

## **Course Handbook**

# Data, Design and Society (INFRo8o24)

Course organiser: Ewan Klein

Semester 2, 2015-16

# Contents

I	Course Overview	3
---	-----------------	---

# I Course Overview

**Data, Design and Society** is a new sort of course that combines interdisciplinary teamwork with practice-based challenges. It is a collaboration between the Schools of Informatics, Social and Political Studies, and Design Informatics.

In today's economy, students need the skills to work together with people across different disciplines, and are likely to be confronted by multi-dimensional challenges with complex social, legal, political and technological dimensions. This *learning-by-developing* course will introduce you to ways of combining modern tools for data analysis with design-based approaches. It will encourage you to develop innovative ideas and communicate them effectively in different social arenas.

In the **Data** strand of the course, you will learn to collect, assess and present data as social and scientific evidence, and to use it as a resource for design. The **Design** element asks you to challenge existing practices by creating prototype social interventions. The **Society** strand introduces the 'social life of data' and shows how data and design can be used to shape society for the better within the framework of existing social and political processes. The course will give you the opportunity to take your learning out of the classroom into the University community.

**Data, Design and Society** ([INFRo8o24](#)) is a 20pt Level 8 course. There are no prerequisites, but you should be prepared to ask lots of questions, to go out and talk to people, to work with simple data analysis tools, and to experiment with change.