

ARTX-C1014

Design Futures

COURSE HANDBOOK 2024



Aalto University
School of Arts, Design
and Architecture



BASIC INFO

6 ECTS = 162 study hours

Lecturers:

Dr. İdil Gaziulusoy
Associate Professor of Sustainable Design
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Dr. Namkyu Chun
University Lecturer in Design Communication
Departments of Design / Art & Media
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Period V (Weeks 17-22)

Course is delivered in person

Content:

The *Design Futures* course introduces the students to theories and practices on the various ways in which design and futures fields intersect. These intersections include the implicit and explicit roles design play in creating, enacting and critically analysing proposals and stories about alternative futures. More specifically, the students will be introduced to the history of futures studies, the theories and the methods for critical and strategic foresight. Students will apply some of these methods for developing scenarios and communicating these through visual and/or material, experiential and/or embodied means. The course follows a project-based learning approach. During the course, students will work in groups to develop a project focused on the construction of future scenario(s). As part of this process, the students will critically reflect on the assumptions, values and perspectives underlying a future scenario(s). The course lectures and in-class activities will support the students throughout the process.

In 2024 the course focuses on what is invisible that needs to be visible in the fashion system. See more on Page 5, under Project Brief.

Workload:

Contact teaching: 54 hours

Group work: 70 hours

Individual work: 38 hours

SCHEDULE

Week 1 23.04 (09-15-16:45) 25.04 (13:15-16:45) <i>Room Q201</i>	INTRODUCTION, WEAK SIGNALS & SCENARIOS Introduction to futures studies, experiential futures, creative/critical futures inquiry Lectures by: İdil Gaziulusoy, Namkyu Chun GROUP WORK
Week 2 30.04 (09-15-16:45) 02.05 (13:15-16:45) <i>Room Q201</i>	INVISIBILITIES IN THE FASHION SYSTEM Guest lectures by: Natalia Särmäkari (Building critical fashion culture in the digital space); Kirsi Niinimäki (Infinna™ and its circular ecosystem); Júlia Valle Noronha (On fashion experience and aesthetics of affect); GROUP WORK
Week 3 07.05 (09-15-16:45) <i>Room Q201</i> <i>(No class on 09.05)</i>	DESIGN FUTURES Experiential futures, artefacts from the future Lectures by: İdil Gaziulusoy, Namkyu Chun GROUP WORK
Week 4 14.05 (09-15-16:45) <i>Room Q201</i> 16.05 (13:15-16:45) <i>Room M202</i>	GROUP WORK Scenario development and scripting Support and guidance: İdil Gaziulusoy, Namkyu Chun
Week 5 21.05 (09-15-16:45) 23.05 (13:15-16:45) <i>Room Q201</i>	PRELIMINARY GROUP PRESENTATIONS & FEEDBACK Feedback by: İdil Gaziulusoy, Namkyu Chun and students GROUP WORK Video making and editing; artefact(s) making Support and guidance: Namkyu Chun
Week 6 28.05 (09-15-16:45) <i>Room Q201</i> 30.05 (13:15-16:45) <i>Room Q101</i>	GROUP WORK FINALISATION Support and guidance: İdil Gaziulusoy, Namkyu Chun GROUP PRESENTATIONS

ASSESSMENT

Deliverables and Deadlines

1. **Attendance**
2. **Group "State of Grace" documentation**
Due: 27.04.2024
3. **Preliminary project presentations**
Due: 21.05.2024
4. **Final project presentations**
Due: 30.05.2024
5. **Peer assessment sheets**
Due: 06.06.2024

More details on pages 5-6

Students are expected to participate in lectures, class discussions and class activities. The course relies on students' undertaking substantial individual and group-based work on top of scheduled contact hours. The students will prepare a "State of Grace" document for setting ground rules and processes to govern their group work, do two project presentations as a group, and assess the performance of their group members on the basis of their group's State of Grace.

The groups will have the chance to receive feedback from their peers and course teachers formatively throughout the course during class activities and summatively during the two group presentations.

Assessment

Attendance: Attendance to the first and last sessions is mandatory to pass; Minimum 80% attendance to and active participation in all scheduled activities is mandatory to pass

Group "State of Grace": 10% of overall course grade

Preliminary project presentations: 35% of overall course grade

Final project presentations: 40% of the final course grade

Peer assessment: 15% of the overall course grade

Grading of the course is on a scale of 1 - 5.

INVISIBLE - What don't we see in the fashion system even though we should?

Project Brief

In this project you will work in groups and produce a short video (3-4 minutes) visually communicating a future scenario 25 years from now that relates to the theme of "Invisible - What don't we see even though we should?" in the context of fashion system. You will also make "artefacts from the future".

The video will be based on topical and technical research. First, you will critically engage with the current fashion system and unpack what remains invisible that has significant implications for societal futures (for example from sustainability, climate change, labour conditions, justice, technologies, materials perspectives). Then, you will develop a scenario using the tools taught in class which focuses on "an invisibility of the fashion system in 2024" and weak signals of change associated with it. It is important to focus on one invisible aspect and not try to cover many - pick one that is particularly interesting for your group and go deep, both in your research and in your creative work.

The style of communication you will use in the video is up to you; you will be graded based on your background work (research and scenario development), the clarity of communication and creativity. Each group will develop one "artefact from the future" and use this as a prop in the video. The artefacts supporting the video may be prototypical for course assessment purposes.

