



UNSW Course Outline

IDES4100 Capstone Research - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : IDES4100

Year : 2024

Term : Term 1

Teaching Period : T1

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 : 12

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Capstone Research focuses on design research and design research methods, in preparation for the final capstone project in the following term. You will develop research knowledge and skills, as you produce a substantive design research report based upon an agreed topic. The report,

covering problem and/or opportunity identification, data gathering, synthesis and analysis of information and research results will conclude with a design brief, and proposals to guide your capstone project the following term.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Select and apply suitable design research methods to identify and describe design problems, target market and user needs.
CLO2 : Plan, research, and write a professional Design Research report, to industry standard.
CLO3 : Analyse and critique professional design practice including Intellectual Property, product standards, compliance and business cases.
CLO4 : Critically reflect on theoretical knowledge, ideas and design practice(s) integrating different perspectives.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Select and apply suitable design research methods to identify and describe design problems, target market and user needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researching with People • Co-Design • Capstone Research Report
CLO2 : Plan, research, and write a professional Design Research report, to industry standard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researching with People • Capstone Research Report
CLO3 : Analyse and critique professional design practice including Intellectual Property, product standards, compliance and business cases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Futures • Co-Design • Capstone Research Report
CLO4 : Critically reflect on theoretical knowledge, ideas and design practice(s) integrating different perspectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Futures • Co-Design • Capstone Research Report

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

The course is delivered through lectures and tutorials. The tutorial classes will apply the knowledge covered in the lectures. Some pre-learning of course materials might be necessary as prerequisites to some classes.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Researching with People Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Due Date: Week 5: 11 March - 17 March
Co-Design Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Due Date: Week 8: 01 April - 07 April
Three Futures Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Due Date: Week 10: 15 April - 21 April
Capstone Research Report Assessment Format: Individual	70%	Due Date: Week 11: 22 April - 28 April

Assessment Details

Researching with People

Assessment Overview

You will create an initial draft of your research plan. Grading will be done against assessment criteria accompanied by written feedback.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Select and apply suitable design research methods to identify and describe design problems, target market and user needs.
- CL02 : Plan, research, and write a professional Design Research report, to industry standard.

Detailed Assessment Description

Project A - Researching with people

Through design research tools, understand and build empathy with people involved in your design research topic. Includes interviewing and two other design research tools selected from a provided list.

Assessment Length

5 to 6 A4 pages

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Co-Design

Assessment Overview

You will work with your research participants to develop your design concepts. Grading will be done against assessment criteria accompanied by written feedback.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Select and apply suitable design research methods to identify and describe design problems, target market and user needs.
- CL03 : Analyse and critique professional design practice including Intellectual Property, product standards, compliance and business cases.
- CL04 : Critically reflect on theoretical knowledge, ideas and design practice(s) integrating different perspectives.

Detailed Assessment Description

This project is about designing WITH people from your user group.

Assessment Length

5 to 7 A4 pages

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Three Futures

Assessment Overview

You will develop your design concepts to address three possible futures. Grading will be done against assessment criteria accompanied by written feedback.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL03 : Analyse and critique professional design practice including Intellectual Property, product standards, compliance and business cases.
- CL04 : Critically reflect on theoretical knowledge, ideas and design practice(s) integrating different perspectives.

Detailed Assessment Description

You will use design exploration techniques (speculative design, future-thinking, concept creation from single finding, and design semantics) as thought exercises to develop design ideas that address three different futures.

Assessment Length

A pdf file for each future, a video, and 1-page reflection on the process.

Submission notes

You will present your three futures in class, in week 10, and submit everything else in Moodle.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Capstone Research Report

Assessment Overview

You will produce a comprehensive capstone research report and reflective journal building on earlier assessments. Grading will be done against assessment criteria accompanied by written feedback.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Select and apply suitable design research methods to identify and describe design problems, target market and user needs.
- CL02 : Plan, research, and write a professional Design Research report, to industry standard.
- CL03 : Analyse and critique professional design practice including Intellectual Property, product standards, compliance and business cases.
- CL04 : Critically reflect on theoretical knowledge, ideas and design practice(s) integrating different perspectives.

