

Design Positions Major DES+008

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

ECTS credits¹	10	Programme	BA Design Programmes
NQF level	8	School	Design
Stage	3	Module Co-ordinator	Alex Milton
Trimester	2	Module Team	School of Design staff
Contact	David Bramley, School Secretary: bramleyd@staff.ncad.ie		
Responsibility	The NCAD Academic Council and School of Design Board have responsibility for this module.		

1. Introduction

This module is intended to act as a creative platform for students to explore a range of positions that complement and critique the traditional role of design for industry, building upon the learning undertaken in the Design Positions Minor module.

The module encourages students to position themselves within the future design landscape. Projects will encourage students to challenge existing codes and modes of design and foster student's abilities to be curious, questioning, challenging, provocative, subversive, ambitious, resourceful, innovative, iconoclastic and as ecologically and ethically responsible as possible.

The module is underpinned by lectures, seminars and workshops, and seeks to provide student 's with the opportunity to apply the subject specific design skills, knowledge and understanding, as well as personal transferable skills, acquired in the programme, and address projects within an multi-disciplinary team for a second trimester.

The module seeks to:

1. Enable students to experience the expanding remit of design within a multi-disciplinary design team.
2. Increase student ecological and ethical sense of responsibility.
3. Foster team-working skills.
4. Provide students with an inter-disciplinary peer network.
5. Develop career aspirations and agency ahead of students' final year in college and their early post-college career.

Under the direction of NCAD staff and industry practitioners, students identify opportunities, generate ideas, and make tools for positive industry and sectoral change.

¹ European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, where 60 ECTS credits equate to the workload of a full-time academic year

The module forms part of the Studio+ suite of modules, which seek to give Design students at NCAD a sense of independence and professionalism as they work collaboratively with each other, and with external organisations.

The module provides a platform for a number of pathways such as:

Design for Society

This option enables you to work on live social and cultural projects within the Studio+ interdisciplinary design bureau. Under the creative direction of NCAD staff, you will identify opportunities, generate ideas and work with stakeholders to develop responsible, appropriate and impactful design.

Design for a Circular Economy

The circular economy requires the redesign of everything - from materials, to products, to services, to systems. This option explores the complex issues around design, to interrogate and provoke sustainable systemic change. It provides the actionable methodology, tools, practice and theory for you to design a different future for the sector.

Digital Making

This option explores the opportunities opened up by digital, technological and ecological fabrication across creative practice. Contemporary methods of fabrication, such as 3D printing and laser cutting have changed not only how objects are produced, but have amplified what, and how, artifacts can be created or manufactured. Through an approach that blurs traditional boundaries between art, design, engineering, fabrication and manufacturing, this elective enables learners to explore new bespoke, on-demand, flexible and sustainable forms of making, production, manufacture and creation.

Fashion & Textile Communication

This option explores how fashion, textiles, clothing and accessories are communicated, promoted and creatively presented to different audiences. The elective examines how we communicate fashion and textiles through different creative media, from photography, styling and image making, film and digital media through to advertising and journalism. The course enables learners to understand how changes in our society drive new fashion and textiles concepts, while developing their knowledge and ideas to effectively communicate contemporary design narratives, brands and artefacts.

* Please note that these are indicative and the number and nature of options available will be subject to change depending on cohort size and disciplinary balance.

2. What will I learn?

On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:

1. POSITION: Demonstrate the ability to confidently position design practice as a bridge within and beyond their discipline.

2. CONNECT: Actively participate in the shaping of a connected community, network and team in practice.
3. CHALLENGE: Apply mature creative skills, knowledge and understanding acquired in the programme, to a real-world situation beyond traditional forms of design practice.

3. How will I learn?

Students will learn through a combination of set activities within the studio and self-directed study within and outside the studio.

Learning tool	Hours
Lectures/Tutorials/Workshops/Reviews	30
Studio – Directed Student Learning	70
Self-Directed Learning	100
Total Workload	200

4. What learning supports are provided?

Reading lists, suggested websites and other learning supports are included in the project briefs.

5. How will I be assessed?

Assessment tool	% of final grade	Timing
Submission of a written critical evaluation of the project/s undertaken.	30%	End of trimester
Submission of a portfolio of design work providing evidence of all research and development work carried out during the project/s.	70%	End of trimester
Total	100%	

Assessment tool	Learning outcomes assessed
Written critical evaluation	All learning outcomes
Portfolio of work	All learning outcomes

Students will receive feedback on their progress in the form of formative assessments and informal feedback as well as feedback on summative assessments.

6. What happens if I fail?

Resit Opportunities

Opportunities will be provided during or at the end of Trimester 2 or 3 to students who do not complete all assessments.

7. Am I eligible to take this module?

Module Requisites and Incompatibles

Pre-requisites	To study this module, students must have successfully completed DES+007 Design Positions Minor
Co-requisites	None
Incompatibles	None
Prior learning	None
Recommended	None

8. When and where is this module offered?

Design Studio	Trimester 2
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9. How will I have the chance to evaluate the module?

It is important to NCAD that students inform the development of teaching and learning at NCAD. We encourage all students to communicate their concerns and their observations about their study to members of staff so that any changes can be made in a timely manner.

About two-thirds of the way through the year, a student forum will be convened to gather students' comments about their study and the delivery of the programme. In addition, at the end of Trimester 2, students have the opportunity to complete an online evaluation of their study and experience at NCAD. These evaluation events are important to current and future students, to ensure we can enhance the delivery of programmes at NCAD.

In addition, students are invited to discuss their experience on the module with their lecturers at any point during the year. Students can also relay their comments to the class student representative who will communicate their comments to the staff.

**For further details on the content of your module and teaching arrangements,
consult your Programme or Module Handbook**