



UNSW Course Outline

BENV0021 Sustainable Urbanism and Design - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : BENV0021

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Built Environment

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

In this course you will engage with the UN Sustainable Development Goals as a framework to investigate and test principles and concepts of sustainable development and design. To progress the significant ambitions of the UN SDGs, you will embark on a collaborative research

and design process that draws on the knowledge of many disciplines. You will employ a range of digital tools, including artificial intelligence, to prepare a conceptual design proposal for a real-world challenge in a specific urban environment. Your proposal will draw on the abundance of information and tools available and produce an ambitious response to the challenges outlined in the UN SDGs.

Relationship to Other Courses

This course has no pre-requisites and no assumed knowledge.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CL01 : Analyse select UN Sustainable Development Goals in their relevant local and global contexts.
CL02 : Investigate complex environmental conditions in relation to sustainable development challenges.
CL03 : Justify and communicate sustainable design solutions using 3D digital technology.
CL04 : Collaborate in interdisciplinary teams encompassing disciplinary, social and cultural diversity.
CL05 : Critically reflect on the use of digital tools and artificial intelligence in design studio processes.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CL01 : Analyse select UN Sustainable Development Goals in their relevant local and global contexts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities • Progress Journal
CL02 : Investigate complex environmental conditions in relation to sustainable development challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Design Proposal • Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities • Progress Journal
CL03 : Justify and communicate sustainable design solutions using 3D digital technology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Design Proposal • Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities • Progress Journal
CL04 : Collaborate in interdisciplinary teams encompassing disciplinary, social and cultural diversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Design Proposal • Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities
CL05 : Critically reflect on the use of digital tools and artificial intelligence in design studio processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Design Proposal • Progress Journal • Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

In this course students are able to define and set the focus of their research and design output. The studio environment is collaborative and draws on the interdisciplinary and lived experience of students, teaching staff and guests. We will utilise the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) as a framework to explore global issues of urbanisation and sustainability and employ Artificial Intelligence as a collaborative tool to propose mechanisms for meeting UN SDG targets.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: 10/09/2024 03:00 PM Due Date: 08/10/2024 01:00 PM
Final Design Proposal Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: 22/10/2024 01:00 PM Post Date: 12/11/2024 01:00 PM
Progress Journal Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable

Assessment Details

Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities

Assessment Overview

You will prepare a brief Pecha Kucha style presentation of your research and initial design concepts. You will also submit a written summary that includes additional details and references. A template will be provided for both the presentation and submission.

Marking and feedback via a rubric and written comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Analyse select UN Sustainable Development Goals in their relevant local and global contexts.
- CL02 : Investigate complex environmental conditions in relation to sustainable development challenges.
- CL03 : Justify and communicate sustainable design solutions using 3D digital technology.
- CL04 : Collaborate in interdisciplinary teams encompassing disciplinary, social and cultural diversity.

- CL05 : Critically reflect on the use of digital tools and artificial intelligence in design studio processes.

Detailed Assessment Description

You will prepare a brief Pecha Kucha style presentation that summarizes your research and initial design concepts. You will also submit a detailed document that includes additional details and references. A template will be provided for both the presentation and submission.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

Generative AI Software-based Assessments

This assessment is designed for you to use generative AI as part of the assessed learning outcomes. Please refer to the assessment instructions for more details.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Throughout this course we will be engaging with AI as a collaborative tool to define, interrogate and resolve problems. You are permitted to use AI throughout the course but must attribute the source(s) and prompt(s) used throughout.

Final Design Proposal

Assessment Overview

You will prepare a design proposal that addresses one or more UN SDGs in a nominated area. Your proposal will be communicated through images, diagrams and text and will be compiled into a book that showcases the work across the course.

Marks will be allocated against a rubric and written feedback will be provided.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL02 : Investigate complex environmental conditions in relation to sustainable development challenges.
- CL03 : Justify and communicate sustainable design solutions using 3D digital technology.
- CL04 : Collaborate in interdisciplinary teams encompassing disciplinary, social and cultural diversity.
- CL05 : Critically reflect on the use of digital tools and artificial intelligence in design studio processes.

Detailed Assessment Description

You will design a proposal that addresses one or more SDGs in a nominated area. Your proposal will be communicated through images, diagrams and text and will be compiled into a book that showcases the work across the course.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

Generative AI Software-based Assessments

This assessment is designed for you to use generative AI as part of the assessed learning outcomes. Please refer to the assessment instructions for more details.

