

DES591 Collaborative Applied Project

Level: 5

Credit Units: 10 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY REGULAR SEMESTER

Synopsis:

Design is an intentional and collaborative activity. While some designers do work alone, this semester-long collaborative applied project course provides students the opportunity to work collaboratively on a design challenge of their choice. Students are expected to frame their design challenge; use theories, models, and methods to gain a contextual understanding of the given challenge; explore potential design directions and concepts; use prototype and experimentation techniques to make their thinking visible; and test and iterate the prototypes with participants to ensure the final design solution is useful, usable and desirable. The project outcome can take many different forms but must represent a significant body of independent and intellectual creative work in design at the postgraduate level, and include documentation of the entire thinking and working process.

Note: Students are encouraged to form a small group of two members to work on the applied project. Under special circumstances, and with the permission of the Head of Programme, two groups of students can work collaboratively in the exploratory study to collect and share data.

Topics:

- Design framework and process of inquiry
- System thinking for designers
- Selected topics in experience design
- Design planning and execution
- Quality of research and research development
- Research analysis and synthesis
- Translation of research into project criteria
- Envisioning possibilities and ideation
- Prototype development and proof of concept
- Design evaluation and prioritisation
- Schedule and control of project development
- Documentation and presentation of process and outcome

Learning Outcome:

- Create awareness of the value of research in design practice and design education and how it affects design outcomes.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of cultural, social, design, technological, and economic trends.
- Recommend appropriate design and inquiry methods for an applied project.
- Apply the body of research knowledge, theories, and models to support the design of solutions and interventions.
- Formulate a comprehensive plan to communicate the blueprint for a design inquiry or applied project.
- Collect data and information from various sources using appropriate inquiry and design methods.
- Organize data and information into meaningful and insightful forms to facilitate discussion and inform design decisions.
- Propose design ideas using appropriate ideation methods and techniques.
- Design experiments to test ideas using appropriate prototyping frameworks.
- Critique the strengths and weaknesses of design ideas using appropriate evaluation and prioritization methods and techniques.
- Prepare regular updates on working-in-progress, project development, and design outcome using appropriate means.
- Create an ethically responsible project in an academic and professional format.
- Evaluate critically on own learning and development as a reflective thinker.

Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	PROJECT PROPOSAL 1	20
	PRESENTATION 1	10
Overall Examinable Components	FINAL REPORT	55
	FINAL PRESENTATION	15
Total		100

*The information listed is subject to review and change.