

Syllabus

Course Description

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| Course Title | Design Theory |
| Course Code | 97172 |
| Course Title Additional | |
| Scientific-Disciplinary Sector | CEAR-08/D |
| Language | Italian |
| Degree Course | Bachelor in Design and Art - Major in Design |
| Other Degree Courses (Loaned) | |
| Lecturers | dr. Andrea Facchetti, Andrea.Facchetti@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/academic-staff/person/38327 |
| Teaching Assistant | |
| Semester | Second semester |
| Course Year/s | 1st |
| CP | 5 |
| Teaching Hours | 30 |
| Lab Hours | 0 |
| Individual Study Hours | 95 |
| Planned Office Hours | 15 |
| Contents Summary | The course provides an overview of key ideas, theoretical frameworks, and critical approaches to design, with a focus on methodological aspects and the social, political, and cultural contexts of production and consumption of visual and material culture and invites students to consider the role of designers in the conceptualisation of products as well as in their expanding role within policy, service, and strategy design. |
| Course Topics | The course aims to provide students with a set of methodological and conceptual tools designed to develop a critical approach to design practice and discipline. The course is divided into two parts. |

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| | <p>The first part consists of a series of lectures in which the lecturer will present and analyse a series of issues and open questions relating to the social, cultural and political dimensions of design. Each of these issues or questions will be discussed through a series of case studies and the presentation of various "objects" from the field of design.</p> <p>The second part of the course will be organised around a series of readings: each student will have to choose a text (a paper, an article or a chapter from a book) from a bibliography selected by the lecturer, analyse it and then present it in class. During the presentation, students will analyse the author's theses, contextualise their discourse and, above all, provide examples and case studies not present in the original text that are useful for understanding the author's positions or raising critical issues.</p> <p>The course will therefore focus on understanding the social, cultural, political and technological conditions that characterise the emergence and development of certain forms of design and how these feed back into the social contexts in which they emerge. The aim is to provide a set of theoretical and methodological tools to develop an analytical and critical gaze, and to understand the complex relationships that connect design and the real world.</p> |
| Keywords | Design criticism, politics of design, design theory. |
| Recommended Prerequisites | |
| Propaedeutic Courses | History of Design |
| Teaching Format | Frontal lectures, reading groups, presentations and discussions. |
| Mandatory Attendance | Not compulsory, but recommended. |
| Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes | <p>Disciplinary competence</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have acquired the basic knowledge to be able to turn a critical eye to their own work and to deal with contemporary complexity - have acquired the basic knowledge necessary for further Master's studies in all components of project culture as well as in scientific and theoretical subjects. <p>Applying knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recognise the main phenomena of contemporary society, to observe them critically, also from an ethical and social point of |

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| | <p>view, and to elaborate appropriate solutions at the level of a design proposal/response.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - make use of the skills acquired during the course of study in the event of continuing studies in a Master's degree programme in the field of design and to develop them further. <p>Making judgements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be able to make independent judgements, both in the critical evaluation of their own work and in their ability to use the right interpretative tools in those contexts in which they will work professionally in design and/or continue their studies, also considering ethical and social aspects. <p>Communication skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to professionally communicate and substantiate their own decisions and justify them from a theoretical point of view. <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have acquired basic knowledge in theoretical subjects as well as a study methodology suitable for continuing studies with a Master's degree programme. |
| Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.) | |
| Assessment | <p>The examination will consist of a oral exam. The questions will cover the content of the classroom lectures and discussions.</p> <p>N.B. ALL THE STUDENTS ATTENDING THE EXAM AS "OPT" OR AS NON-ATTENDING STUDENTS MUST AGREE UPON THE CONTENTS WITH THE LECTURER AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER.</p> |
| Evaluation Criteria | <p>The following evaluation criteria will be followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the correctness of answers - clarity of answers - mastery of the language and terminology of the course - the ability to synthesize, evaluate and establish relationships among topics (ability to contextualize) - critical thinking skills. |
| Required Readings | <p>Bibliographical references will be provided during the course.</p> |

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| Supplementary Readings | |
| Further Information | |
| Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) | Quality education |