DES 249: DESIGN THINKING FALL 2020

FALL 2020 / TUES / THURS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class will combine academic and hands-on approaches to help students learn and practice design thinking. Class formats will be workshop-based with assigned learning content between them for journaling and discussion. Collaborative class participation and reflective journaling are keys for success in this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this quarter, students will:
1. Be able to identify key components of the design process and apply methods therein
2. Know how to adopt a designer's mindset by doing, thinking holistically, and being curious.
3. Be able to effectively communicate about design and its value through writing, visualizing, and in-class discussions.

THE COLLECTIVE ASK

This course is highly collaborative and hands-on. A few things will bolster our success:

+ Take space and give space- this only works if we all participate. When working in breakout groups, don't be afraid to kindly ask for input from one of your cohorts. Strive to hear all voices.
+ Practice positive language and respect, but don't be afraid to challenge others' thinking. Be open, humble, and sincere as you give and receive feedback.
+ Groups will have an assigned "leader". This is mainly for sharing. Accountability is owned by all. Help each other stay on task and be successful.
+ Mistakes are important. Take risks and support others as they do the same.

GRADING

70%: In-Class Participation
This will be graded with weekly survey completion, group completion of workshop material, and participation in class discussions. Surveys are always due by 2:15 PM the day of class.

30%: Final Deliverable
Explainer video about "what is design". This grade is not based on the sleekness of the video, but the efficacy of it's communication about design. We will officially begin work on this week 9, but journal entries from the entire quarter will be a major input.

Note: Weekly surveys are designed to help me know if you're understanding the material, but it's not a perfect system. It is your responsibility to reach out if you need additional clarity or discussion on any given topic.

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SUPPLY LIST

Physical Notebook for journaling and sketching
Pens and pencils at your preference
Post-its can be helpful
Auxiliary crafting supplies: Glue stick, scrap paper or cardboard, tape, etc.
A way to capture video (smartphone video is totally acceptable!)

OTHER RESOURCES

The following books are highly influential in the production of this course. I provide scanned PDF's of all required readings, but if you are interested in the physical books, here they are:

Creative Confidence, by Tom & David Kelley

This is Service Design Thinking, by Marc Stickdorn and Jakob Schneider

ABSENCES & LATE STUFF

Please communicate with me if you are going to be absent, so I can plan groups accordingly.

If an exercise is missed due to absence, it is the student's responsibility to send it completed by the next attended class to Katie.M.Ozamiz@seattlecolleges.edu. Please reach out on Slack or by email if you need help to accomplish this.

For anyone in class that day, late surveys are automatically counted as incomplete.

See your student agreement for more on attendance policies.

OFFICE HOURS

I am available from 2-3 pm on class days. I can be reached by Slack or email if you need additional assistance or want to set an appointment.

THE FINE PRINT

This class conforms with ADA requirements. Please see me if you are in need of accommodations and a solution will be found. Students who will be absent from course activities due to reasons of faith or conscience may seek reasonable accommodations so that grades are not impacted. Such requests must be made in writing within the first two weeks of the quarter.