

Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	Designing Probes
Course Code	95217
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	NN
Language	English
Degree Course	PhD Programme in Experimental Research through Design, Art and Technologies
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Prof. Secil Ugur Yavuz, Secil.UgurYavuz@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/academic-staff/person/36117
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	Second semester
Course Year/s	1
CP	2
Teaching Hours	10
Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	40
Planned Office Hours	6
Contents Summary	The course is organised in the form of practical workshops that provide students with a testing ground for designing and constructing design probes that allow them to obtain different information about their research questions through the use of an artefact. This practice-based course will give students the opportunity to develop a customised research artefact that offers an experimental way to gather valuable insights and data in the context of their research.
Course Topics	Turning a research question into a probe, types of probes, ideation

	and concept sketching for probes, crafting probes, testing and reflecting with probes
Keywords	Design Probes, Cultural Probes, Research Artefacts, Experimental Methods
Recommended Prerequisites	
Propaedeutic Courses	
Teaching Format	The teaching format will be a series of hands-on workshops that merge theoretical grounding with experimental making. Each session provides students with practical space to conceptualize, design, and construct research artefacts (probes) tailored to their individual research questions. Through iterative making, testing and collective reflection rounds, students will learn through making.
Mandatory Attendance	yes
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	Students will acquire the ability to develop projects in terms of design, artistic ability, experimentation and technological application in order to generate and foster knowledge, culture and innovation.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	
Assessment	Assessment will be based on the presentation and live demonstration of the probe that is developed during the course. Each student will present their research context, design process, and the final artefact with a live demonstration of how the probe functions.
Evaluation Criteria	The criteria for assessment: conceptual clarity: demonstrating a clear and well-articulated conceptual foundation for their probe. relevance to the research question: originality and appropriateness of the probe in addressing the research question critical reflections: critical reflection on both the process and outcomes of the probe
Required Readings	Gaver, W, Dunne, A., & Pacenti, E,. 1999 Design: Cultural probes, Interactions, Vol 6, Issue 1, Jan/Feb

	Boehner, K., Gaver, W. & Boucher, A. 2012. Probes. In: Celia Lury and Nina Wakeford, eds. <i>Inventive Methods: the Happening of the Social</i>. London: Routledge Press, pp. 185-201. ISBN 0415574811 Çerçi, S., Cecchinato, M.E. & Vines, J. 2021. How Design Researchers Interpret Probes: Understanding the Critical Intentions of a Designerly Approach to Research. In <i>Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '21)</i>. Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, Article 624, 1–15. https://doi.org/10.1145/3411764.3445328 Wallace J., McCarthy J., Wright P. C., Olivier P. (2013). Making design probes work. <i>Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems</i>, 3441–3450. https://doi.org/10.1145/2470654.2466473
Supplementary Readings	
Further Information	
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Quality education