MA COMMUNICATION DESIGN

THE HANDBOOK
VOLUME ONE
2012-2013
Welcome to WSAmacd.

WSAmacd is the tag for the MA in Communication Design at Winchester School of Art. We’ll be talking more about tags as the course progresses but essentially it’s the nearest thing social media has to a logo – recognisable brand communication. The main difference being that the brand (us, this course, the University) doesn’t have control over it. Anyone can tag their content with WSAmacd or #WSAmacd and so add it to the distributed picture of our course and brand. But I’m getting ahead of myself here. These questions, issues and problematics will crop up as we move through the year. In the meantime, welcome...

WSAmacd looks to take your existing design work and push it into new areas; to question your ideas about design and the designer; to explore where the design industry is and where it’s going.

You arrive on this course as good designers – you wouldn’t have got in unless you were already a skilled illustrator, typographer, photographer, motion or static graphics creator… but this MA is more than just about polishing those skills. It’s about deepening your critical and analytical skills, pushing those skills or developing new ones that can address the complex realities of the global, digital design industries and markets.

I hope you enjoy the course. If you have any questions or comments or ideas of ways we can make it better, let’s talk.

Paul Caplan
Senior Teaching Fellow, Digital Media & Design
Pathway Leader WSAmacd
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Your tutors and the course

Your tutors
We have backgrounds in the media and design industries as well as being active designers and researchers:

Paul Caplan
After a career in business to business journalism as editor, photographer and designer, Paul formed his own company to provide digital media consultancy to the UK Government, public sector and charities as well as business. His journalism and photography have appeared in national magazines and newspapers and his company has worked for COI Communications, the Royal Air Force, the NHS and Airbus. He has just completed a practice research PhD at Birkbeck, University of London. Paul’s research focuses on strategic approaches to distributed global media and communications as well as digital imaging, software and object-oriented approaches to media.

Paul is Pathway Leader and looks after Stream 3 of the programme.
Jacqueline Perkins
Jacqueline has an established professional background in graphic design and art direction in television, film and print. She has directed her concepts for titles, content, commercials and brand identities across a range of media working for the BBC and for clients including Channel 4, ITV and independent production companies. She has also been a judge for the British Film and Television Awards. Her research focuses on work-related learning in design, industry collaboration and employability.

Jacqueline looks after Stream 2 of the programme.

Naomi DePeza-Purvis
Naomi has worked in the media for 20 years, specialising in newspaper and magazine design. She has been Art Director for publications including The Independent on Sunday Review, The Guardian, The Observer, The Daily Telegraph, The Illustrated London News and Blueprint magazine.

Naomi looks after Stream 1 of the programme.

Your tutors are here to advise, offer feedback and supervise your Final Major Project, but perhaps more importantly to stimulate your thinking and your practice; to raise questions and things you might not have thought of; to point you in the direction of material, artists, film-makers or designers, theories, concepts and technologies that you can use to develop your own distinctive design vision.

Sign-up tutorials a.k.a. “office hours”
Each tutor offers weekly sign-up slots where you can arrange to meet and discuss your work, the streams, your assessments or any aspect of the course. The tutors try to make themselves available at other times of the week but sometimes that is difficult hence the rather clumsy mechanism of “office hours”. You can sign up for these sessions on sheets on the tutors’ office doors. The sessions are listed on the Timetable.
Our expectations
The programme we have designed only works effectively if you engage with all parts of it. The cross-fertilisation of ideas and practices we are looking for and that we think will equip you with the skills, knowledge and experience to build your careers, will only work if you play a full part in all three streams.

As such we expect you to:

• turn up on time to all sessions
• have done the reading/preparation you were asked to complete
• engage in discussion with the group providing constructive feedback and critical support.

We are here to deliver the programme but more than that, to support you in working through it. We have timetabled workshops, seminars, crits and optional sign-up tutorial slots throughout the year. We try to be as accessible as possible – tutors have “office hours” where you can book time to see us - but we believe that a key part of postgraduate study is managing your own time, research, work and deadlines. The projects and particularly the assessments you develop will be very much self-directed.
Stream 1: Editorial Design for Print Media

About the stream
Stream 1 looks at the printed word and specifically the essentials of the editorial process. In today’s information-saturated world, succinct visual communication is becoming more and more important. The designer is the person who moulds the printed format in all its diverse guises – from magazine, newspaper or book to map, banner or label.

In Stream 1 you will be challenged to focus on what print can do. You will explore concepts and content, flatplanning, layout and grid construction as well as the visual language and significance of typography as a design tool.

Delivery
Stream 1 uses a series of lectures and workshops to help you build a sound knowledge and understanding of the
techniques and processes necessary to work with editorial formats. Specific practical sessions will focus on Adobe InDesign. We will look at how technology is a key ingredient to both the structure and dynamic of your work. In addition you will study and explore typography and reprography – how both can redefine and strengthen the methods and outcomes of your printed work. At the same time, you will be involved in collaborative discussion and debate on issues relating to the editorial process from brainstorming ideas to decision-making, in order to strengthen your abilities to think, articulate and bring clarity to your work.

