

Cím

Biosphere & Technosphere – Speculative Transgressions in Contemporary Design Culture

Classroom ☐
 Studio or workshop ☐
 External venue ☐
 Online ☐

Codes

M-ID-301—BIOSPH-TECHNOSPH

Host

MOME Future School

	Type	ECTS	Contact hours	Homework hour	Course type	Semester	Unit
Basic info	Practice						Emergent and experimental design

Recommendation	<i>This course prepares designers to navigate a world where technology and biology increasingly intersect. It's for students interested in the philosophy of design and in exploring future-oriented, critical, and cross-disciplinary design practices.</i>
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Short description	<i>We will explore speculative and critical design approaches that blur the line between the natural and artificial, focusing on interactions between humans and non-human agents like animals, microbes, machines, and software. Topics include biodesign, AI, robotics, body hacking, and interspecies interfaces, all examined within philosophical frameworks such as</i>
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Teachers	Name	Contact	Bio	Opening hours
	Ákos Schneider	schneider@mome.hu	https://mome.hu/en/emberek/schneider-akos	Mondays 14:00-15:00

Semester schedule	<table> <tr> <th>Course scheduling</th><th>Class appointments</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	Course scheduling	Class appointments		
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#	Date	Educational content
1		Introduction
2		Speculative design, design fiction, critical design I.
3		Speculative design, design fiction, critical design II.
4		Speculative design, design fiction, critical design III.
5		Design beyond the user's scale: hyperobjects and posthuman perspectives I.
6		Design beyond the user's scale: hyperobjects and posthuman perspectives II.
7		Capitalist realism and circular design futures
8		Atypical interfaces: biomedica and biodesign
9		The body as designed object: cyborgs and transhumanism
10		Generative design: visions of Singularity
11		Robotics and anthropomorphic interfaces
12		Terraforming and space design
13		
14		
15		

Requirements and evaluation

Assignments	Evaluation criteria	Deadline	% in evaluation
Active participation in the seminar discussions	Relevant, active engagement in the seminar work.		30%
Presentation of the project research and analysis	Depth and complexity of the analysis of a given design project. The appropriate choice	TBD	40%

	of research criteria. Clarity, comprehensibility and aesthetic quality of the presentation.		
Submission of the short essay (2 pages)	The logical structure, argumentation, critical and analytical quality and rhetorical form of the essay.	TBD	30%

Compulsory readings

Dunne, A., Raby, F., 2013. Speculative Everything: Design, Fiction, and Social Dreaming. Cambridge, Mass.–London: MIT Press.

Recommended readings

Bauwens, T., Hekkert, M., Kirchherr, J., 2020. Circular futures: What Will They Look Like?. Ecological Economics, 175. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2020.106703>
 Braidotti, R., Hlavajova, M. (eds.), 2018. Posthuman Glossary. New York: Bloomsbury Publishing.
 Dunne, A., Raby F., 2001. Design Noir: The Secret Life of Electronic Objects. Berlin: Birkhäuser.
 Fisher, M., 2009. Capitalist Realism: Is There No Alternative?. London: Zero Books.
 Forlano, L. 2017. Posthumanism and design. She Ji: The Journal of Design, Economics, and Innovation, 3 (1), pp. 16–29.
 Wakkary, R., 2021. Things We Could Design: For More than Human-centered Worlds. Cambridge, Mass.–London: MIT Press.
 Wizinsky, M., 2022. Design after Capitalism: Transforming Design Today for an Equitable Tomorrow. Cambridge, Mass.–London: MIT Press.

Learnings

Knowledge	Throughout the course students will gain insight into speculative, critical, experimental registers of contemporary design culture, while exploring ecological, technological and social trends that hold the potential to shape our future and challenge conventional notions of the designer's role and position.
Skills	Students will develop their argumentation, debating and presentation skills. They will also increase their ability to think in complex systems.
Attitude	Students will cultivate their critical and analytical thinking abilities, while fostering their collaborative skills and openness to inter- and transdisciplinary work.
Responsibility	Students will carry out independent research and apply methods of design and artistic research. Subsequently, they will present their findings either individually or in pairs. In addition, they will have the opportunity to assess each other's work and provide mutual feedback.

Exemption

- ☒ Exemption from attending and completing the course cannot be granted,
☐ Exemption may be granted from the acquisition of certain competencies and the fulfilment of tasks
☐ Some tasks can be replaced by other activities,
☐ A full exemption can be granted

Curriculum link

Subject	Related courses (parallels)	Merit rate in the subject
Title of the course to be covered	[This course]	
	Another course	
	Third course	
Course prerequisites	Prerequisites in case of elective	Is it available as an elective?

TechPark

	Resources	
Requests	Personal (expert consultation)	
	Tools	
	Materials	
	Space	

Misc. information