Oregon State University
HEST 444/544: Co-Design for Development: A remote collaborative experience
Term: Spring 2021
Credits: 2

Instructor Information
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Course Description
Throughout this project-based course, students in multidisciplinary teams will collaborate remotely with a group of local innovators from an indigenous global community to develop sustainable solutions that address some of their current challenges. As the multicultural teams proceed through the design process, students and local innovators will gather and process information to understand the context user needs, explore ideation methods to generate ideas and design proposals, prototype, test and gather feedback and develop an implementation plan. Final deliverables will consist of a prototype and implementation plan.

Course Objectives

- To provide students with an understanding of current challenges and needs of vulnerable communities in Guatemala and identify opportunities to make an impact through design.
- To introduce students to the participatory design process and provide real world scenarios to learn and practice the tools, skills and mindsets of co-design as well as the methods needed to design for social impact and sustainability.
- To provide students with the opportunity to work remotely in a multidisciplinary and multicultural team.

This project-based course will consist of one synchronous 100-minute recitation per week that will include activities, remote discussions, multi-disciplinary lectures, literature/online background research. A design whiteboard will hold individual and team assignments and be populated throughout the course. The course will conclude with a presentation of final deliverables to community members and other local stakeholders.

Prerequisites - None

Required Textbooks - None
Learning Resources - The reading materials for the course are drawn from a variety of texts, journals, books, and online resources. Specifically, there will be readings for graduate students on design team facilitation.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Articulate and apply principles and methods of co-design
- Demonstrate engagement with local or global community through collaboration on design projects
- Use knowledge, diverse cultural frames of reference, and alternative perspectives to think critically and communicate successfully across cultures and disciplines
- Formulate a business and implementation plan

Graduate student learning outcomes:

- Lead an interdisciplinary multicultural design team

Evaluation of Student Learning

Final grades in the course are based on the following in alignment with the learning outcomes:

- Class participation (including peer review) 50%
- Assignments 20%
- Prototype 10%
- Business and Implementation Plan 20%

Participation

Students are expected to read the assigned readings and actively participate in class discussions and activities. During the synchronous co-design sessions, students are expected to be present and engaged.

Final Grading

Final grades will be assigned based on the standard percentile range as shown.

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Other Considerations

Expectations for Student Conduct

Choosing to join the Oregon State University community obligates each member to a code of responsible behavior which is outlined in the Student Conduct Code:
https://beav.es/codeofconduct. The assumption upon which this Code is based is that all persons must treat one another with dignity and respect in order for scholarship to thrive.

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities
Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at http://ds.oregonstate.edu. DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

Reach Out for Success
University students encounter setbacks from time to time. If you encounter difficulties and need assistance, it’s important to reach out. Consider discussing the situation with an instructor or academic advisor. Learn about resources that assist with wellness and academic success at oregonstate.edu/ReachOut. If you are in immediate crisis, please contact the Crisis Text Line by texting OREGON to 741-741 or call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Brief Basic Needs Syllabus Statement
Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Human Services Resource Center (HSRC) for support (hsrc@oregonstate.edu, 541-737-3747). The HSRC has a food pantry, a textbook lending program and other resources to help. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources that they may possess.

Religious Holiday Statement
Oregon State University strives to respect all religious practices. If a student has religious holidays that are in conflict with any of the requirements of this class, please contact the instructor to make alternative arrangements.
Course Content and Schedule

Week 1: Welcome & Introduction; Intercultural competencies; Introduction to Participatory Design.

Week 2*: Context & Culture; Community Building: WOOPPI- Wishes, Objectives, Obstacles, Plan, Identity (setting goals, strategies for success, getting to know each other)

Week 3*: Design Brief - Learning from past projects; Information Gathering; Intro to Household energy

Week 4*: Information Sharing & Download; Information Synthesis & Problem Framing - Problem Framing Presentations

Week 5: Ideation Session

Week 6*: Co-creation through Sketch Modeling

Week 7*: Design Review: Feedback Session - Integrating Feedback

Week 8: Prototyping; Detailed Design

Week 9*: Final Presentation; Continuity; Reflection & Wrap up

Week 10: Debriefing; Survey

*Bold denotes synchronous activities in the field