**Tutor**
Naomi DePeza-Purvis

Stream one takes place on a Monday
Stream 2: Ideas and the experience

About the stream
Stream 2 examines and debates the role of ideas as the currency of communication.

Diverse global creative industries and practices are constantly shifting and evolving but the one constant is the importance of strong ideas that communicate, be it through sound, image, word or experience. This stream interrogates what makes, defines and adds value to an idea and how it can be made to translate across, and even transcend multiple forms of media and move from ideas into experience.

This Stream, like inspirational design solutions, is built on critical analysis, enquiry and innovation. It doesn’t matter about the medium, what matters are the ideas, the audience and their experience.

Delivery
In Semester 1 the Stream is delivered through a set brief, which builds on workshops and small projects. You will cover reflective practice, collaboration and idea generation exploring issues such as deconstruction, global branding, identity and guerrilla campaigns.

During Semester 2 you will work in design teams across a set brief. Your group will explore stories, looking to challenge design conventions via research, experimentation, strategic problem solving and insight.

Teaching takes place as lectures, crits, presentations, seminars and workshops.

Tutor
Jacqueline Perkins
Stream two takes place on a Wednesday
Stream 3: Whose design is it anyway?

About the stream
This stream of work looks at design in terms of remix culture and distributed media. In a world where anyone can sample content, culture and designs, remix it and distribute it globally; where brands can crowd-source creativity and even product design; where live-time media extends beyond ‘news’ and information’ to creativity and design… well what is the position of “design” and the “designer”.

This stream looks to answer that question through research – lectures and seminars looking at theories and histories of remix culture and digital media, but also through practice. The lecture programme on Fridays will run alongside a practice-research workshop programme on Tuesdays where we’ll explore the issues by doing them: remixing images, words, computer code, video etc.

Delivery
Stream 3 is a partnership between WSAmacd and the MA in Advertising Design Management (WSAadm). You will be studying, working and creating with students on the WSAadm Pathway, students exploring advertising and branding from a business rather than a creative direction. You are both studying the same issues, the same media and design cultures, the same remix world. This Stream enables you, and the students on WSAadm, to have different perspectives on
those spaces, those practices and those problematics, to engage in dialogue and debate as well as work as a team on the two assessments. Heh, the partnerships might work so well you decide to set up a business together at the end of the course...

To ensure that dialectic is at the heart of the Stream, Paul (from WSAmacd) and Dr Cui Su (from WSAadm) will share the ‘lectures’ on Fridays with each session consisting of two responses to the same issue, question or problematic.

On Tuesdays, in two groups we will be using remix practices (words, images, sound, video and data) to explore the issues raised in the lecture programme and also our own practice and position as designers.
In addition to the compulsory Stream sessions for Design 1 and 2, WSAmacd runs a number of other sessions. These are not assessed (although hopefully what you look at will help with your assessed work) and they are not compulsory. They’re there because the tutors think they add value to the course and to the work you do. This year, these include:

The Journal Club
Many creative people - designers of course but also business-people, even academics - keep a journal. More than a diary, more than a sketchbook, for some it is a place to doodle - pictures or ideas. For others it’s a place to record. For others a place to collect and accumulate. But for all there is something self-reflexive about it. It is the space in which they critically reflect on their work, projects or plans. We suggest you all keep one. Different than the research logs you will be working on for specific projects, your Journal is more free-floating, flexible, anarchic even. This Club offers you a space to talk with tutors and other students about your Journal, how and why you use it and share tips, techniques and ideas.

Jacqueline runs the Journal Club on Mondays

The Live Brief Club
WSAmacd is fortunate in having very good industry contacts. We often have professionals from industry asking us to work with them on projects. We encourage all WSAmacd students to take these opportunities alongside the assessed briefs and projects for the course. Jacqueline runs a weekly session and offers support to those of you who want to attempt these briefs or enter the competitions.

Jacqueline runs the Live Brief Club on Thursdays
The Show Club
All the MA pathways at WSA work towards the Interim Show and the Final Show. As communication designers we should take a lead not only presenting our own work (which you will be working on in your Streams) but also in designing the Shows themselves - the publicity, the materials even the whole Show ‘experiences’. Naomi runs a group all year where you can start to think about those Shows, how they could work, what they could look like and how they could be marketed.

Naomi runs the Show Club on Thursdays
The Module Club
As well as Design 1 and 2 (the Streams) you will be doing other modules as part of your MA. In Semester 1 you’ll be doing Research Skills and in Semester 2 you will do an optional module. The tutors for these modules will give you all the details. These modules are a vital part of your study. Not only in terms of the fact your marks for these modules counts toward your final grade but also in terms of opening up new questions and developing new skills that you can use as part of your design career. We know however that it is sometimes challenging to connect academic research with design practice. To support you through these modules, WSAmacd offers an optional workshop where you can explore the question of how issues of research, entrepreneurship, marketing etc. work with design. This workshop does not take the place of the seminars and workshops on the modules themselves nor the support the tutors on those modules provide. Rather the WSAmacd group is a chance to more generally discuss the issues raised on those courses within a design context.

