

Design for Healing Syllabus Outline

Course Prefix and Number: DSC-598; IND-494

Title: Design for Healing

Schedule Line Number: 29532; 31139

Instructor Name: Aisling Kelliher

Instructor Email: aisling.kelliher@asu.edu

Office Number: Brickyard Building, #396

Office Hours: Thursday, 2pm – 3.30pm

Classroom: CDS 143

Meeting Days and Hours: M W 12.15pm – 1. 30pm

Semester and Year: Spring 2009

1. Catalog Description

This course explores the design, creation and critique of healing systems, environments and objects. Using the tenets of critical design research, experiential design and participatory practice, we will explore the process of healing in the heart, the mind and the body, as well as in the home, the outdoors and throughout society.

2. Prerequisites

Instructor approval.

3. General Description

This course explores the design, creation and critique of healing systems, environments, experiences and objects. We will examine the role of design as a critical component for cultural, social, political, psychological, economic and political healing experiences. Through the study and creation of reflective, engaging and powerful healing artifacts and entities we will explore questions such as: How do we create adaptive objects and environments that respond to our physical and psychological needs and desires? What new challenges do we encounter in designing individual and collective experiences that are culturally, socially and ethically aware? How do we critique and understand the success or failure of such designs?

The class will be grounded in philosophical readings, critical design research methodology, case studies and applied research. Class assignments will include presentations, concept maps, prototypes, movies, short papers and projects.

4. Learning Objectives

- Gain knowledge of prior and related work
- Develop understanding in the relevant sociological, aesthetic, empirical and philosophical issues
- Learn comprehensive qualitative and quantitative methodological techniques
- Gain practical experience in designing and realizing project assignments
- Develop evaluation tools and frameworks
- Practice collaboration, team-building and effective communication

5. Instructional Methods

Classes will be predominantly discussion based with several additional formal presentation lectures by the instructor. Students will participate in and lead class discussion/presentations.

6. Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes. In the case of absence, please inform the instructor before the class if possible, and/or after the missed class. It is expected that when a student misses a class that they will compensate by contributing input in the form of emails to the instructor and class. Classroom attendance and participation is 10% of the overall grade.

7. Required Texts

There are no required texts for this class. Digital and photocopied reading material will be provided by the instructor.

8. References

Don Norman, Paul Dourish, Mark Weiser, Edward Tufte, Hiroshi Ishii, Bill Gaver, Genevieve Bell, Howard Gardner, Fiona Raby, Phoebe Sengers, Anthony Dunne, CHI, DUX, UIST conference papers.

9. Schedule

28 Classes - 4 modules of 7 classes each

Module 1 – Introduction, Readings, Methodology Lectures

Module 2 – Heart, Mind and Body Module

Module 3 – Social Environment Module

Module 4 – Self-Directed Module

January (3), February (8), March (7), April (9), May (1)

March 8 – 15 – Spring Break

May 6 – Reading Day

May 7 – 15th – Exam Week

Typical Project Module

- 1) Reading Concept Map Presentation
- 2) Literature Review Discussion
- 3) Pecha Kucha Project Idea Presentation
- 4) Research Methods Discussion
- 5) Audiovisual Media Presentation
- 6) Conceptual Progress Discussion
- 7) Project Presentation and Evaluation

10. Regular Assignments and Term Projects

Classroom discussion of literature/readings/projects

3 individual presentations – Concept Maps, Pecha Kucha, Audiovisual Presentation

3 individual projects

1 short research paper

11. Evaluation

Class presentations can be up to 10 minutes in length and accompanied by appropriate presentation aids (powerpoint presentation/handouts/flash cards/). The final project

deliverables will be negotiated between the student and the instructor. The short research paper will be a 4-page report of publishable quality suitable for a conference/design journal. (e.g. CHI, DIS, DUX, UIST)

12. Field Trips

There are no field trips assigned for this course

13. Grading Policy

Classroom Participation (10%)

Classroom Pecha Kucha Presentations, Concept Maps, Audiovisual Media (30%)

3 Individual Projects (35%)

Short Research Paper (25%)