

Syllabus Course description

Course title	Growth Mindset M1 Design Thinking and Prototyping M2 Algorithmic thinking Coding
Course code	25555
Scientific sector	MODULE 1 – ICAR/13, MODULE 2 – ING-INF/05
Degree	LM 77 Master in Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Semester and academic year	1st semester 2024-2025
Year	1
Credits	14 (6 first MODULE, 8 second MODULE)
MODULEear	Yes

Short Description **MODULE 1** Design Thinking is two decades old now. And in all these years we have understood something. The DT is not the solution to all problems. Why then is it increasingly popular? Communication agencies, personal coaches, big consulting groups why today everyone "does" Design Thinking? And even when the C-levels try to avoid it, perhaps by investing in another evocative name, they always find the same old story: post-it, games, the magic 4 steps taken from a manual written maybe on the other side of the world 20 years ago. Because being creative and innovative is the dream of every company. And when the company can't do it, because it is blocked by a thousand clutches, an automatic innovation distributor is ready at every corner, selling it ready-made at a low price. "Doing" Design Thinking becomes as easy as installing an app. But The DT is not an app to install. It's a new operating system. I will try to show through lectures and prominent case studies how Design Thinking is the perfect way to face complexity and to bring value to the companies. The competition is high. The rates are lowered. The quality as well. It becomes a war of meaningless terms that feeds on itself.

MODULE 2

This is a programming course particularly focused on coding and on how data are organized and handled by computers. Starting from the very basics of Python programming the students will get to learn the



	techniques for dealing with data, efficient algorithms and data structures. The course is strongly focused on practice, consisting in very short theoretical sessions followed by several examples, exercises and assignments. This course gives future entrepreneurs and innovation managers a clear idea of how computer algorithms work, a knowledge which can help them better plan company's developments and potential innovations, in particular in the technological sector. Moreover, programming abilities gives access to job opportunities in the software development sector.
Total lecturing hours	MODULE 1 – 36 hours, MODULE 2 – 48 hours
Total lab hours	16 (MODULE 1)
Total exercise hours	0
Attendance	MODULE 1 Required at least 75% MODULE 2
	A continuous and regular attendance is suggested, but not required. Intermittent attendance is strongly discouraged.
Prerequisites	MODULE 1 not foreseen MODULE 2 English understanding and reading at level B2. A basic course in computer science covering basic Microsoft Windows, file handling, Internet usage, Excel or a similar data organization program at good level.
Course page	MODULE 1 not foreseen MODULE 2 not foreseen
Specific educational objectives	The course refers to the basic educational activities and belongs to the scientific area of Economics. The course is designed to catch the idea that: Design is more than a feeling: It's analytical leadership more than a product: It's user experience more than a department: It's cross-functional talent

more than a phase: It's continuous iteration

The course is designed to acquire at the same time programming skill and a deep idea on how computers behave and usually handle problems.



MODULE 1	Design Thinking and Prototyping
Lecturer	Silvia Sanasi
	<u>silvia.sanasi@unibz.it</u>
Scientific sector of the lecturer	SECS-P/08
Teaching language	English
Office hours	please refer to the lecturer's timetable
Lecturing assistant	None
Teaching assistant	None
Office hours	18
List of topics covered	Design Thinking Definitions, Methods and Application – product and service design, Value proposition canvas, Business Model Canvas, personas, Customer Journey, Creative Tools, Design Sprint, Lean Startup, Prototyping
Teaching format	Frontal lectures and group project work

MODULE 2	Algorithmic thinking Coding
Lecturer	Cristina Maria Gangai cristinamaria.gangai@unibz.it
Scientific sector of the lecturer	ING-INF/05
Teaching language	English
Office hours	please refer to the lecturer's timetable
Lecturing assistant	None
Teaching assistant	None
Office hours	24
List of topics covered	Basic Python programming, typical algorithms and data structures, computational complexity.
Teaching format	Frontal lectures in standard classroom with examples and exercises. Students use their own notebook or a computer borrowed from the library and do home/in-lesson assignments, which will be corrected and commented together in the lessons.
Learning outcomes	MODULE 1 The project will be based on the 3 pillars of the Design Thinking: Empathy, Strategy and Prototyping. Where with Empathy we mean how you look at people, how you identify the needs, how you get insights through understanding them. With strategy understanding the business model, process, and culture of the company (the client). And Prototyping which is the doing part of design thinking.

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Assessment MODULE 1	 MODULE 2 Knowledge and understanding: knowledge of programming skills knowledge and understanding of data structures knowledge and understanding of algorithms Applying knowledge and understanding: ability to organize and restructure data ability to determine the complexity of algorithms Making judgments: ability to choose the adequate tools or techniques while coding ability to determine the difficulty level for data handling Communication skills: ability to expose the problems with algorithms Learning skills: ability to use online help systems to further expand program usage Assessment of a project work (project report + pitch) and individual short essays The students will work on a real-life challenge offered by an organization. The starting point for the project work will be one of these: Business (e.i. potential of a brand, business model, a new category of products); Technology (e.i. technological unlock product driven, capability driven); People (e.i. sustainability, aging, health and wellness).
Assessment MODULE 2	No exam for non-attending students. Practical assessment on Python programming Written and practical assessment on algorithms, computational complexity
	As optional replacement for points 1 and 2, constant assignments and midterm to test student's skills.
Assessment language	English
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	MODULE 1 The evaluation is made of a collective grade (resulting from the group project work) and an individual evaluation that will make up the student's final grade. The evaluation criteria are as follows: Project report (60% of project evaluation) Final project pitch (40% of project evaluation)



- 3 individual short essays (+/- 2 points on individual evaluation) at the beginning, middle, and after the end of the course
- Individual participation to in-class discussions and project reviews (+/- 1 points on individual evaluation)

MODULE 2

Grade is the weighted average of the two exam's parts (or the corresponding midterms), based on the number of lessons' hours.

Required readings

MODULE 1

Main suggested bibliography for the project-based course (more references will be provided during the course)

- Brown, T. (2009). *Change by Design: How Design Thinking Transforms Organizations and Inspires Innovation*. Harper Collins.
- Martin, R. L. (2009). *The design of business: Why design thinking is the next competitive advantage.* Harvard Business Press.
- Verganti, R. (2009). Design driven innovation: changing the rules of competition by radically innovating what things mean. Harvard Business Press.
- Osterwalder, A., Pigneur, Y., Bernarda, G., & Smith, A. (2015). *Value proposition design: How to create products and services customers want.* John Wiley & Sons.
- Bland, D. J., & Osterwalder, A. (2019). *Testing business ideas: A field guide for rapid experimentation*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Knapp, J., Zeratsky, J., & Kowitz, B. (2016). *Sprint: How to solve big problems and test new ideas in just five days*. Simon and Schuster.

MODULE 2

The learning material is provided during the lessons. For further reading the following book is suggested:

 Horstmann C.S., Necaise R.D. (2019). Python for Everyone. John Wiley & Sons

Videos on Python programming available on

- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLz33NgbtebwGkr0sgUAQctsBM5oF3-OEv

Supplementary readings