



COURSE OUTLINE

DES101 Elements of Design

Course Coordinator: Leah Barclay (lbarclay@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Business and Creative Industries

2021 | Semester 1

USC Sunshine Coast
USC Moreton Bay

ON CAMPUS

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

Online

ONLINE 1

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

Please go to the USC website 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 plays an important role in generating imaginative and effective communication, understanding, and affective engagement. This course aims to develop your understanding and application of design principles through a range of practical activities. The course provides you with skills and strategies to assist in idea generation and encoding meaning through sound and image. Within this course you will apply design principles to address creative problems and practical challenges and will learn critical evaluation and observation skills.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Lecture – 1 hour online lecture content for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop – On campus tutorial/workshop for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
ONLINE 1			
Online – 3 hours online content for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	3hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

- Design Language and Focal Point
- Balance
- Colour Theory
- Colour Meaning
- Rhythm
- Space and Depth
- Encoding Meaning
- Culture Jamming
- Design that Works
- Design Futures

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 understandings of design principles to develop creative solutions to design problems.	Creative and critical thinker
2 Demonstrate an understanding and application of semiotic principles in design communication.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker
3 Generate a range of possible solutions to design tasks and demonstrate critical ability in the selection of final outcomes.	Creative and critical thinker
4 Demonstrate an ability to explore and manipulate a range of selected media and to present work in a professional manner.	Empowered

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC 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)

Not applicable

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

In week 4, formative feedback will be provided on your Task 1 work in progress during the tutorial.

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%	Week 6 exercises; Week 8 reflection on designs	Refer to Format	Online Assignment Submission
All	2	Artefact - Creative	Individual	40%	3-minute audio-visual piece (PowerPoint slides or video) + 2-3 minute talk	Week 9	Online Assignment Submission
All	3	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	30%	2 x designs plus 400 word written summary	Exam Period	Online Assignment Submission

All - Assessment Task 1: Design Imagination

GOAL:	To explore idea development, develop critical ability and demonstrate an understanding of design principles through visual communication exercises linked to professional design outcomes.																	
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece																	
FORMAT:	Specific task details and description can be found on Blackboard in the Assessment/Task 1 section.																	
CRITERIA:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th>Learning Outcome assessed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Presented on time and fulfils the task requirements</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Demonstrated understanding and application of design principles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Critical ability in the selection of final design outcomes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Sound understanding, practice, experimentation, research and working processes to support the final outcomes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Creativity and originality in idea development and final design outcomes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Professional presentation and skilled use of the medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Assessment criteria are mapped to the course learning outcomes.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	1	Presented on time and fulfils the task requirements	2	Demonstrated understanding and application of design principles	3	Critical ability in the selection of final design outcomes	4	Sound understanding, practice, experimentation, research and working processes to support the final outcomes	5	Creativity and originality in idea development and final design outcomes	6	Professional presentation and skilled use of the medium	7	Assessment criteria are mapped to the course learning outcomes.	<p>1 2 3 4</p>
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All - Assessment Task 2: Design in Nature

GOAL:	To demonstrate an understanding of design principles by using digital photography to reflect the mood of a selected piece of music or sound in a series of images. The images will focus on natural environments and will demonstrate an understanding of space, rhythm, focal point, balance, tonal contrast and colour contrast.
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative
FORMAT:	Specific task details and description can be found on Blackboard in the Assessment/Task 2 section.

CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Project meets the criteria set in the project brief and is presented on time in a skilled and professional manner
	2	Thorough documentation of working processes, idea generation and design decisions
	3	Clear understanding and application of design principles
	4	Demonstrates critical ability in the selection of final design outcomes and overall unity of presentation
	5	Creativity and originality in responses

All - Assessment Task 3: Culture Jamming

GOAL:	Demonstrate an understanding of semiotic theory and design principles in the creation of two linked designs that employ a specific company or organisations 'house style' or design conventions, to critique the company's message or ideologies.												
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece												
FORMAT:	Specific task details and description can be found on Blackboard in the Assessment/Task 3 section.												
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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. Directed study hours may vary by location. 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 Blackboard 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

It is essential that you come prepared with appropriate materials for each tutorial. Requirements: A3 sketchbook/journal, 2B, 4B, 6B graphite pencils, eraser, scissors, glue, ruler, black medium point marker pen, coloured pencils. Task 2 requires the use of a digital camera, a phone camera is suitable.

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 Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

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. 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.

10.5. 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 or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. 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 or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. 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
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website: <http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.8. General Enquiries

In person:

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

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au