You will be assessed for this project by completing four activities:

1. Preparing a State of Grace document as a group, 10% (Pass/Fail)
Due: 27.04.2024, 17:00
2. Preliminary group presentations, 35% (Pass/Fail)
Due: 21.05.2024, 13:15-16:45
3. Final group presentations, 40% (Grade 1-5)
Due: 30.05.2024, 13:15-16:45
4. Peer assessment by your group members, 15% (Grade 1-5)
Due: 06.06.2024, 17:00

Deliverables and submission methods:

State of Grace: Project groups will be formed on the first day of the course. In each group, members together will develop and agree on a State of Grace document. State of Grace document sets the ground rules of how the group members will work together for the duration of the project and is the basis of peer assessment. Guidelines on how to develop this document will be given in class. The State of Grace documents will be submitted via MyCourses, in pdf format, latest by 17:00 hrs on 27.04. (One group member makes the submission)

Preliminary group presentations: The group presentations should cover: 1. Research and findings, 2. Prototype scenario, 3. Idea for the artefact from the future, and, 4. A storyboard for the video or a draft video. Each group will have a slot of 30 minutes in total (a guide is allocating: 15 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for draft video/storyboard explanation, 10 minutes for feedback/Q&A). The presentations will take place on 21.05, starting from 13:15.

Final group presentations: The group presentations should cover: 1. Research and findings, 2. The finalised scenario, 3. Prototype of the artefact from the future, 4. Finalised video. Each group will have a slot of 25 minutes in total including time for audience feedback and Q&A. The presentations will take place on 30.05, starting from 13:15. The prototype artefacts will be collected by the teachers on the spot. The presentation slides will be submitted in pdf format on MyCourses right after final presentations on 30.05 by 17:30. These slides will also have a link to a downloadable format of the video in a shared drive such as dropbox. Please make sure that the link setting allows downloads for anyone with the link so that we can download the videos without extra permission being needed.

Peer assessment sheets: Each student will give a grade between 1-5 to every other student in their group based on their contribution into the group in alignment with the group's State of Grace. A template will be provided for your use on MyCourses. Peer assessment sheets will be submitted on MyCourses, in pdf format latest by 06.06, 17:00.

IMPORTANT

Please don't forget to end your videos with credits; your names being minimum but you may also include credits for images and music that you may use. Please DO NOT USE any material that is protected by copyright unless you acquire permission from the copyright owners.

The final videos will be uploaded to Design Futures website under Aalto University domain. If as a group you would like to opt out of this, send an email to course teachers.

ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

	PASS	FAIL
STATE OF GRACE 10%	SoG submitted AND it sufficiently articulates how the members of the group will work together, terms of collaboration and how potential conflicts will be resolved.	SoG not submitted OR doesn't sufficiently articulates how the members of the group will work together, terms of collaboration and how potential conflicts will be resolved.
PRELIMINARY GROUP PRESENTATIONS 35%	All members of the group present and take part in the presentations. There is evidence of consulting reliable resources, critical reflection and creative synthesis. The scenario prototype is of sufficient maturity, the artefact-from-the-future idea shows alignment with the scenario and there is a complete draft story developed for the video.	Not all members of the group present and take part in the presentations. There is little or no evidence of consulting reliable resources, critical reflection and creative synthesis. The scenario prototype is of insufficient maturity, the artefact-from-the-future idea shows insufficient alignment with the scenario and there is not a complete draft story developed for the video.

	5 = EXCELLENT	4 = VERY GOOD 3 = GOOD	2 = VERY SATISFACTORY 1 = SATISFACTORY	0 = FAIL
FINAL GROUP PRESENTATIONS 40%	Draws on a variety of relevant, specialized, authoritative sources. Examines the evidence and source of evidence, questions its accuracy, precision, relevance, and completeness. Organizes and synthesizes in-depth information from relevant sources to reveal insightful patterns, differences, or similarities related to focus of the project. There is strong connection between ideas presented. Style is very consistent with purpose and genre. Visual presentation is very well thought through and implemented. Excellent editing. Referencing conventions are used to a very high standard. All components asked in the brief are presented.	Uses relevant academic sources and other reliable online sources from basic web searches. Clearly distinguishes between fact and opinion, and acknowledges value judgments. Synthesizes in-depth information from relevant sources representing various points of view and approaches. Most of the connections and transitions between ideas are well developed. Style is consistent with purpose and genre. Visual presentation is well thought through and implemented. Good editing. Referencing conventions are used to a high standard. All components asked in the brief are presented.	Selects irrelevant academic sources or academically unreliable sources. Relies on single, one-sided source, personal opinion or advertising. Connection between ideas is weak. Style is inconsistent with purpose and genre. Visual presentation is of sufficient standard. Satisfactory editing. Referencing conventions are not used to a high standard. All components asked in the brief are presented.	Does not attempt to use research knowledge to support enquiry. Presents common knowledge as evidence. Merely repeats information provided. Connections between ideas are confusing or not present. Style is not consistent with purpose and genre. Visual presentation is poor. Poor editing. Referencing conventions are poorly used or not used. Not all components asked in the brief are presented.
PEER ASSESSMENT 15%	Met all expectations from a group member as identified in our group State of Grace.	Met most of the expectations from a group member as identified in our group State of Grace.	Met some of the expectations from a group member as identified in our group State of Grace.	Met only a few or none of the expectations from a group member as identified in our group State of Grace.



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