KONSTFACK - UNIVERSITY OF ARTS, CRAFTS AND DESIGN

Department of Design, Interior Architecture and Visual Communication



COURSE SYLLABUS

Industrial Design with focus on independent explorations

30.0 Credits

Code: UID301

Established by: 2025-06-24, Prefekt

Valid from: Spring semester 2026 (2026-01-19) Level within study regulation: First cycle

Subject group: DE1 Design Disciplinary DE Design 100%

domain:

Grading scale: UG Two-grade scale

Course modules Module 1: Explorative inquiry, 3.0 Credits

Module 2: Independent design project, 19.5 Credits

Module 3: Written report, 6.0 Credits

Module 4: Professional development, 1.5 Credits

Main course content

Module 1: Explorative inquiry, 3 credits

The student delve deeper into a specific topic. Through analytical exploration and physical prototyping, the students try out positions through the chosen topic or area.

Module 2: Independent design project, 19,5 credits

The student carries out independent exploratory work. The work will be performed in collaboration with external stakeholders, for example a company, an organization or a group of users. The student should actively connect to contexts, activities and values outside themselves. The design work is focused on proposals

relevant to the intended use and context. The work is supported through tutoring and reviews, individually and in groups. The design project will be presented as an embodied design proposal and in a written report (see module 3: Written report).

Module 3: Written report, 6 credits

The student writes about their design project (see module 2: Independent design project) through an independent essay writing with supervision and reviews, individually and in groups. The student is required to critically and reflectively discuss their work.

Module 4: Professional development, 1,5 credits

Students are introduced to different possible routes into the design profession. Students are given the opportunity to reflect on their own strengths and areas of development. In relation to this, students are given the opportunity to reflect on what area they want to work in as a designer. Various practical exercises are linked to these theoretical parts.

Intended learning outcomes

Module 1: Explorative inquiry, 3 credits

After completing the module, the student shall demonstrate the ability to:

- account for the exploration of one's own topic,
- position one's topic in relation to relevant references within and outside the design field,
- in parallel with one's exploration, reflect through physical prototyping.

Module 2: Independent design project, 19,5 credits

After completing the module, the student shall demonstrate the ability to:

- demonstrate knowledge of sustainable development through the creation of relevant design proposals,
- independently plan, carry out and present a cohesive project in a professional subject context, in the field of industrial design,
- create design proposals with consideration of stakeholders and intended context, based on a holistic perspective,
- in a design-wise way, explore contexts with relevance to the area of interest,
- · combine, apply and adapt relevant methods within the design work,
- visualise and communicate ideas and iterations of design proposals during the work process, with thought
 users and external stakeholders in mind,
- consciously investigate and choose between physically three-dimensional design possibilities, in connection with prototype work, as well as when designing final proposals,
- through a critical and reflective approach consider aspects of norms,
- apply artistic care and articulation in shaping the final design proposal,
- orally and visually present the design proposal in its entirety, as well as give an account of their own process,
- identify their need for additional knowledge and to develop their competence.

Module 3: Written report, 6 credits

After completing the module, the student shall demonstrate the ability to:

- present design projects in essay form in a communicative way, and communicate the design proposal in its entirety with images and text,
- articulate the purpose of the design work and explain why a certain topic/issue has been chosen, and explain how the work has been carried out, and for which stakeholders the topic is important,

- position one's own work through references to artifacts, design works, literature, and other sources, and relate one's own thoughts, ideas, and formgiving decisions to references,
- give a written account of selected issues, working methods, and one's own process,
- give an account of selected design decisions and artistic explorations in essay form,
- using references to explain the design methods used and why they were chosen,
- discuss artistic, societal, and ethical aspects, including design for sustainable development, with relevance to one's own work,
- critically reflect on the role and possible consequences of one's own design proposal in our world in relation to sustainable development.

Module 4: Professional development, 1,5 credits

After completing the module, the student shall demonstrate the ability to:

- reflect on different paths into the design profession and their own area of interest, and in a creative and clear way, orally and in writing, account for and reflect on their design practice, artistic issues and their role as a designer,
- reflect on their own strengths and what can be developed and how they can absorb new knowledge,
- account for and discuss their future occupation.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements.

Forms of examination

The final grade is based on:

- written, oral and visual presentations, including a physical model in certain course modules,
- individual tutoring and joint discussions,
- presentations during all parts of the course

The examiner is responsible for providing grading criteria for the examination and ensuring that these are made available in the course description.

Students who receive the grade Fail (underkänd) in an examination are entitled to take a further five tests as long as the course is given, in order to achieve the grade Pass (godkänd). Students who fail an examination twice by an examiner are entitled to request that another examiner is appointed to decide grades for the test. A request should be made to the Head of Department.

If there are special reasons, or a need for adaptation for a student with an approved decision on special educational support for disability, the examiner may decide to deviate from the course syllabus regulations regarding the form of examination.

This may include options such as substitute assignments or exemptions from compulsory course components. Content and learning outcomes, expected skills, knowledge and abilities may not be altered.

Reading list and other study material

Reading lists are presented in the module descriptions.

Additional information

The department is responsible for other essential information, such as detailed teaching methods and grading criteria, to be available for students before the start of the course.

This course may not be credited towards a degree together with similar courses taken and passed, where the content is completely or partly the same as the content of this course.

Students may request that examination according to this syllabus is conducted no more than twice during one two-year period after it has expired.

This course is conducted primarily in English.

This course is given for incoming Exchange students.