



SDES2414 Sustainable Design: Theories and Practice

Term T1, 2020

Course Information

Units of Credit: 6

Course Overview

Course Description

Sustainable Design examines the emergence of key concepts in sustainability theory and their impact on design practice since the Industrial Revolution. With a focus on the agency of design professions in accelerating social and material development, students think critically, analyse and discuss key questions connecting design thinking, design practice and implications for quality of life in the short and longer term. This course underlines the significance of sustainability within and beyond the design professions, of particular relevance to the fields of creative practice, environmental studies, manufacturing, business, law and politics.

Sustainable Design: Theories and Practice will provide students with a framework for understanding key concepts in sustainable design, assisting you to locate, identify and creatively engage with important underpinning themes and contemporary interpretations that have influenced and continue to shape contemporary design practice. A scholarly approach explores a wide range of sources related to interdisciplinary design issues and pragmatic considerations including systemic relationships between natural and anthropological systems, the dynamics of social, economic and environmental contexts for design, and attitudes towards responsibility in contemporary practice.

Faculty of Art & Design students can select this stand-alone course from an approved list to satisfy core requirements in the BFA(Hons), BMA(Hons) or BDes(Hons) programs. Where places are available, other students may also take this course as either a free elective or general education course.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Undertake scholarly research to identify and analyse opportunities for sustainable design within local, regional and global contexts.
2. Work collaboratively to analyse complex design problems in relation to key sustainability issues.
3. Communicate key sustainability issues in relation to design practice.

Teaching and Learning in this Course

This course uses a variety of teaching approaches:

Blended/online

- Review - assessment tool
- Turnitin - originality checking
- Echo360 - lecture recording
- Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessment

	TITLE	WEIGHTING	ASSESSMENT TYPE
Assessment Task 1	The Ethical Dimension of Everyday Things	20%	Written Report
Assessment Task 2	Design for the 21st Century	40%	Formal Presentation
Assessment Task 3	Design for Change	40%	Extended Writing Task

Resources

All links to all material that you will need for this course can be found via the course Moodle site.