

Syllabus Course description

Course title	History of Design 1
Course code	97114
Scientific sector	ICAR/13
Degree	Bachelor in Design and Art (L-4)
Semester	Winter semester 2020/21
Year	1 st
Credits	6
Modular	No

Teaching language	English
Total lecturing hours	30
Total hours of self-study and	about 120
/ or other individual	
educational activities	
Attendance	not compulsory but recommended
Prerequisites	none

Course description and
specific educational
objectives

The course belongs to the class "di base" in the curriculum in Design.

Course description:

"The future lies ahead of us, but behind us there is also a great acccumulation of history – a resource for imagination and creativity. I think we call 'creative' that dynamism of intellectual conception that flows back forth between the future and the past." Kenya Hara

Design is integral to human existence; it shapes our material culture, characterizes our visual culture and has influenced human history since its origins. It has been and remains an omnipresent feature of daily life: every man-made object is a designed object. It is through the use of such objects that we experience and shape the world around us.

The course offers an introduction to a selection of the most significant stages in the history of international design - with particular attention to design culture referred to industrial development and production, aesthetics, cultural and symbolic achievements from different origins ('high' & 'low' culture) as well as to social and economic evolution and achievements.

The focus of the course is interdisciplinary and covers the content and context of works and authors from the fields



of product design, visual communication, architecture, interior design. In addition, the program also explores correlations between design practice and theory and investigates relationships between design and art. Core themes of the course include anonymous design and design before the Industrial Revolution, modernity as work in progress (new comprehensive concepts for the future), postindustrial realities and challenges, design thinking. Through the use of multidisciplinary approaches, students learn how to imaginatively frame questions and consider problems from different perspectives.
Educational objectives:
 acquisition of basic knowledge in history of design acquisition of basic knowledge concerning the theoretical subjects of the course acquisition of basic knowledge concerning design culture in all its aspects acquisition of basic knowledge concerning relationships between design theory/history and design practice acquisition of basic knowledge concerning relationships between past, present and future of design processes and focuses acquisition of basic knowledge concerning the contextualization of design approaches in the framework of social, economic and cultural environments and circumstances acquisition of basic knowledge that enables students to look critically at their own work and to deal with the complexities of contemporary societies

Lecturer	Hans Leo Höger e-mail: hans.hoeger@unibz.it , tel. +39 0471 015194, webpage: https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/academic-staff/person/891-hans-leo-hoeger
Scientific sector of the lecturer	ICAR/13
Teaching language	English
Office hours	Each week of teaching: one hour before the course and half an hour after via Teams
List of topics covered	design before the Industrial Revolution, anonymous design, design & crafts, Shaker design, historicism vs. contemporariness, modernity as work in progress (new comprehensive concepts for the future), innovative products and graphic design works (and related analysis of 'innovation' in visual communication, industrial design,



	etc.), the role of entrepreneurship in design processes,
	postindustrial realities and challenges, social design,
	synchronism of the non-simultaneous ("Not all people
	exist in the same Now"), design thinking, the designer
	formerly called UniBz student
Teaching format	classroom lectures, field trip, audiovisual media
	(documentaries etc.), students' presentations and
	classroom discussions, group work

Expected learning outcomes

- to have the ability to grasp the main design-related phenomena that characterize today's society and to know how to look at these critically, also from a social and ethical perspective, and to develop appropriate solutions in terms of proposals / responses contained in design projects
- knowledge of historical and theoretical foundations of design
- knowledge how to analyze important historical and theoretical aspects of design
- knowledge how to present oral and written critical and planning analysis
- to develop a good independent judgment, both in the critical evaluation of students' own work and in the ability to use appropriate interpretive tools with respect to the contexts where they are going to apply their own design practice and / or to continue their studies, assessing also social and ethical aspects

Knowledge and understanding

• The expected learning outcome is that students will have been enabled to demonstrate a systematic understanding of basic knowledge in the fields of design history and theory.

Applying knowledge and understanding

• The expected learning outcome is that students will have been enabled to apply their knowledge and understanding in those professional situations in which design history and theory expertise is necessary and required or, in any case, useful and inspiring.

Making judgements

- The expected learning outcome is that students will have been enabled to gather and interpret relevant sources, information and documentations from the fields of design history and theory, with reference to design or design study topics (e.g. in the concept and research state of projects).
- A further expected learning outcome is that students



	will have been enabled to contextualize historical and contemporary design projects and realizations in the framework of social, economic and cultural environments and circumstances.
	Communication skills • The expected learning outcome is that students will have been enabled to communicate to both specialist and non-specialist audiences clearly and unambiguously - with confidence and originality - information, ideas, problems and solutions related to questions and topics of design history and theory.
	Ability to learn (learning skills) • The expected learning outcome is that students will have developed basic learning skills that are necessary for them to continue to undertake further study of design history and theory with a sufficient degree of autonomy.
Assessment	The exam will consist in a written test. The related
(6 CP)	questions will concern
	 the content of the classroom lectures (available - also for non-attending students - through pdf files in the teaching materials of the course-related Reserve Collection) the content of the textbooks indicated as required readings
	In the case of (COVID-related) necessity of online exams, the written exam will be transformed into an oral one.
Assessment language	English
Evaluation criteria and	Linghoff
criteria for awarding marks	 correctness of answers clarity of answers mastery of course-related language and terminology demonstration of knowledge and understanding ability to summarize, evaluate, and establish relationships between topics (ability of contextualization) skills in critical and interpretive thinking ability to summarize in own words
Required readings	Elizabeth Wilhide Design: The Whole Story Thames & Hudson London 2016

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	My Horrible Wonderful Clients Quodlibet Habitat Macerata 2015 ISBN: 978-8-87462-762-2 Additional sources will be announced during the course and integrated in the course's digital Reserve Collection (https://eu.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/leganto/readinglist/lists).
Supplementary readings	Helen Armstrong (ed.) Graphic Design Theory: Readings from the Field Princeton Architectural Press New York 2009 ISBN: 978-1-56898-772-9 Claudio Larcher, Massimo Martignoni, Ursula Schnitzer
	(eds.) Design from the Alps - Tyrol, South Tyrol, Trentino Scheidegger & Spiess Zurich 2019 ISBN: 978-3-85881-649-8
	These books will be made available through a pdf file in the teaching materials of the course's digital Reserve Collection.