Detailed Assessment Description

The Capstone Research Report will document and discuss all your undertaken design research activities and your findings and specify and justify the relevant design criteria. It is expected to be of a professional standard. To help you structure the report, we provide a report structure template in Moodle. The Checkpoints, assignments (Projects A, B and C), and class activities will be directly relevant and feed into specific sections of the final Capstone Research Report.

Assessment Length

8000 to 15000 words

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Lecture	Design Research, Research Objective, and Identification of your Challenge Statement.
	Group Activity	Speed Dating
	Group Activity	Peer Group Meeting
	Presentation	Presentations of Challenge Statement Re-expressions.
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Lecture	Design Research Tools & Methods
	Lecture	Finding Information & Literature Search
	Lecture	Empathy in Design Research
	Group Activity	Mock Interviews
	Group Activity	Peer Group Meeting
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Lecture	Writing & Formating the Report
	Lecture	Co-designing with Users
	Presentation	Presentation in Class: Project A
	Group Activity	Peer Group Meeting
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Lecture	Reflective Writing, Note taking, and Documenting the Process Journal
	Lecture	Analysing Research Data + Empathy Maps
	Group Work	Peer Group Meeting
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	Trends and Future Fiction
	Lecture	User Research in Industry
	Group Work	Identifying Trends Affectiong Your Topic Area + Future Cone Exercise
	Group Work	Peer Group Meeting
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	Writing Your Design Brief, and Working with Your Key Findings
	Online Activity	Your Design Brief Components + Working with Your Research Data
	Group Work	Peer Group Meeting
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	Product Semantics & Design Language
	Online Activity	Design Language Excercise on One of Your Design Ideas
	Group Work	Peer Group Meeting
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Group Activity	Quick Design Concepts based on a single key finding + Finding 'Nuggets and Duds'
	Group Activity	Peer Group Meeting
Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Lecture	Your Transferrable Skills
	Presentation	Class Presentations of Project C

Attendance Requirements

You are expected to be regular and punctual in attendance at all classes for the School of Built Environment courses in which you are enrolled. If and where individual courses have specific attendance requirements, these will be stated in the course outline.

If you do not attend, engage, or participate in scheduled class activities, including lectures, tutorials, studios, labs, etc, you run the risk of failing a course.

If illness or unexpected and beyond your control circumstances prevent you from completing a task on time, or substantially disturb your assessment performance, you should apply for [Special](#)

Consideration, as soon as practicable, accompanied by appropriate documentation.

No special consideration will be provided if you miss out on essential course information and materials, or if you miss assessment tasks and deadlines due to unexplained absences or an unapproved lack of attendance.

You may be advised by the Course Convenor to withdraw from the course if significant learning activities are missed.

Course Resources

Course Evaluation and Development

Every year, we use your peers' feedback from the previous class to improve the course. Previous students told us that the best things about this course were:

- The workshops (class activities) during the term helped form the research project and keep a clear goal for my research.
- This was an exceptional course, extremely well structured and easy to navigate, and understanding the learning outcomes.
- Giving us all the tools for research, class activities on Miro, lectures from guest speakers, in-class consultations
- I enjoyed exploring a topic I'm interested in, talking to lots of interesting people about it, and seeing what my peers discovered during their own research.
- It was enjoyable researching a topic I chose and was interested in.
- I enjoyed researching with people to understand their feelings and emotions towards products and their environment.
- Also, learning how to complete co-design research effectively will be helpful in the future.

Things we have improved in response to feedback:

- Clarify the timetable in the Course Outline, where all activities, assignments, and submission dates are clearly labelled. Plus, each week, we also remind you of what is coming next week, with a heads up on when you should start working on the next assignment.
- More of the content was given as extra resources to review on your own time.
- The report is divided into three main parts, fed by the three assignments. You must complete the rest according to your topic and the report structure provided.
- The Moodle page is constantly updated for clarity. The weeks are also released individually to make it easier to follow.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Reside Oya Demirk				By appointment	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

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

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

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

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, 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](#).

School Contact Information

beadmin@unsw.edu.au