

# DES105 Design Methods

**School:** School of Business and Creative Industries

2022 | Semester 2

UniSC Sunshine Coast  
UniSC Moreton Bay

**BLENDED  
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Online

**ONLINE**

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

*Please go to [usc.edu.au](http://usc.edu.au) for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.*

## 1. What is this course about?

### 1.1. Description

Design informs every aspect of our daily lives and influences how we think, act and communicate. Good design makes our lives better in many ways through practical, functional and aesthetic changes that can improve and transform the world in which we live. This practice-focussed course introduces you to design methods and the way designers imagine, experiment and explore to produce creative solutions to the challenges we face in the world today. Through research and practical activities, you will learn how design can play a critical role in shaping our future.

### 1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
<b>BLENDED LEARNING</b>			
<b>Learning materials</b> – Asynchronous learning materials	1hr	Week 1	13 times
<b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b> – Face-to-face workshop	2hrs	Week 1	10 times
<b>Seminar</b> – All cohort seminar	2hrs	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	3 times
<b>ONLINE</b>			
<b>Learning materials</b> – Asynchronous learning materials	1hr	Week 1	13 times
<b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b> – Online workshop	2hrs	Week 1	10 times

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
<b>Seminar</b> – All cohort seminar	2hrs	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	3 times

### 1.3. Course Topics

Range of design methods

Engagement with different design disciplines

Design communication

Critical design approaches and theoretical analysis

Applying design methods to creative production

## 2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

## 3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

## 4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Apply design methods and research strategies to inform creative outcomes	Creative and critical thinker
2 Critically evaluate and use problem-solving strategies and creativity to address a design challenge	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker
3 Use design principles to provide direction and flow and to show levels of importance within content.	Knowledgeable
4 Produce and present design outcomes in a professional and technically appropriate manner.	Empowered
5 Justify design decisions on the basis of how they impact social, ecological and economic outcomes.	Sustainability-focussed
6 Interpret and reflect on design ethics and inclusive design practices to produce socially engaged, agile, relevant and impactful design outcomes	Empowered Ethical

## 5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

### 5.1. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

You should be familiar with working with computers.

## 6. How am I going to be assessed?

### 6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

### 6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

During weeks 1-4 students engage in a set of tasks which will be discussed during workshops for peer and instructor feedback and development. Those tasks will be submitted for the first assessment after 4 weeks.

### 6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	30%	A few pages of images and text.	Week 5	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Essay	Individual	30%	1500 words	Week 9	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	40%	As negotiated with instructor.	Exam Period	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

#### All - Assessment Task 1: Design portfolio

GOAL:	To experiment with different types of design methods in different fields of design.				
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece				
FORMAT:	Compilation of outcomes in digital form. See assessment brief for further details of format.				
CRITERIA:	No.				Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Technical proficiency			1 3
	2	Creative implementation			2
	3	Professional communication			4
GENERIC SKILLS:					

#### All - Assessment Task 2: Critical essay

GOAL:	To connect conceptual and theoretical ideas in design to the practice of design, demonstrating core academic skills.						
PRODUCT:	Essay						
FORMAT:	Written essay with imagery as needed. See assessment brief for further details of format.						
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed				
	1	Critical analysis	2 5 6				
	2	Academic communication skills	4				
GENERIC SKILLS:							

### All - Assessment Task 3: Creative artefact

GOAL:	To develop a creative outcome demonstrating the application of design methods to critical problems.				
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece				
FORMAT:	A designed artefact with accompanying reflection. See assessment brief for further details of format.				
CRITERIA:	No.			Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Conceptual strength		1	2 6
	2	Outcome reflection		2	5
	3	Technical execution		1	3 4
	4	Communication skills		4	
GENERIC SKILLS:					

## 7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

## 8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

### 8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

### 8.2. Specific requirements

Depending on project topic choice, students might have responsibility for obtaining fabrication materials or access to specialist software. In the latter case, use of student or free versions will be encouraged.

## 9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

## 10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

### 10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

## 10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

## 10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

## 10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email [safe@usc.edu.au](mailto:safe@usc.edu.au).

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email [studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au).

## 10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au).

## 10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email [studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 1226.

## 10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email [AccessAbility@usc.edu.au](mailto:AccessAbility@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 2890.

## 10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

## 10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

## 10.10.General Enquiries

### In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

**Tel:** +61 7 5430 2890

**Email:** [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au)