

DESIGN STUDIES (DSGN)

DSGN 4. Design and Thinking. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

An introduction to critical analysis of visual forms. This course introduces students to core principles of design by establishing and examining the framework around which visual forms are built and used in our society. Common ideas surrounding the logic of visual forms and the possibilities and limitations of their communicative range will be discussed.

DSGN 10. Think Make. 4 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

The course explores the combined acts of thinking and making in the production of designed objects. Using a variety of media and approaches from multiple design professions, students engage in design as a lens of inquiry and exploration. Design Department Majors Only.

DSGN 20. Design and Society Since 1780. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Identifies significant developments in the global history of design. Analyzes a series of socio-historical phenomena and systems of belief that underpin design movements. Examines urban planning, architecture, interiors, graphics, photographs, clothing, furniture and products through the lenses of technology, economics, consumerism, ethics, race, gender, class, labor, ecological impact, and cultural expression. Students develop critical thinking, research and writing skills through discussions, lectures, readings, videos, and essays.

DSGN 101. World Design and Visual Culture. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): HIST 100
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

A comparative global history of design that relates the products and practices of design to cultural, political, economic and technologic forces across diverse groups. The course analyzes cities, architecture, interiors, products, fashion, photographs, graphic design and the decorative arts.

DSGN 130. Design Research Methods. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall only

This course provides an overview of key concepts in design research methods. The course is primarily theoretical and process-focused with a practical base. Topics in the course include identifying design research questions, methods and tools to answer research questions, design research using multiple methods, data collection and analysis, ethical concerns in conducting research, and research communication. The course is open to Design Studies majors or with instructor permission.
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DSGN 150. Contemporary Topics in Design. 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

This course will explore contemporary issues that are shaping the design profession. Students will learn about the latest trends and developments in traditional and emerging design-related occupations. The course will also cover the ethical and social implications of design, and how designers can use their skills to make a positive impact on the world. The course is open to Design Studies majors or with instructor permission.

DSGN 192. Senior Seminar: Design Studies. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): DSGN 130 Design Research Methods.
Term Typically Offered: Spring only

Capstone seminar in which students apply their knowledge of design research methods to investigate and address a social issue related to design. Through a combination of research, analysis, and practical skills, students will conceive, develop, and execute a comprehensive research project that engages with real-world design challenges.

DSGN 195. Internship in Design Studies. 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Upper division status; GPA of 2.5 or above and instructor permission.
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Directed observation and supervised work experience in an approved business, government, or service agency. Internships are offered to increase student understanding of the nature and scope of agency operations and to give students orientation in occupational specialties. Supervision is provided by authorized persons in the cooperating agencies and collaborative supervision is provided by the Design Studies faculty. The course is open to Design Studies majors with instructor permission.

Note: Students must make arrangements with a faculty member for a work program prior to admittance.

DSGN 199. Special Problems. 1 - 3 Units
Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Individual projects or directed projects open to students who wish to attempt independent work.

Note: Faculty approval is required. No more than 3 units may be counted toward a Design Studies degree.