# Semester 5

**Code: SDe2SD105- Design Ethics & Practice (2 Credits)**

**Code: SDe2SD505- Independent Study (4 Credits)**

**Code: SDe2SD805- Social Studio V- Final Thesis Project and Seminar (14 Credits)**

**Total- 20 Credits**

**Ambedkar University, Delhi**

**Course Title:** Design Practice and Ethics

**Credits:** 2

**Course Code:** SDe2SD105

**Name of the School/Centre proposing the course:** School of Design (SDes)

**Programme(s) which this course can be a part of:** MDes Social Design

**Course coordinator and team: Ms. Suchitra Balasubrahmanyan**

1. **If the course is a part of one or more programme(s), its location in the programme(s) core/compulsory/optional/any other:** MDes Social Design - **Core**

2. **Does the course connect to, build on or overlap with any other courses offered in AUD:** The course builds on the theory courses and workshops in the preceding semesters.

3. **Specific Requirements on the part of students who can be admitted to this course: (Pre-requisites; prior knowledge level; any others – please specify)** Completion of all courses of Semesters 1-4

4. **Course scheduling (summer/winter course, semester-long course, regular or evening course, weekend course, etc.):** Semester 5

5. **How does the Course link with the institutional vision and the specific programme(s) where it is being offered?** The course explores the ethics of design practice in social domains which would necessarily address issues of equity, justice, access and empowerment

6. **Course Details:**

   **a.Summary:**
   Having recognized the multidisciplinary nature of design and the potential of transforming human experience, this course will enable students to grapple with ethical dilemmas plaguing design practice and how ethics combined with individual values and larger concerns can be built into design practices themselves.

   **b.      Objectives:**
           To analytically explore the multiple ethical issues facing design practice especially when it directly touches human well being

To analyse the academic inputs and experiences of the preceding semesters through the lens of ethics

To understand and articulate one's individual stand on the above issues with regard to one's own design practice

**c.** **Overall structure:**

The course would be conducted over one week of continuous engagement in workshop mode. It would be conducted by one or more invited experts. The structure would vary depending on the approach and suggestions of the invited experts.

**d.Contents (brief note on each module; indicative reading list with core and supplementary readings)**

Keeping within the outline described above, the course content would be shaped by the domain expertise of invited experts.

**Core Readings**

The core readings of the course would thus vary and would be identified by the course coordinator in consultation with invited experts well before the course is offered.

**Supplementary Resources**

Fry, Tony. Design Futuring: Sustainability, Ethics and New Practice. Berg: Oxford. 2009

Felton, Emma, Oksana Zelenko and Suzi Vaughan (eds): Design and Ethics: Reflections on Practice. London: Routledge. 2012

Heller, Steven and Veronique Vienne (eds). Citizen Designer: Perspectives on Design Responsibility. New York: Allworth Press. 2003

**9. Pedagogy**

a. **Instructional design**

The modules would be conducted in workshop mode with a combination of illustrated lectures, analysis of core readings, field visits and short assignments.

b. **Special needs (facilities, requirements in terms of software, studio, lab, clinic, library, classroom/other instructional space, any other – please specify:**

Projector and Display space

c. **Expertise in AUD faculty or outside**

Expertise from outside faculty

d. **Linkages with external agencies (e.g. with field-based organisations, hospital; any others)** None

10. **Assessment structure (modes and frequency of assessments)**

The final grade would be composed of the following:
Class participation: 30% (engagement with workshop themes, participation in class discussions, enthusiasm for unfamiliar material, verbal articulation)
Assignments: 40%
Group project: 30%

**Signature of Course Coordinator(s)**

**Note:**
Modifications on the basis of deliberations in the Board of Studies may be incorporated and the revised proposal should be submitted to the Academic Council.
Courses which are meant to be part of more than one programme, and are to be shared across schools, may need to be taken through the Boards of Studies of the respective schools.
In certain special cases, where a course does not belong to any particular school, the proposal may be submitted directly to the Academic Council.

Recommendation of the School of Studies:
The proposal was discussed by the Board of Studies in its 4th meeting held through circulation on 22nd June 2015 and has been approved in the present form.

**Ambedkar University, Delhi**

**Course Title:** Independent Study

**Credits:** 4

**Course Code:** SDe2SD505

**Name of the School/Centre proposing the course:** School of Design (SDes)

**Programme(s) which this course can be a part of:** MDes Social Design

**Level at which the course can be offered: Pre doctoral / MA / PG Diploma / Certificate / UG:** MA

**Course coordinator and team: Ms. Suchitra Balasubrahmanyan**

1. **If the course is a part of one or more programme(s), its location in the programme(s) core/compulsory/optional/any other:** MDes Social Design- **Core**

2. **Does the course connect to, build on or overlap with any other courses offered in AUD:** No

3. **Specific Requirements on the part of students who can be admitted to this course: (Pre-requisites; prior knowledge level; any others – please specify):** Successful completion of all subjects till 4th semester

4. **Course scheduling (summer/winter course, semester-long course, regular or evening course, weekend course, etc.):** Summer break between semester 4 and 5

5. **How does the Course link with the institutional vision and the specific programme(s) where it is being offered?** The course is a build up towards the final project which will be located in areas of social relevance.

6. **Course Details:**

   **a. Summary:**
   This course consists of an independent position paper supervised by a faculty member in order to explore the background of the subject area of the final project of the programme to be undertaken in semester 5.

**b. Objectives:**

To put together all material related to the project area with application of all tools and methods introduced in earlier semesters.

