



DDES4101 Design Honours Studio Research Project 1

Term T1, 2019

Course Information

Units of Credit: 6

Course Overview

Course Description

Design Honours Research Project 1 is the first in a sequence of two Honours research courses designed to support you in developing your Honours research project. In this course, you will plan and critically develop a theoretical and practice-led research project that is directly related to the concepts, materials and processes and ideas emerging from your design practice.

You will experiment and prototype design propositions and develop a written dissertation that will be further developed in DDES4102 Design Honours Research project 2. This course is taught in a studio context, emphasising contemporary design practice as a key mode of investigation and discovery. The studio also operates as a collegiate and peer-oriented environment, fostering a supportive and rigorous culture of creative practice, critical discussion, and exchange.

Course Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Critically situate, frame and articulate emerging design practice engaging with historical, contemporary and social discourses
2. Develop and formulate conceptual frameworks and research questions to inform design research
3. Evaluate and generate methodologies for your research on, in and through design, demonstrating an awareness of ethical issues
4. Generate and communicate design responses to complex local and/or global scenarios

Teaching and Learning in this Course

This course uses a variety of teaching approaches:

Blended/online

- Moodle - learning management system

Lectures

The lectures in this course include key orientations by course leaders and a series of lecture presentations by design researchers from academia and industry.

Studio

Studio in Design Honours can be characterised by a strongly student-centred approach to active learning. Students will engage in a design research process that is driven by the research being carried out by the whole cohort. The studio will be used as a laboratory for student designed research experiments, large and small group work, and desk research, with a strong emphasis on prototyping and making within the studio context.

Assessment

	TITLE	WEIGHTING	ASSESSMENT TYPE
Assessment Task 1	Project Proposal	40%	Project Proposal
Assessment Task 2	Design Studio Project and Pitch	60%	Formal Presentation

References for this Course

Required Text:

Gray, C., & Malins, J. (2016). *Visualizing research: A guide to the research process in art and design*. Routledge.

Recommended:

Fry, T., (2018). A Political Lexicon of Design.

<http://www.thestudioattheedgeoftheworld.com/writing.html>

Gibson, R. (2010). The known world. *TEXT: Journal of writing and writing courses*, 8, 1-11.

Grocott, L. (2012). Designerly ways of researching: Design knowing and the practice of researching. *Studies in Material thinking*, 6, 2-24.

[IDEO Method Cards](https://www.ideo.com/), IDEO. <https://www.ideo.com/>

Thompson, P., (n.d.). Blog: research education, academic writing, public engagement, funding, other eccentricities. <https://patthomson.net/>

Smith, H. (Ed.). (2009). *Practice-led research, research-led practice in the creative arts*. Edinburgh University Press.