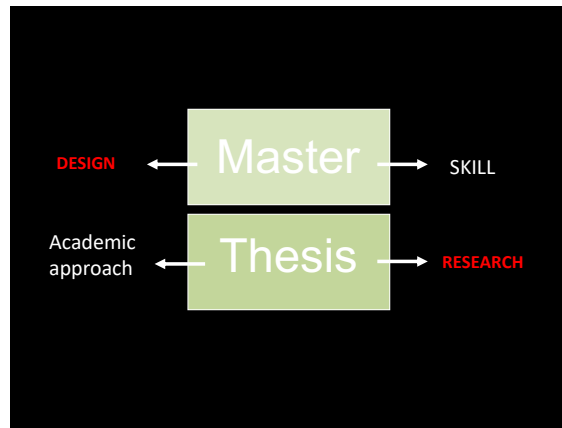


Course PM, ARK636, Master's thesis preparation course, part 1 4,5p, Autumn semester, 2019



Description and aim

The course prepares the students through a general understanding of the master's thesis process. It presents the different directions within the master's thesis and enables the students to evaluate and choose a direction. Within the course the student will develop a platform of knowledge by testing, developing and analyzing different fields, themes or ideas for a master's thesis. At this stage the purpose is not to grade or rate the master thesis work, but to explore and evaluate. That means that the result of the course may vary from student to student, depending on where they are in the process. The project plan will be developed within ARK641, Master's thesis preparation course, part 2. Therefore, the result from this course is a wide exploration and evaluation of directions, ideas and methods.

The course focuses on training the students abilities surrounding;

- the relationship between research and design, as well as the differences
- how to develop knowledge through references and analysis
- how to use references
- methods and tactics
- how to develop a process
- how to communicate the work
- how to evaluate the material

The purpose is to give a general toolbox for the master's thesis process. When the course is finished, the students will have made a direction choice, and will have had time to test, develop and analyze different fields, themes or ideas for a master's thesis.



Content and structure

The course is based on lectures, workshops, groupwork, group feedback, individual work and feedback with teachers.

The following lectures are conducted within the course:

- *What is a MT*, Maja Kovács
- *What are the options for doing a MT*, representatives from all the directions
- *Part 1, Warm-up and reflection*, Maja Kovács
- *Part 2, Positioning and themes*, Maja Kovács
- *Working with reference*, Anna Volkova and Yommine Hjalmarsson from the Library
- *Academic writing + For whom? Creating interest in your work adapted to its audience*, Lisa Bomblé
- *Part 3, Subject and methods*, Maja Kovács
- *The design process*, Jonas Carlson
- *Developing your process + How to write an abstract*, Maja Kovács

Assignments and submission

The following assignments and deadlines create a structure within the course:

Assignment 1: *Group workshop (group work)*, 2nd of September

Assignment 2: *Read and Summarize (group work)*, 6th of September

Assignment 3: Choose a preliminary direction (individual work), 6th of September

Assignment 4: *Positioning (individual work)*, 10th of September

Assignment 5: *Subject and contextualization (individual work)*, 12th of September

Assignment 6: *Presentation and feedback (group work)*, 13th of September

Assignment 7: *Preparation for interview (individual work)*, 17th of September

Assignment 8: *Final draft (individual work)*, 20th of September

Assignment 9: *Direction choice (individual work)*, 20th of September

Assignment 10: *Presentation and feedback (group work)*, 20th of September

Assignment 11: *Evaluation (group work)*, 20th of September

We use Canvas for all our deliverances. No emails!

Evaluation criteria's and supplements

Grading: Approved / not approved

Criteria:

- Presence at the scheduled activities, 90% minimum and active participation at the seminars and group work
- Submission of all assignments and on time
- Quality of submissions

If a lecture is missed, then an interview with a student who was present at the time should be summarized and submitted via Canvas, under Supplements.

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If a group opportunity is missed, a separate individual compilation of the assignment should be made. Submitted via Canvas, under Supplements.

A missed opportunity is each lecture or group work, it is not divided per day.

The student must sign the attendance list herself/himself, and the right persons must be indicated in the group work submissions. Any misuse of this will be considered a forgery.

The assignments in the course are based on progression and should therefore be delivered on time during the course. The final assignment 8, is the final deliverance of the course. If the student does not succeed in delivering the assignments on time the students will have the following opportunities for a re-examination: 2nd of October at 5 pm or the 8th of January at 5 pm.

If the student does not deliver assignment 7 on time, the students will not be able to have an interview with a teacher in the final week.

Faculty

Maja Kovács, course leader
Daniel Norell, examiner

