

COURSE DESCRIPTION MDE209

Welcome to Degree project in Design,

Specialization Individual Study plan in Design and Summary and Projection /

Responsible teacher: Katja Pettersson

Participating teachers: Jenny Althoff, Martin Avila, Cheryl Akner Koler, Anna Maria Orru and others.

Examiner: Martin Avila

General

In the courses the student develops in-depth, artistic, design-driven inquiries, explores and presents a thoroughly designed and formulated, materialized proposition. In parallel with this, the student formulates a written and visual thesis that frames and supports the development of the design-driven, artistic work. The whole work must be positioned in relationship to artistic, social and ethical issues as well as in relation to the field of design. The main teaching is through tutoring.

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Learning outcomes

See the Course syllabi for the Master Degree project, [MDE209 \(Links to an external site.\)](#) and for Summary and Projection, [MDE210 \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

Course Requirements

The project is divided into differently formatted parts, which are closely linked to each other and all are necessary for the Master Degree work to progress and pass.

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They are:

- Master Degree Project Atlas / ISP,
- Artistically based design-driven explorations,
- Thoroughly designed and formulated, material proposition,
- Oral, visual and material presentations,
- Written and visual thesis,
- Exhibition,
- Final articulation, presentation and reflection in the context of the Spring Exhibition,

The student needs to:

- Actively and deliberately engage through the project with people and activities in the contexts and issues relevant to the proposal,
- Partake in tutoring, peer-readings, workshops, reviews, seminars, presentations and pin-ups scheduled in all three parts, and also:

During part 1:

- Present a Master Degree Project Pro Memoria by November.
- Visually, materially and orally present the initial explorations, materialisations and learnings, this also includes documentation and hand in of required amount of text on specified date(s), as well as a plan for the anticipated work ahead, and

During part 2:

- The student presents and reflects on the work orally and materially on specified date(s)
- Hand in the written thesis according to instructions on specified date(s), and

During part 3 (Summary and projection):

- The student presents the work at the Spring Exhibition according to specified date(s) and separate handouts from the curators.
- Reflect in written format on the results and experiences from the exhibition
- Post the final outcome of the work on DIVA according to separate instructions

The work as a whole must consider ethics of collaboration, copyright issues, and acknowledgements of others. Written texts must have a coherent language as well as consider standards of citation and bibliography.

Grading criteria

In order to get a passing grade the student's degree work will be assessed in the following three assessment areas:

(1) Relevance for the profession, and the field of design

The Degree Project is part of a professional education that is based on an academic and artistic foundation.

The students must demonstrate through an artistic practice , responsible, reflective, and critical approaches, through design explorations.

The concerns, issues or ideas addressed must be relevant to the field of design in a broad, contemporary and forward-looking sense.

The concepts must be made tangible, materialized and take the form of artistic, design-driven proposals.

The subject of the work should be well defined and relevant in a context for stakeholders.

The students must show an ability to contextualize the Degree Project within design and the context(s) of use, seen broadly.

(2) Academic, artistic approach

The Degree Project develops at the intersection of different traditions and perspectives on how knowledge is constructed in and through design, including economic, scientific and artistic approaches.

The students must demonstrate awareness of related approaches, relevant concepts, methods, aesthetic standpoints, and techniques, referencing external sources, examples and articulating their own position.

They should demonstrate reflections on their position and choices, both during the artistic design-driven process and in the articulated proposal(s).

They should consciously make choices between different design proposals. Students should especially articulate how they interpret, and question a design proposal, to, distinguish between their own and others' ideas and understandings.

(3) Communicability

The Degree Project and its relation to the assessment criteria must be communicated to the examiners and audience(s) in a clear way throughout the process.

Links between the starting points, issue, concern, ways of working, analysis, results, discussions and critical reflections should be evident; readers and viewers must be able to follow the reasoning, choices and contributions.

The work as a whole must consider ethics of collaboration, copyright issues, and acknowledgements of others. Written texts must have a coherent language as well as consider standards of citation and bibliography. Creative and critical choices about the materializations, the form and organization of the written, visual material, the exhibited and oral parts of the project, how these parts are related, should be appropriate to the students' content and particular contributions.

The Degree Project must be made available in an archival form (PDF) after the project ends and uploaded to DIVA.