

Unit Staff

Eva Verhoeven (Course Leader)
Nicolas Marechal (Tutor)
+
Gareth Foote (Specialist Technician)
Tom Lynch (Specialist Technician)

UAL London College of Communication
MA Interaction Design Communication
2015/16

Unit Contact: e.verhoeven@lcc.arts.ac.uk

Unit Title | Final Major Project + Thesis

Phase Three | Unit One | PU001611

Credit rating | 60

Level | 7

Total Learning Hrs | 600

Final Major Project + Thesis

NOTE: Please check
<http://int-des.com> for updates.

Required Reading:

Koskinen, I., Zimmerman, J., Binder, T., Redstrom, J., & Wensveen, S. (2011). *Design Research Through Practice: From the Lab, Field, and Showroom*. Morgan Kaufmann.

Robson, C. (2011). *Real World Research*. John Wiley & Sons.

Silverman, D. (2007). *A Very Short, Fairly Interesting and Reasonably Cheap Book about Qualitative Research*. SAGE.

Recommended Reading:

Bourriaud, N. (1998). *Relational Aesthetics* [English Language Version]. Les Presse Du Reel.

Noble, I., & Bestley, R. (2011). *Visual Research: An Introduction to Research Methodologies in Graphic Design* (Required Reading Range). AVA Publishing.

Laurel, B. (2003). *Design Research: Methods and Perspectives*. MIT Press.

Lupton, E., & Miller, J. A. (1999). *Design writing research: writing on graphic design*. Phaidon

Assessment Brief

a. A **portfolio of work** documenting the work produced during your final major project, alongside a **research blog** documenting your process and journey through the unit (50% weighting of unit mark).

b. A **written thesis** of 5000 words (excluding appendices & bibliography) in the form of a bound volume (50% weighting of unit mark).

Introduction

The aims of the Final Major Project and Thesis are to offer you the opportunity to engage in a major research-led project in which the emphasis will be on defining, analysing and developing an individual and focused approach to Interaction Design Communication.

Drawing on skills and knowledge acquired within Phase 1 and 2 of the course, including research methods, you will execute a practical Interaction Design Communication project and write an associated thesis, both elements facilitating a high level of specialization.

The written thesis will provide you with the opportunity to research and argue in a critical and scholarly fashion the theoretical models underpinning your practical research-led project. The practical project will culminate in an outcome usually presented at your graduate show.

Indicative content

Major practice project | The intention is that the Final Major Project should reflect your own interests and support your career development. Collaboration with external collaborators or organizations is encouraged.

Thesis element | The intention of the thesis is to ensure that your major practice project is underpinned by scholarly research and argument commensurate with study at MA level.

Significant self-direction | Although supported by tutorials seminars and crits both the practical project and the thesis will require you to be self-motivated and draw on the more taught elements of phase one and two.

Academic writing | you are required to provide appropriate academic insight into your subject context and observe academic conventions in the production of your thesis.

The production of the final major project and thesis will be tutorially led and project development will be supported via individual tutorials, group critiques and presentations.

Formal Formative Assessment of Final Thesis Draft

04.10.16

Summative Submission Date

Please submit as directed on the

29.11.16

Assessment feedback date

Grades to be returned to students via O.A.T. (Online Assessment Tool):
31.01.17

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, you should be able to:

Produce advanced Interaction Design and Communication practice underpinned by scholarly research commensurate with study at MA level. (**Research, Analysis, Subject Knowledge, Experimentation, Technical Competence, Communication and Presentation, Personal and Professional Development**)

Demonstrate advanced Interaction Design and Communication practice in a self-directed context that can interrogate board cultural themes and concepts. (**Research, Analysis, Subject Knowledge, Experimentation, Technical Competence, Communication and Presentation**)

Define a research question and carry out an appropriate information and literature review. (**Research, Analysis, Subject Knowledge**)

Produce an academic thesis that provides a critical context for both your practice and the subject. (**Research, Analysis, Subject Knowledge, Communication and Presentation**)

Assessment Requirement (Elemental)

Two part element assessment consisting of:

Component 1 | A portfolio of work documenting the work produced during your final major project, alongside a research blog documenting your process and journey through the unit. (50% Elemental)

Submission Method | Manual to Studio M304 between 3-4pm only, on submission date & PDF document via Moodle by 4pm on submission date.

Component 2 | A written thesis of 5000 words (excluding appendices & bibliography) in the form of a bound volume. (50% Elemental)

Submission Method | Manual to Studio M304 between 3-4pm only, on submission date & PDF document via Moodle by 4pm on submission date.

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Final Major Project + Thesis

Moodle - Accepts a range of file types including but not limited to word-processed documents, spreadsheets, images, audio / video clips etc. You can upload a maximum of 3 attachments totalling 20MB.

Turnitin - Accepts .DOC or .PDF files to a maximum of 20MB. If you are submitting work via Turnitin: this assessment will be submitted via an online submission platform called Turnitin UK. As part of the submission process, the University will utilise Turnitin UK to check the authenticity and originality of your work.

Please note: It is your responsibility to submit your work on time and by the required method, otherwise there may be an impact on your achievement and progression. Further information about your responsibility to submit your work is available on the website:

<http://www.arts.ac.uk/assessment/assets/docStudentGuideAssessmentSubmissions1415.pdf>

Turnitin or Moodle: If you are submitting work online via Turnitin and/or Moodle: The CLTAD e-learning blog includes step-by-step guides to uploading assignments to both Moodle and Turnitin:

<http://elearningsupport.myblog.arts.ac.uk/student-help/student-help/assessment-how-to/>

If you have any queries about submitting your work or are experiencing any difficulties in submitting work, please contact your Programme team well in advance of the submission deadline, via email on: interactive.visual.communication.staff@lcc.arts.ac.uk

Please note: all feedback is indicative until formally received and confirmed at an Exam Board. You will be informed of your results and when these will be published via email and/or Moodle announcements.

Marking Criteria:

If you are a postgraduate student, you can access the PG marking criteria via your course Moodle page and also at the link below:

<http://www.arts.ac.uk/assessment/assets/doc/PG-Marking-Criteria-Matrix-with-Letter-Grades.pdf>

Other key information:

The UAL Assessment Webpages

<http://www.arts.ac.uk/assessment/courseregulations/index.html>

include useful information on:

- The course requirements
 - What happens if you fail a piece of work or miss a deadline
 - What to do if you are ill or have other extenuating Circumstances
 - What to do if you want to take time out from your studies
 - The adjustments that can be made to assessments if you have a disability
 - How to avoid plagiarism in your work
 - What to do if you want to appeal an exam board decision.
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