Methodology in Artistic and Practice-Based Design Research
- Additions and specifications, 2012-2013 (revised schedule Dec. 7th, 2012)

Course examination
To pass the course, the following course deliverables must be met:

• Active participation in all sessions, including being prepared for the discussions by having properly read the required literature in advance.

• Course lecture as assigned (description below).

• Paper (ca 3000 words) on the topic of "On methods and methodology in my research in relation to a wider outlook of experimental/constructive/practice-led/etc. design research...". To be submitted no later than four weeks after the last session.

Course lecture – instructions
• A 30 min presentation followed by 20 min curated discussion, at a level appropriate to doctoral students.
• Focus on articulating the key ideas of the text, and their implications.

• Find and use two other texts on the very same topic to add depth and provide complementary views and critique. Discuss your choice of additional literature with the main teacher. Announce (and possibly distribute if they are hard to find) these texts at least one week in advance.

• Assume that the other participants have read the main text (as listed in the schedule below), but not necessarily the ones you add yourself.

For UID PhD students, giving a lecture during the course is required to pass the course.

For non-UID PhD students examined elsewhere, giving a lecture at the home institution no later than before the last session is required.

For non-PhD student UID participants, giving a lecture to UID staff and/or students no later than before the last session is required (eg. a wednesday lecture, a lecture as part of a course in one of the programmes, etc.).

Course structure, including schedule and list of additional literature

December January 14-16, 2014

Part one: Arc

The first session is about getting familiar with methodology as the overarching structure of a design inquiry, that is, the big arc spanning present knowledge and future contributions we aim to create with our research process. It includes historical overviews of developments in design research pertaining to shifting relations between theory and practice; examples from key discussions on topics such as "research on, for and through design" and implications for "knowledge production" in design research. The main workshop element is centred on creating conceptual landscapes of the participants’ engagements with theories and practice. During this session we will try to answer the question ‘what?’.

Jan. 14th

11 – 12 Course introduction

12 – 13 Lunch

13 – 14 A short history of design methods and methodology (lecture) – Johan


14 – 15 Research in/for/through design (student lecture) – Tara
  • Plus two additional texts added by the lecturer.

15 – 16 “Knowledge production” in practice-led research (student lecture) – Stoffel

16 – 17 Discussion based on an example: Investigating ‘Form’ – Johan

Jan. 15th

9 – 11 Project Landscapes (workshop): creating tangible landscapes that map out relations between practice, theory, methods, stakeholders, etc.

11 – 12 Discussion and introduction of part two.

12 – 13 Lunch

Part two: Direction
The second session is about creating and maintaining direction, consistency and coherence as an inquiry unfolds. It will be centred on programmatic approaches, including examples of both large programs (tending towards Lakatos’ notion of programs in research) and examples of research using design programs to set the frames of an experimental inquiry. Workshop elements of this theme include exercises in program-experiment dialectics and the development of design programs. During this session we will try to answer the question ‘how?’.

Jan. 15th

13 – 14 Programmatic design research (lecture) – Johan

1 The order of the assignments has been made based on the formula: inverse alphabetical order of first name’s first letter.

14 – 15 ‘Lab’ (student lecture) – Lorenzo
• Plus two additional texts added by the lecturer.

15 – 16 ‘Field’ (student lecture) – Guido
• Plus two additional texts added by the lecturer.

16 – 17 ‘Showroom (student lecture) – Daniela
• Plus two additional texts added by the lecturer.

Jan. 16th
9 – 11 Describing directions – forming programs (workshop): exercise in expressing directions by means of articulating design research programs

11 – 12 Discussion

12 – 13 Lunch

February 26-27, 2013
Part three: Closure
The final sessions is about what it takes to be able to say that an investigation has come to a closure, and about what such contributions and results might be like. It is about looking at the research process from the end: to learn to see what trajectory is needed for the research process to arrive at a place where it actually makes the difference we want it to make. It will include exercises in forming methodologies in response to given research issues and requirements. That is, how to form a well-grounded methodological response to a research situation (much like how we are able to respond with
an appropriate design method when faced with a certain design situation). During this session we will try to answer the question 'so what?'.

**Feb. 26th**

11 – 12 Introduction, questions from last session, etc.

12 – 13 Lunch

13 – 17 Designing design inquiries (workshop): exercises in forming methodological responses to given contexts and constraints.


**Feb. 27th**

9 – 10 Results in and of design research (lecture) – Johan

- Hallnäs, L. and Redström, J. Design Research Results, draft manuscript. (Will be distributed electronically)

10 – 11 To be decided later / reserve

11 – 12 Concluding discussion

12 – 13 Lunch