



Thematic Studio II 2022

English Design BA, Dept. of Design / Art&Media, Aalto ARTS



DAY 1

Hello and welcome!

Thematic Studio II

Welcome to Thematic Studio II



Responsible teachers in descending beard order

Contact us if you have any questions!



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**LESS HANDS ON
WITH TOOLS**

**MORE FREEDOM &
INDEPENDENCE**

**MORE GROUP WORK
ORIENTED**

**LESS INDIVIDUAL
GUIDANCE**

**MORE SYSTEMIC IN
APPROACH**

**MORE
RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE PROJECTS**

Compared to TS1, Thematic Studio II is...

How many participated
in the Design Impact 1
course last year?
Click "Yes"!



Did you check out the
topic on the Figma board
in November?

Design for solidarity	58%
Design for conversation	47%
Mental health and environments & Design for death	41%

Top 3 most voted topics from Design Impact 1

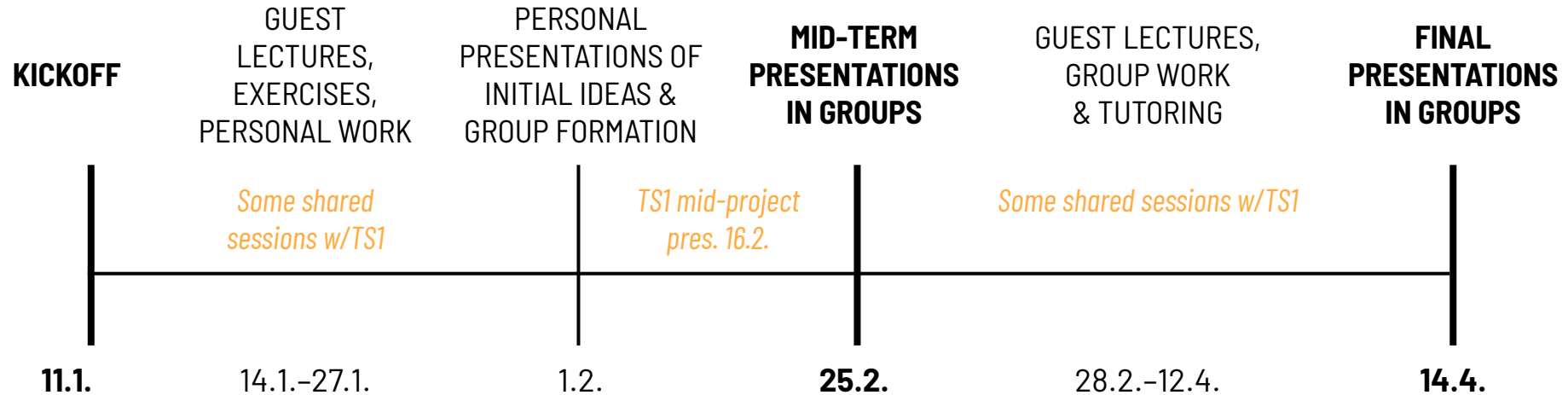
Votes were concentrated
on the theme of:
Design for Solidarity

In this course we will explore the topic of **Design for SOLIDARITY**, by developing personal ideas, using theory and practice provided by guest lecturers, and tools and methods of systems thinking and design working as individuals and as groups, to plan, execute and deliver project work throughout the course.

Any feelings or expectations for TS2 right now?

What are your hopes for how the course will go?

Course timeline



Course coordination & communication

All teaching days as well as links to calls, forms and resources are listed on the course MyCourses page. All announcements and assignments as well as grades can be accessed from there also.

<https://mycourses.aalto.fi/course/view.php?id=33783>



ARTX-C1013 - Thematic Studio II, Lecture, 11.1.2022-14.4.2022

Welcome back!

Before we go any further,
lets hear from you:
Round of introductions

Course requirements

To pass the course, participants need to:

- complete the given personal and group assignments,
- actively participate in class – 80% attendance is required,
- create a concept and an early prototype (can be conceptual/digital), and
- document their progress in a report.

Grades will be based on the successful completion of the steps, the quality of the report and other written assignments, and the design outcome. More detailed requirements for each milestone are provided next.

First three deliverables (2x individual, 1x group)

DLs before the mid-project presentation

Benchmarking report

- A report documenting 3–4 cases you analyzed
- Start with a one-paragraph "Executive summary"
- Maximum length: three A4 pages
- Graded 0–5 based on the quality of writing, analysis, structure and argumentation

Idea presentation

- A presentation about your project idea to others: what is it, why would it be worth pursuing?
- Maximum duration: 5 minutes + 2 for discussion (rehearse the timings!)
- Graded 0–5 based on the quality of presentation, insight, argumentation and structure

Diffusion essay

- A reflective essay on the diffusion of an innovation
- Maximum length: two A4 pages
- Graded 0–5 based on the quality of writing, reflection, structure and use of theory
- **Shared grade**

After the presentations of your ideas on you will form groups. Ideally you will form groups organically around similar and compatible ideas. If needed we can also shuffle.

Groups will work to refine and synthesize the ideas into a project. These project ideas are presented in the Mid-term presentations.

Three more group deliverables

Shared effort, shared grade

Mid-term presentation

- Presentation on your groupwork idea
- Maximum duration: 20 minutes + 10 for discussion (rehearse the timings!)
- What is your project all about? Why is it important? How do you pursue your goals? What is the expected outcome? Who is your target audience?
- You can use material from the idea presentation and benchmarking
- Graded 0–5 based on the quality of presentation, use of examples, argumentation and structure.

