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Design Research Ethics

Credit points: 5 ECTS
Course Code: -
Responsible department: Umeå Institute of Design
Main field of study: Industrial Design
Level: PhD
Specialisation in relation to degree requirements: Doctoral degree in Industrial Design
Subject area: Design
Grading scale: Pass / Fail
Any programme affiliation: -
Confirmation: This syllabus was approved by the UID decision on 22-12-xx meeting after processing in the PhD Programme Council at Umeå Institute of Design, Umeå University, on 2022-11-28 is valid from the spring term of 2023.

Contents

The course explores ethical considerations in design research, ranging from specific engagements and interventions to the issues entailed in exploring set-ups and situations of future research possibilities. Design has a special relationship to intervention into people's lives during the processes of design and in relation to output of design efforts. However, unlike most other forms of academic research, design research does not necessarily have established ethical practices for all the various forms of intervention we may engage in. During the course, the PhD student will familiarize themselves with ethical guidelines for research in Europe (GDPR), Sweden, Umeå University, and any country where the own research is or has been planned to be performed.

This course explores ethical design research issues on three levels:

- Basic research frameworks: local (organizational), national, & international

- Ethics in the design of design research projects and programmes.

- Ethics in design research action and intervention, including research data management.

Expected learning outcomes

After completing the course, students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Account for national and international frameworks and regulations regarding research ethics, in relation to design research.

Competence and skills

- Describe and discuss ethical implications of the design of design research projects in relation to the own research practice.

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- Formulate an ethical review application related to the own design research project.

- Set up a data management plan related to the own design research project.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate ability to locate, articulate and critique ethical issues pertaining to conducting design research

- An ability to articulate and frame ethical considerations in design research with respect to methodology as well as objectives and intentions.

Relation to general study plan

Courses in this thematic area should address the following learning goals in the general study plan:
Primary: 1.4 Judgement and Approach

- demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and

- demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how this is used.

Required knowledge

Qualifications for admission to the PhD programme in industrial design, or equivalent.

Form of instruction

The course will consist of seminars, lectures and workhops.

Examination modes

Examination is held both orally and in writing, individually and in group. The assessment of the course is based upon active seminar participation, an individual oral presentation in seminar form, and written essays (as instructed during the course).

Grades for the course are awarded when students have passed all examinations and compulsory course elements. After completing the course, one of the grades Fail (U) or Pass (G) is awarded the student.
A student who for two consecutive examinations for the same course has not been passed, has the right to have another examiner appointed, if there are no special reasons against this (Higher Education Ordinance chapter 6, 22 §). The request for a new examiner shall be made in writing to the Research Council of Umeå Institute of Design.

Academic credit transfer

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Equivalency credits for this course can only be given if it can be shown through transcripts and course plans that a similar course has been passed and after the supervisor and examiner for the PhD education have evaluated and approved the students' individual level of skills and knowledge.

Course literature 2022-11-18

Note: the literature may be subject to change in each instance of course.

Ethics in research. Umeå University home page information.
https://www.aurora.umu.se/en/education-and-research/support-for-research/research-planning/ethics-in-research/

Good Research Practice (2017). Report from The Swedish Research Council.
https://www.vr.se/download/18.5639980c162791bbfe697882/1555334908942/Good- Research-Practice_VR_2017.pdf

Christians, Clifford G. "Chapter 6 Ethics and Politics in Qualitative Research." In *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research*, edited by Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln, 3rd ed.,Thousand Oaks, Calif: Sage Publications, 2005. Pg 139-164

Denzin, Norman K. Chapter 37 "Emancipatory Discourses and the Ethics and Politics of Interpretation." In *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research*, edited by Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln, 3rd ed., Thousand Oaks, Calif: Sage Publications, 2005: Pgs. 933-958

Gelling, Leslie and Carol Munn-Giddings, "Ethical Review of Action Research: The Challenges for Researchers and Research Ethics Committees - 2011." Accessed February 8, 2019.
https://journals-sagepub- com.proxy.ub.umu.se/doi/abs/10.1177/174701611100700305.

Hammersley, Martyn, and Anna Traianou. "An Alternative Ethics? Justice and Care as Guiding Principles for Qualitative Research." *Sociological Research Online* 19, no. 3 (September 1, 2014): 1–14. https://doi.org/10.5153/sro.3466.

Lincoln, Yvonna S. Chapter 7. Institutional Review Boards and Methodological Conservativism In *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research*, edited by Norman K. Denzin and Yvonna S. Lincoln, 3rd ed., 139–64. Thousand Oaks, Calif: Sage Publications, 2005: Pgs. Pgs. 165-181

Lindberg, Susanne "Ethics of User Involvement in Sensitive Design Situations" PhD dissertation, Halmstad University Press, 2018.

Chapter 2 pgs 9-18 & Sections 6.1 & 6.2 pgs 53-61.
Lindström, Kristina, and Åsa Ståhl. "Politics of Inviting: Co-Articulating Issues in Designerly Public Engagement." In *Design Anthropological Futures*. Bloombury, 2016. (16 pages)

Markham, Annette N. "The Methods, Politics, and Ethics of Representation in Online Ethnography." In *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research, SAGE, Thousand Oaks, CA*, 793–820, 2005.

Tonkinwise, Cameron. 2004. "Ethics by design, or the ethos of things." *Design Philosophy Papers* 2, no. 2: 129-

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144. http://www.thestudioattheedgeoftheworld.com/uploads/4/7/4/0/47403357/05tonkin
wiseethos_of_things.pdf

Kolla: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13645579.2017.1287869

https://medium.com/paper-giant/ethics-in-design-research-d43c56fb8952

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/278022166_Design_Ethics_in_design_research_A_re
flection_on_intercultural_praxis_in_the_design_disciplines