

Course syllabus

Designtänkande
Design Thinking

Course code: CA3001	Credits: 7,5
Main field of study: –	Group of subjects: FE1
Education level: Second cycle	In-depth level of the course: AXX
Valid from: Autumn semester 2021	Revisions:
Approved by: UFN 2020-12-10	

Examination and examination codes

- Presentation, Design Thinking, 7,5 credits (2101)
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Objective

Design thinking is a powerful method for designing strategic interdisciplinary or entrepreneurial initiatives that allow connections between concepts, methods and changed approaches and attitudes that could otherwise be overlooked with a mono-disciplinary problem-solving approach. With an origin in design, but with the possibility of being applied to a wide range of disciplines, design thinking has added a potential to completely change the methods that most people, according to routine, work with. People have a natural ability to design thinking – the method uses the associative, improvisational logic in play – but most are encouraged to suppress this ability in favour of more reliable, but also more limiting methods of problem solving.

For entrepreneurs who value the pursuit of validity and innovation over tradition and repetition, this course will equip students with the knowledge to support such goals.

Content

The course uses a practical approach by teaching design thinking through a mixture of lectures, workshops and assignments. Once students have learned the fundamental parts of the concept of design thinking, they are encouraged to explore how to develop the established techniques – by incorporating elements of, for example, other creative and design disciplines such as plotting,



characterization, visualization, role-playing, story-boards and experience prototyping.

Since the course focuses on themes and speculative, post-critical prototypes of “nasty” problems, students are expected to participate actively throughout the course as the teaching is interactive.

The course combines lectures with seminar discussions, workshops, group and individual presentations by the students as well as by leaders in the field.

Intended learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student is expected to:

- collect and use methods in design thinking,
- evaluate and organize concepts generated by these methods,
- discuss and critically analyze strengths, weaknesses and the innovative potential in suggestions from other students,
- develop, document and articulate a coherent design proposal based on generated results,
- demonstrate how design thinking can change and expand the student’s own disciplinary view of the world,
- develop and argue for an interdisciplinary entrepreneurial initiative, inspired by the design thinking process.

Literature and study material

For information, please see the study guide.

Entry requirements

General entry requirements for second cycle studies.

Examination

The course is assessed by and the final grade is based on:

- the student’s interdisciplinary entrepreneurial proposal, its final presentation and documentation of how design thinking has led to this result,
- the grading you receive from your team members, and an evaluation of the way in which you give and motivate the grades you give yourself and your team members,
- successful completion of the individual assignments,
- attendance.



In order to pass a final grade for the entire course, the grade G (=Pass) is required for all examinations as well as completed compulsory assignments and completed compulsory attendance. Please see the study guide for a detailed description of compulsory elements as well as examination forms. In the event of absence from the compulsory teaching, the examiner may decide to give the student supplementary assignments instead.

In special cases, for example, illness or injury, some parts can be examined through a special assignment. Each case is assessed individually in consultation with the head teacher and therapists (if applicable).

The examiner has the possibility to decide on adapted or alternative examination for students with documented disabilities.

Grades

Grades are given according to a criterion referenced two-point scale:

U=Fail

G=Pass

Written grading criteria for this course are to be distributed at the beginning of the course. Criterion referenced grading criteria are binding, please see the study guide.

Other information

- The course language is English.
- The course is offered within the framework of the Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship (SSES).
- Responsible institution: University College of Arts, Crafts and Design (Konstfack). Application via KMH.