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Progress Journal

Assessment Overview

You will submit a brief progress entry in a journal that covers the concepts introduced in the lecture, the work undertaken in tutorial and any work that is undertaken outside of class. There will be an opportunity to submit a progress entry each week, however only the 6 highest entries will be calculated for the final grade. Marking will be completed weekly against rubric requirements.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Analyse select UN Sustainable Development Goals in their relevant local and global contexts.
- CL02 : Investigate complex environmental conditions in relation to sustainable development challenges.
- CL03 : Justify and communicate sustainable design solutions using 3D digital technology.
- CL05 : Critically reflect on the use of digital tools and artificial intelligence in design studio processes.

Detailed Assessment Description

You will submit a brief progress entry in a journal that covers the concepts introduced in the lecture, the work undertaken in tutorial and any work that is undertaken outside of class. There will be an opportunity to submit a progress entry each week, however only the 6 highest entries will be calculated for the final grade. These progress journal submissions are small formative assessments that help to frame and develop the other assessments.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Generative AI Permission Level

Generative AI Software-based Assessments

This assessment is designed for you to use generative AI as part of the assessed learning outcomes. Please refer to the assessment instructions for more details.

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General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Achieve a final composite mark of atleast 50 out of 100.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 0 : 2 September - 8 September	Other	Log into Moodle to view Course Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Welcome to the Course + Introducing the United Nations Sustainable Design Goals
	Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roundtable Discussion • Sustainable Development Goals Research • Site Studies: Researching Global Cities
	Assessment	Optional - Engagement Portfolio 1
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Sustainable Design Challenges Opportunities
	Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Development Goals - Precedents • Contemporary Global Changes • Generative AI as a design and communication tool
	Assessment	Optional - Engagement Portfolio 2
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	AI + Big Ideas
	Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generative Image Exploration • Big Ideas + Bold Proposals Workshop • Radical Architectural Solutions
	Assessment	Optional - Engagement Portfolio 3
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Time & Precedents + Assessment 2 Overview
	Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pecha Kucha Presentations • Timelines + Mapping • Introducing Return Briefs • Assessment 2 Review
	Assessment	Optional - Engagement Portfolio 4
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Studio	Assessment 2 Presentations + Roundtable
	Assessment	Assessment 2: Challenges + Opportunities Proposal (30%) Optional - Engagement Portfolio 5
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Other	Non-Teaching Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Feedback for A2 Assessment • Optional - Engagement Portfolio 6
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Systems as a Design Solution
	Studio	Introduce Assessment 3 - Final Design Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radical Systems Design • Local Architectural System Design • Local System Analysis
	Assessment	Optional - Engagement Portfolio 7
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Site Specificity + Architectural Imagery
	Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing for Place • Radical Proposals: Then and Now
	Assessment	Optional - Engagement Portfolio 8
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Communicating Design Proposals + Course Wrap-Up
	Studio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layout + Graphics • Assessment Review
	Assessment	Optional - Engagement Portfolio 9
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Assessment	Assignment 3 Presentation + Celebration

Attendance Requirements

Please note that lecture recordings are not available for this course. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and contact the Course Authority to make alternative arrangements for classes missed.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Relevant resources will be provided on Moodle for all weekly activities and assessments.

Course Evaluation and Development

Sustainable Urbanism and Design utilises Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a collaborative tool throughout the term, as such the content, tools and techniques are constantly evolving to address the rapid change in the industry.

The course is also shaped by student experience and feedback both informally during the term and by formal feedback provided during the myExperience Surveys. During each studio session the course is run as a a collaborative classroom where students and tutors discuss the content and work together. The course has been designed in a way that allows us to make changes to address issues and ideas raised during the studio sessions. The small progress journal submissions also gives the convenor and tutors the opportunity to constantly review progress and content comprehension, lectures and tutorials can adapt to address any issues or opportunities identified in the progress submissions.

Formal feedback through myExperience is integrated into course revisions for subsequent years.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Lecturer	Benjamin Allen		4010 Anita B. Lawrence Centre, West Wing		Email to arrange individual consultations	Yes	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Student equity and disability;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Examination information;

- Review of results;

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

School Contact Information

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