

MODULE DESCRIPTION - ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

Field	Design and Fine Arts	
Program	MA Design	
Major	All majors	
Module title	Master's Thesis : theoretical project	
Code	2MaDe21	DDISO814FE25
Course Type	Master	
Semester	Semester 4	
ECTS Credits	9	
Prerequisites	Validation of all Semester 1 – 2 modules (60 credits)	
Languages	French / English	
Place	ECAL	

Skills targeted General learning objectives	<p>This module constitutes of the student's theoretical Master's thesis. It concludes with a written thesis that must be an original contribution to the field of design.</p> <p>The thesis must show that the student has acquired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in-depth knowledge and understanding of the specific chosen area and its mechanisms based on the state-of-the-art • ability to analyse, summarize and theoretically reflect and criticise, to develop convincing arguments • capacity for research and innovation • a methodology enabling him/her to efficiently manage creation processes.
Teaching content and form	<p>The student will develop and carry out research related to his/her final theoretical research project under the supervision of one or possibly two tutors, but will mainly work independently. Depending on the specialization and/or the nature and progress of his/her thesis work, the student will receive support via</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seminar courses in small groups • meetings and interviews with specialists • presentations, discussions and individual or group criticism at different stages of his/her research • regular personal consultation with his/her tutor. <p>Depending on the personal study project, the final-year thesis and practical project may constitute a single body of work. Nonetheless, the thesis shall be assessed on its own merits and be validated before the practical project.</p>
Forms of assessment and validation	<p>The thesis will be assessed by an exam review board comprising at least one member from the major and one member external to the HES-SO MA in Design programme.</p> <p>Assessment will be in the form of a personal defence and may take into account the regularity in meetings with the tutor/s and active participation in supervised activities.</p> <p>The student must achieve a minimum grade of 4 to obtain credits.</p>
Remedial teaching	<p>If a student receives a failing grade, but not below 3.5, he/she can present additional work to correct the shortfall.</p> <p>In the event of a grade below 3.5, the student must repeat the module the following academic year, in accordance with procedures agreed to with the head of the module.</p> <p>There is no remedial measure after repetition of the module.</p>
Professors	Wayne Daly, Roland Früh, Emily Clare Groves, Christophe Guignard, Claus Gunti, Anniina Koivu, Clothilde Morette, Brynjar Sigurdarson

In charge of the module	Koivu Anniina		
Description validated on	7 September 2025	By	Koivu Anniina

The French text is authentic