuss issues of particular importance to art students: developing a vision

and unravelling our background picture of ethical and aesthetical intuitions, motivating ourselves and others, and learning to regulate ourselves towards action, etc. are some of the topics covered in length during the course. Outlooks thus follows and deepens students' work in Explorations 3 and 4 and share with Explorations 3 and 4 a mutual personal development design project which students will present at the end of the semester.

See separate document for outlooks module description with more detailed information and schedule

Teaching methods

Design Exploration

The student formulates a brief for the design work that will be carried out. The work during the modules should include exploration of the chosen context, workshops with stakeholders, physical materialisations, prototype work and gestalt explorations, as well as continuous contact with the interacting organisation. The outcome of the design work should be presented both for the organisation as well as students and teachers.

Lectures and Visits

During the modules there will be a series of lectures and workshops introducing different design methods, approaches and perspectives of design work. We will also visit organisations and companies where the students are encouraged to reflect on different design opportunities.

Tutoring

The students will have continuous tutoring both individually and in groups with Ingrid Troiero and Nadav Shir, and others during the modules.

Writing and Reflecting

During the semester students will reflect on their investigations, results and experiences through documenting their process. This will be done through a *project documentation* (Explorations 3 and 4) and a *book assignment* (Outlooks). See more about this in under Course requirements and in the individual syllabus.

Electives

Within Explorations 3 the student is offered elective courses during week 10 and 11. There will be two tracks to choose between.

Learning outcomes

For learning outcomes, refer to the course syllabus for *MDE105: In-depth studies in the subject and environment*; see the sections on Explorations 3, Explorations 4, and Outlooks:

<https://www.konstfack.se/en/Education/Masters-Degree-Programmes/Design/Individual-Study-Plan/Course-syllabi/Academic-year-2018-19/>

Course requirements

In order to get a passing grade, the students need to:

For both Explorations 3 + Outlooks

- Choose and approach an organisation to collaborate with,
- Actively participate in reviews, tutorings, lectures, workshops and other scheduled events,

For Explorations 3

- Develop and document materializations
- Produce and present three alternative design proposals.

For Explorations 4

- Develop one design proposal and argue for its relevance to the organization in the FINAL PRESENTATION, and
- Present and communicate the design work and the final proposal to the collaborating organisation.
- Participate in a project EXHIBITION

See separate document for exploration 3+4 module description with more detailed information and schedule

For Outlooks

- Analyze and explain the role of art entrepreneurship for one's life and career and demonstrate insight into possible consequences of your design work in relation to a wider context
- Argue for common challenges when deciding to move from thinking about your project to planning and implementing it in the material world
- Demonstrate the ability to reflect on and make relevant use of insights from lectures, workshops, and guest seminars in your individual project and course assignments.
- Submit a project proposal, a mid term report, and a final presentation of the personal development design project you chose to work on. Here you should show documentation of collaboration with an organisation including at least one type of interaction, for example a workshop, a discussion, a joint planning meeting etc. Choose how you want to present this with images, text, video etc.,
- Hand in a two-page book assignment.

See separate document for outlooks module description with more detailed information and schedule

Examinations

Examinations cover work from modules Explorations 3, Explorations 4, and Outlooks in the course "MDE105: In-depth studies in the subject and environment". Partial examinations will be carried out at the end of Explorations 3. The examinations are based on oral, material and visual presentations.

The course uses the grading scale Fail (U) or Pass (G).

Examination criteria

Work is assessed based on these criteria:

1. Relevance for the field of the design

The student will demonstrate the ability to carry out studies and make experiments in relation to their formulated inquiry and exploration. They must articulate and relate their work to the field of design and reflect on how they have interacted with an external organisation.

2. Academic and artistic approach

Demonstrating a creative and critical approach, the student must articulate the relevance of their work on both academic and artistic grounds. Processes and physical outcomes in the form of prototypes, other types of materializations and experiments should be presented. The students should reflect on choices made during their design process and position themselves through their presented work.

3. Communicability

The student's work processes and outcomes should be communicable in a clear way to examiners and

audience(s). Documentation must follow standards of citation, copyright and acknowledgements. The work must be made available in requested forms for examination.

Schedule

The modules start week 6 (February 3) and end week 23 (June 5). These are the dates for both Explorations 3&4 and Outlooks:

- Introduction to Explorations and Outlooks (Feb 3, 13:00 – 14:00, E - Nadav Shir & Ingrid Troiero)
- Entrepreneurship, Ethics, Aesthetics, and Personal Growth (Feb 5, 10:00 – 12:00 - Nadav)
- Motivation A & B (Feb 10, 10:00 – 14:00 - Nadav)
- Design methodology (Feb 11, 10:00 – 12:00 - Ingrid)
- Students Project Proposal (Feb 12, 10:00 – 16:00 - Ingrid)
Five firms/groups/organisations
- Students Project Proposal (Feb 18, 11:30 - 16:00 - Nadav & Ingrid)
Two firms/groups/organisations - First project ideas
- Materials (Feb 27, 13:30 – 16.30 - Björn Florman)
- Electives week 10 & 11 (March 2-6 & 9-13)
- Entrepreneurial Art Finance A: Timotheus (March 16, 9:00 – 12:00)
- Exhibition talk (March 16, 13:00 – 15:00 - Ingrid & Thomas Paltiel)
- Entrepreneurial Art Finance B: Timotheus (March 18, 9:00 – 12:00)
- Identity, Myth, and Moral Vision (March 30, 9:00 – 12:00 - Nadav)
- Self-regulation A & B (April 1, 10:00 – 15:00 - Nadav)
- Mid term presentations (April 6, 10:00 – 16:00 - Nadav Shir and Ingrid Troiero)
- Entrepreneurship & Well-being (April 20, 9:00 – 12:00 - Nadav)
- Rhetoric and Presentation Skills (April 22, 9:00 – 12:00 - Nadav)
- FINAL PRESENTATION (May 15, 10:00 – 16:00 - Ingrid and Nadav)
- HAND-IN DOCUMENTATION (May 22, 12:00 - Ingrid)
- Course evaluation
- SHOW TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS one day between (May 18-25)
- EXHIBITION in XX together with IA (May 25-29 ?? June 1-5??)

There will also be smaller assignments and tutoring sessions throughout the modules. For more details see the individual module descriptions for Outlooks and Explorations. Briefs for the presentations and assignments will be communicated separately before each occasion.

Detailed and updated information about activities will be in the Canvas calendar for DMFA1 ISP.

Literature and other materials

Suggested readings and other materials will be made available in Canvas for module MDE105 In-depth studies in the subject and environment.

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