Final presentation

- Presentation of the final work you did, be it a prototype, well-developed concept or something else
- Maximum duration: 20 minutes + 10 for discussion (rehearse the timings!)
- Focus on your process and progress, present concrete steps and outcomes
- Dare to show dead ends and discarded ideas too
- Graded 0–10 based on the quality of presentation, structure and outcome of the project.

Report

- Recommended length: 10–12 A4 pages
- Include in the report at least your concept, your progress, the outcome, your own reflection on the shortcomings and merits of the project, and future development ideas
- Use visual material such as mockups, sketches and screenshots
- Graded 0–10 based on the quality of writing, structure, argumentation and reflection.

Assessment and grading

Late delivery = 1 point deducted for each day late

	Before midterm presentations			Mid-term and the rest of the course		
<i>Deliverable</i>	Benchmarking report	Idea presentation	Diffusion essay	Mid-term presentation	Final presentation	Report
<i>Points</i>	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-10	0-10

Grade	0	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Total points</i>	0-19	20-23	24-27	28-31	32-35	36-40

What kind of ideas are we looking for?

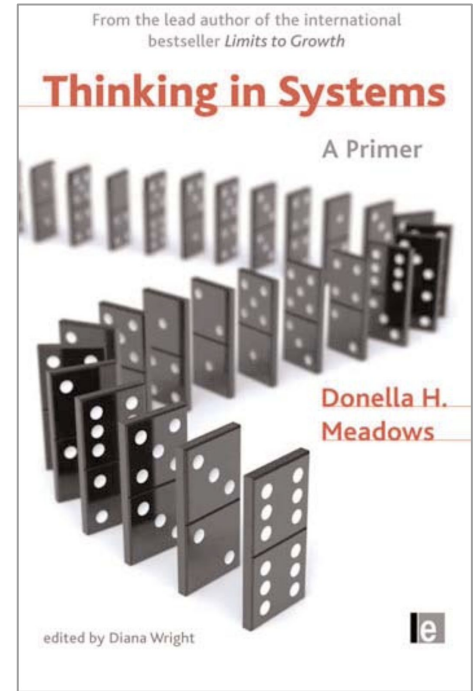
“Design project addressing a socially-relevant challenge, embedded in studio pedagogy... The complexity of design work is higher in the 2nd year. Students are introduced to systems design (thinking) and are asked to account for more complex relationships in their projects. The whole project is executed as a group...”

—TSAK Proposal for Programme Curriculum for DBA

“...the ambition is that the students explore the topics from the perspective of systems theory/design and produce group projects throughout the course.”

—Oscar

Tools and methods related to systems thinking and design will be based on Donella Meadows' "Thinking in Systems" (2009), provided for reading at the end of the first week.



Weekly topics period III:

Other courses concurrently

WEEK 2	Introductions & Course Overview; Guest workshop
WEEK 3	Systems thinking primer; Guest lectures
WEEK 4	Ideation and ideas generation; Independent work
WEEK 5	Presentations of personal concept ideas; Groups formed
WEEK 6	Diffusion and domestication; Group work
WEEK 7	Group work; TS1 Mid-project presentations with 2nd year students peer feedback
WEEK 8	TS2 Mid-project presentations Friday 25.2.2021

Weekly topics period IV:

Other courses concurrently

WEEK 9	Group work; Tutoring sessions; TS1 & TS2 feedback and support
WEEK 10	Group work; Tutoring sessions; TS1 & TS2 feedback and support
WEEK 11	Group work; Tutoring sessions; TS1 & TS2 feedback and support
WEEK 12	Group work; Tutoring sessions; TS1 & TS2 feedback and support
WEEK 13	Group work; Tutoring sessions
WEEK 14	Group work; Tutoring sessions
WEEK 15	TS2 Final presentations Friday 14th of April

Period 3 TS2: WEEKS 2-3				
M	T	W	T	F
Period 3 TS2: WEEKS 4-7				
M	T	W	T	F
WEEK8: TS2 Mid-project presentations				
Period 4 TS2: WEEKS 9-14				
M	T	W	T	F
WEEK 15: TS2 Final presentations				

Mark your attendance during each day on the online spreadsheet with a “1” for attending, “0” for away.

Link to the attendance sheet can be found on MyCourses.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	ATTENDANCE TS2 2022			WK 2				
2				KICKO FF				
3	WEEKDAY	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI		
4	SCHOOL DAY? 1=yes		1			1		
5	PLEASE MARK: 1 = ATTENDING, 0 = AWAY	10.1.	11.1.	12.1.	13.1.	14.1.	15.1.	
6	Asala A		0	1				
7	Carlotta P							
8	Daniel G							
9	Diana L							
10	Elina L							
11	Emma P							
12	Erik O							
13	Fiona K							
14	Irina V							
15	Jihae K							
16	Júlia C							
17	Kamilla G							
18	Kathleen L							
19	Kristin G							
20	Lu C							
21	Maria K							
22	Matteo S							
23	Theo B							
24	Nina B							
25	Povilas G							
26	Radovan L							
27	Solveig B							
28	Tuomas L							
29	Vilis Z							
30	Volha F							
31								
32								
33	DAY TOTAL							
34								

Any questions or
comments at this
point?

Break! 5 min

Discussion time!

What are your feelings going into the spring term?
How do you feel about the coming course?
Anything else on your mind?

Topic of the course:

Design for Solidarity

- what does it mean? Discuss!

Welcome back!
Any good findings from
the discussions?