To collate all information and develop conceptual framework within which the final project will be situated.
To build a resource and reference base for the final project.
**c. Overall structure:**
Self-directed study and research mentored by the assigned faculty guide

**d. Contents (brief note on each module; indicative reading list with core and supplementary readings)**
Introduction to subject and Contemporary scenario
Analysis of the Socio- cultural, political, economic factors
Articulation of challenges and opportunities
Possible scenarios for change
Identification of specific areas of design intervention potential/new imagination

**Core Readings**

To be identified by the students along with suggestions by the faculty guide
Supplementary Resources
To be identified by the students along with suggestions by the faculty guide and domain experts.

**7. Pedagogy**
a. Instructional design
Student-led research and guided by respective faculty guide.
b. Special needs (facilities, requirements in terms of software, studio, lab, clinic, library, classroom/other instructional space, any other – please specify:
Access to library
c. Expertise in AUD faculty or outside
Both
d. Linkages with external agencies (e.g. with field-based organisations, hospital; any others)
Yes. As relevant to each student's area of inquiry.

**10. Assessment structure (modes and frequency of assessments)**
Student initiative- (30% )
Draft submission-(30%)
Final paper-(40%)

**Signature of Course Coordinator(s)**

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Recommendation of the School of Studies:
The proposal was discussed by the Board of Studies in its 4th meeting held through circulation on 22nd June 2015 and has been approved in the present form.

**Ambedkar University, Delhi**

**Course Title:** Social Studio 5 – Final Thesis Project and Seminar

**Credits:** 14

**Course Code:** SDe2SD805

**Name of the School/Centre proposing the course:** School of Design (SDes)
**Programme(s) which this course can be a part of:** MDes Social Design

**Level at which the course can be offered: Pre doctoral / MA / PG Diploma / Certificate / UG:** MA

**Course coordinator and team: Ms. Suchitra Balasubrahmanyan**

1. **If the course is a part of one or more programme(s), its location in the programme(s) core/compulsory/optional/any other:** MA Social Design -  Social Studio 5- Core

2. **Does the course connect to, build on or overlap with any other courses offered in AUD:** No

3. **Specific Requirements on the part of students who can be admitted to this course: (Pre-requisites; prior knowledge level; any others – please specify)**
   Successful completion of all courses offered till fourth semester

4. **Course scheduling (summer/winter course, semester-long course, regular or evening course, weekend course, etc.):** Semester 5

5. **How does the Course link with the institutional vision and the specific programme(s) where it is being offered?**
   The final project is a detailed exploration of a social situation or a problem which will culminate into a proposed design solution/s to the issue/problem. The nature of the projects undertaken is located in larger social issues of equity, access, inclusion and empowerment. The focus and content of this course is thus, directly

connected with the larger vision of the University.

6. **Course Details:**
   **a.Summary:**
   Design Thesis is a comprehensive investigation of a particular issue or phenomenon articulated in the Independent Study and Design Thesis Research, manifested in a design project that engages the symbiotic relationships between the social and material inhabited world. Students will be actively encouraged to choose projects at an organizational scale and the design thesis culminates with the student being able to demonstrate how their project can achieve social change. The nature of projects while being located in real life, can either be either supported by a client/organization or the independent proposals for potential for implementation.

   **b. Objectives:**
   To demonstrate holistic application of learning of the previous semesters.
   To demonstrate how social design approaches, methods and tools can intervene meaningfully to enhance the quality of life for large majority of people and society.
   To visualize and manage all necessary stages of the design process- identification, analysis, ideation, prototyping, review and implementation.
   To work in partnership with various stakeholders to ensure inclusive and participatory outcomes that is sustainable.

   **c. Overall structure:**
   The course is an amalgamation of Design thesis research, , project dissertation and seminar and final project thesis.

   **a.** Articulation of research methodology (Quantitative or Qualitative) in terms of audience/constituency/community being addressed.
   **b.** Field study and findings
   **c.** Identification of proposed design intervention with alternative approaches.
   **d.** Field implementation and feedback
   **e.** Reflection of the entire process
   **f.** Project thesis

   **d. Contents (brief note on each module; indicative reading list with core and supplementary readings)** Contents and reading list will vary with the nature of project area undertaken by each student and hence is not stated here.

   **Core Readings**
   Contents and reading list will vary with the nature of project area undertaken by each student and hence is not stated here.

**Supplementary Resources**
Domain expertise to be accessed by individual students based on the project area.

Field visits and study, external support from relevant institutions/agencies to be facilitated by the School.

7. **Pedagogy**

a. Instructional design
Individual guidance from internal school faculty with domain guidance from external experts.
b. Special needs (facilities, requirements in terms of software, studio, lab, clinic, library, classroom/other instructional space, any other – please specify:
Meeting and presentation space with LCD projector and display boards

c. Expertise in AUD faculty or outside
BOTH depending on the nature of project area.
d. Linkages with external agencies (e.g. with field-based organisations, hospital; any others)

8. **Assessment structure (modes and frequency of assessments)**

**Presentation 1 –Interim Evaluation 1: Mid August**
The progress of the project will be presented and evaluated with internal guide and faculty of the School.
**Presentation 2 – Interim Evaluation 2: Early October**
The progress of the project will be presented and evaluated with internal guide and faculty of the School.
**Final Seminar**- Early December
Each student to present a presentation of the project to a group of school and AUD faculty as an open event.
**Submission of Final Project: End December**
The Final Project will be evaluated by internal and external guides and other experts. Copies will be sent to external jury member/s in advance and juries will be scheduled after giving 4-6 weeks for jury members to read the final document.

**Evaluation Weightage**
Presentations 1 and 2 will be the first and second evaluations of Final Project. (20% weightage each)
The third evaluation of the Final Project will be done based on the Seminar(20% weightage)
Final jury will carry 40% weightage.

**Signature of Course Coordinator(s)**

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Recommendation of the School of Studies:

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