Final Report and Critique Specifications

Aesthetics of Design

Spring 2021

Due dates:

- Your product (artifact, plans or whatever you have created) must be completed by 11 am Friday April 23
  - You are encouraged to revise and improve them later, but this is the version you must document for critique. If you revise your creation, submit an additional post about it later too.
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- Option 1:
  - 2 part final report.
  - Part 1 due on AesDes.org midnight Weds April 21.
  - 2 In-Depth Critiques (i.e. for two people) of Part 1 due as comments due midnight Sunday April 25.
  - Part 2, plus video of your Final Report presentation in the post due midnight Weds April 28.
- Option 2:
  - 1 part report
  - 2x size, including content specified for Part 1 and 2, plus presentation video due midnight Weds April 28.
- Sign up for AesDes Expo by midnight Weds April 28.
- Ungrading Statement midnight Tuesday May 4, 1:30 pm
- Exit Survey Tuesday May 4, 1:30 pm
- Virtual AesDes Expo Tuesday May 4, 1:30 pm
- Any final revisions or late work: Weds May 5, noon. Submissions after this time will require a grade change.

Details

Main Project Artifact
From the Initial Assignments document.

"You can make anything you want, as long as it has some sort of dynamic component; a moving part or something that changes with time. You are expected to pay for the materials (cost at least equivalent to a hardcopy textbook, say $150) and the project is yours to keep at the end of the semester."
And of course, it must express some aesthetic that you choose and define. That's what this class is about, right?

Final Report/Blog post, Parts 1 and 2

Length: As long as it needs to be to include the following. This documents your efforts for two thirds of the semester. Don't scrimp.
Your complete report will be due in two parts, as posts in consecutive weeks. Part 1 focuses on the 'what' and Part 2 focuses on the 'how'

- Title/blog spaceholder for Part 1 due midnight Sunday April 19, so your pod can comment on it during your presentation. Don't forget to set a Featured Image for each part.
- OK to cut and paste from previous posts about your main project, but be sure to update the content and incorporate into a narrative of how your project developed. Don't forget to turn future tense into past tense throughout ('I will do XYZ' should become 'I did XY but couldn't do Z').

Part 1: What

- Describe and **cite** your inspirations and any existing designs that you adapted. *You must cite ALL content on your blogs for this course! Any photo that you did not take, any text that you did not write MUST have a citation, a source link. If you can't remember where you got something DON'T USE IT. Go back and search for something similar that you can cite.*
- Describe your vision for your project, the specifications that you developed for its function *and its form, your artistic vision an**d aesthetic**.* What were you trying for?
- Include and describe your initial sketches and final design plans. Include your CAD drawings if you are using CAD in your design process. Include how your aesthetic was embodied in your design

Part 2: How

- Create a timeline graphic. Show your actual design process. Be sure to show times for exploration, skill acquisition, looping, shopping, fabrication and documentation.
- Add a detailed description of your actual fabrication process. How did you make your artifact? What were the steps? Describe the steps shown in your timeline graphic. Document with lots of additional sketches, flowcharts, photos and/or video.
- Write a conclusion. Compare where you started (plans) with where you ended. What do you wish you had done differently? What will happen to your creation now? **Focus on the aesthetics**. Don't get too wrapped up in function.
- Include a link to the video you made of your live presentation, or another video that provides an equivalent full description.

Final Report Presentations

In class starting Friday April 23 (see Schedule), we will have presentations in pods. These will be the same pods and procedures as the rest of the semester. **Plan on two (2) students per session**; a little longer than Upcycle or Design Preview.

Pod Facilitators (the grad student in the group) is expected to coordinate Critique Facilitators, who presents which day, make sure the zoom links are posted in Slack and in the Google Sheet and take roll, filling out the names in the Google Sheet. This needs to be done before the first presentation on Friday April 23.

Each student will give a presentation on their project, with the content of the presentation to mirror the entire (Parts 1 and 2) written report, detailed above. Yes, Powerpoint is suggested. Plan to talk for 12 minutes, then take 12 minutes for Q&A, then one minute for the next speaker to get set up while others are commenting.
 It's up to you to make sure you can share your screen in Zoom. If it doesn't work, be prepared to have a backup posted (in Slack?) to show on somebody else's laptop or speak without it.

Say Thank You at the end of your talk. Do NOT say 'Any questions' right away; wait until after the applause or thumbs ups. Then ask for questions. It's magic. It completes the rhythm of the talk. Allowing applause sets the audience free to ask.

Your facilitator should record the entire session, but you should probably record your session yourself, to add to your posted report. Yes, **this is required**. If your video turns out awful for some reason, you may re-record your talk afterwards and post that. Title your video, then upload to Youtube or Vimeo and put the link in your post Part 2.

Everyone is expected to comment on your podmates' presentations, live in class. **Even on the days you are not presenting, you must attend and comment**. This is another opportunity to hone your critique skills. If you cannot attend, be sure to comment anyways, and figure out some other way to contribute to the class.

Ungrading Statement Due Tuesday May 4, 1:30 pm
As I said at the start of the semester, everybody who has done all their weekly posts, required presentations, substantive comments, and made a good effort at all the other stuff will get an A. However, I have no way to really understand all the stresses you've been under and challenges you are facing, so we will also use a form of 'ungrading' (there is interesting research on this approach). I am hereby requesting you to send me (DM in Slack or email) a short statement of what grade you believe you have earned and why, taking everything into account. This is the grade you will get, unless I see substantial evidence to the contrary in your work. This statement will be due at the start of our expo, Tuesday May 4, 1:30 pm

Exit Survey Due Tuesday May 4, 1:30 pm
Check your email for a Qualtrics survey link starting Monday April 26. I very much value your thoughtful responses, and will use them to improve the class.

AesDes Virtual Expo Tuesday May 4, 1:30 pm. Attendance expected.
Your pod will be assigned a 20 minute time slot. During your time slot, you will host a zoom room and show your artifact. This is informal: you can just show the thing live, and answer questions from attendees. If you want, you can give no more than a 2 or 3 minute presentation a few times; people will be popping in and out. Outside of your time slot, you should pop in to other folks' zoom rooms to admire their work.

Pod	Start time	End Time
1	1:30	1:50
2	1:50	2:10
3	2:10	2:30
4	2:30	2:50
5	2:50	3:10
6	3:10	3:30

By Weds April 28 midnight you should put your project title and zoom room link in this GoogleSheet. DO NOT PASSWORD PROTECT YOUR ZOOM ROOM. This is a public showing. You'll be host, you can kick out any bomber.

Please invite your family and friends to the Expo, to see your work and others'. Send them the GoogleSheet so they have links to all the rooms.

Final Revisions due noon Weds May 5.

Final Revisions: You can submit late edits, posts and comments until noon May 5; please email Behruz, so he knows to update Canvas. You are welcome to keep working on your project, and revise/add to your posts accordingly, up to January 2022; you'll still have editing access. If you believe your extra work merits a change in grade, be sure to let me know.