

Name	Design history: Past-present-future. Hungarian design in the modernist era
Codes	M-SZ-E-301-FS-262701-13 / ER-MOME-MA-262701-13
Host	MA School
Location	Classroom, occasionally external location.

Course info			Subject info			
Course Type	Contact hours	Home study hours	Comprehensive Subject	Subject type	Semester	Subject credit value
lecture	36	36		Elective	2026 Fall	5

Recommendation

This course is primarily aimed at industrial design students, but may also be interesting for Designer maker and theoretical students. The course is closely linked to the Past-present-future compulsory design assignment of the Design MA programme.

Short description
The course aims to provide students with knowledge primarily related to design methodology by exploring the great figures of design history, the design trends and problems of the modern era. It gives theoretical and historical background knowledge for individual research and helps to develop a careful and deep understanding of design problems. The course closely follows practical design processes and provides students with theoretical and historical background knowledge.

Teachers

Name	Contact information	Teaching hours	Short BIO	Open hours
Dr. András Szilágyi	szilagyi.andras@mome.hu	36	MOME András B. Szilágyi	

1	2026.09.10	Aesthetic & Social Issues: Where is the soul of Design?	B_108
2	2026.09.17	Aesthetic & Social Issues: Design for the masses, or personalised design?	B_108
3	2026.09.24	Aesthetic & Social Issues: Is Design Art or Science?	B_108
4	2026.10.01	Environmentl & Sustainability: The phases of the Industrial Revolution	B_108
5	2026.10.08	Environmentl & Sustainability: Exploitation or Development?	B_108
6		Course week	
7	2026.10.22	Environmentl & Sustainability: Natural or Artificial?	B_108
8	2026.10.29	Functionality, Safety, Maintenance & Durability	B_108
9	2026.11.05	Material, Structure, Function & Form	B_108
10	2026.11.12	Heroic structures and critical reactions	B_108
11	2026.11.19	Craft: Proto-Design & Post-Design	B_108
12	2026.11.26	Identity: industrialization and global identity	B_108
13	2026.12.03	Personality: creating emotional connections	
14			
15			

Course completion requirements, prerequisites, and evaluation				
Students' duties				
Requirements, assignments	Form of evaluation	Evaluation criteria	Deadline	% in evaluation
Requirement 1...	Semi-annual evaluation (colloquium), course evaluation discussion			
Requirement 2...				
General requirements				
e.g. eligibility criteria for the exam, free-form description				

Course materials and literature
Mandatory literature
Course notes and presentations
Recommended literature
Lelkes Péter: Art Designer - A magyar formatervezés fél évszázada (2004) John Maeda: The Laws of Simplicity (2006) David Crowley – Jane Pawitt: Cold War Modern: Design 1945-1970 (2008) Greg Catillo: Cold War on the Home Front: The Soft Power of Midcentury Design (2010) Don Norman: The Design of Everyday Things: Revised and Expanded Edition (2013) Tom Cubbin: Soviet Critical Design: Senezh Studio and the Communist Surround (2018) Katharina Pfützner: Designing for Socialist Need: Industrial Design Practice in the German Democratic Republic (2019) Yulia Karpova: Comradely Objects: Design and Material Culture in Soviet Russia, 1960s–1980s (2020)

Learning outcomes

Knowledge	
Skills	
Attitude	
Autonomy and Responsibility	

Exemption
No exemption may be granted from participation in or completion of the course. Exemption may be granted from completing certain tasks or attending specific sessions. Certain tasks may be replaced by equivalent activities. Full exemption may be granted The student must discuss the details of a full or partial exemption with the instructor and the programme lead.

Curricular connections		
Subject	Parallel courses	Course proportion in subject
Subject prerequisites	Special subject prerequisites	Is it available as an elective?
		Yes

Guidelines and rules for the use of artificial intelligence in the course
The use of artificial intelligence at the university is subject to the Artificial Intelligence and Plagiarism Policy of the Moholy-Nagy University of Arts.

Materials needed for the course	Who provides the materials?
Material requirement 1	Tech Park / Programme / Student / Other
Material requirement 2	Tech Park / Programme / Student / Other

Other information, comments
This course, and the activities carried out during it, fall under the scope of Section 6 (1) of the University's Intellectual Property Management Regulations, effective September 1, 2021. Accordingly, participating students will enter into an agreement with the University in line with Section 6 (3) of the Regulations, including the transfer of economic and usage rights of intellectual creations produced during the course to the University under the terms specified

in the contract. Furthermore, the student is obligated to maintain full confidentiality regarding the entire course—especially concerning the subject of the course, the activities, the works, creations, and other results, as well as the circumstances of their creation—and may not disclose, publish, or make any information public, except as otherwise specified in a signed written agreement necessary for completing the course.

Acceptance of these conditions is a prerequisite for enrolling in the course. By selecting the 'Course Registration' option, the student acknowledges awareness of these conditions and agrees to participate in the conclusion of the relevant agreement.