Each week, we will discuss a piece of design - it might be a print piece, some motion graphics, a website... anything. We will use this as a springboard to unpick the research, entrepreneurship, marketing, responsibility theories and ideas as they relate to design. As an example, we might take the front page of the Guardian and explore what research underpins it, what research task has been developed and responded to. We might approach it in terms of the Guardian Media Group’s marketing strategy in the UK and increasingly globally. We might look to understand the ways in which the design and designers develop new opportunities - are in some way entrepreneurial.

We might look to take apart a public health campaign video on YouTube and address the background and context to
its development and deployment, its approach to marketing in a social media space and what its viral, or as Henry Jenkins calls it ‘spreadable’ nature says about the nature of entrepreneurhip.

Paul runs the Module Club on Thursdays

Global Futures Speakers and Film Forum
The Winchester Centre for Global Futures in Art Design & Media hosts events by leading figures in the arts, design and media industries. This year it is also launching a Forum in which it shows films that address issues highlighting the complexities of a globalised world. The series emphasises the role of films as catalysts for change. The showcased films deal with globally relevant topics such as environment, society, politics and art.

Programme
3 Oct 2012

Kristoffer Gansing is the Artistic Director of Transmediale. He is interested in the interfaces of media culture, art and everyday life. His research interests include the contrasting parallel worlds and conflicts of network culture and the distribution of media technology. Gansing co-founded The Art of the Overhead, a pioneering project of media-archeological art practice.

10 October – I am Nasrine / Tina Gharavi / Iran & UK / 2011 / 84mins
I Am Nasrine is an intimate journey of self-discovery. Set in modern day Tehran and the UK, the film follows the paths of Nasrine and her brother Ali, from a comfortable, middle class Iranian home to being refugees and immigrants in the North of the UK. They have to choose between being part of a Muslim community, or embracing a new culture, with unforeseen consequences.

The director of the film will be in attendance to talk to the audience after the screening.
22 Oct 2012

Francesco Manacorda is an Italian art expert. He has been appointed as the new artistic director of Tate Liverpool, and was previously director of Artissima, Turin’s international art fair. He has previously been curator at London’s Barbican Art Gallery and is a visiting lecturer at the city’s Royal College of Art.

01 Nov 2012

Rod Cousens is one of the UK’s leading games industry executives and the Chief Executive Officer of Codemasters, the award-winning Midlands-based developer and publisher of video game entertainment titles for game consoles, PC and online platforms. Cousens will give a talk about the Future of Video Games from an Industry point of view.


This documentary looks at the complex political machinery of developing democracy: the 2008 presidential elections in Ghana, West Africa. It follows the key players to provide an insider’s view of the political, economic and social forces at work in Ghana. This film reveals the struggle postcolonial nations face to legitimise themselves to their “first world” contemporaries.

This film is screening in association with Afrika Eye Festival, Bristol. Debate will be facilitated by the festival.

28 Nov 2012

David Gauntlett is Professor of Media and Communications at the University of Westminster, where he co-directs CAMRI, ranked #1 for media and communications research in RAE 2008. He is the author of several books, including Creative Explorations (2007) and Making is Connecting (2011). He has conducted collaborative research with a number of the world’s leading creative organisations, including the BBC, the British Library, LEGO and Tate. He will talk about “Creativity, innovation and disruption.”

04 Dec 2012

Scott Klein specializes in Modernism and the 20th century English novel, with interests in the works of James Joyce and Wyndham Lewis, the history of film, avant-garde music, and 20th century experimentation in visual art. He heads Ballet Mecanique: James Joyce and avant-garde music. He is currently Chair of the English department at Wake Forest University.
12 December – Girl Model / David Redmon, Ashley Sabin / Siberia, Japan & USA / 2011 / 78mins

The film follows two protagonists in the fashion industry. Ashley is a model scout; Nadya is a thirteen year old plucked from her home with promises of a profitable modelling career. Ashley and Nadya’s stories are inextricably bound. As Nadya’s optimism about rescuing her family from poverty grows, Ashley’s jaded outlook on the industry’s corrosive influence intensifies.

A fashion industry professional will lead the discussion after this screening.
Your assessment is really quite simple. At the end of each Semester you will submit a portfolio and a written commentary. Your portfolio will consist of:

- A piece of work developed in **Stream 1**
- A piece of work developed in **Stream 2**
- A piece of work developed in **Stream 3**
- A 500 word report reflecting on your learning across the three Streams during the semester

These pieces of work will be in response to Briefs set by the tutors. The Briefs for Semester 1 are at the back of this Handbook.

You will of course have assessments for other courses and the Final Major Project, of which more later…
Stream I assessment
You will develop and produce a dummy redesigned magazine including layouts, cover, contents page, stylesheets and flatplan for a specified existing magazine.

Stream II Assessment
You will create and deliver a campaign and a design work with a specified theme and audience. Your outcome will be accompanied by a research workbook and a written commentary.

Stream III assessment
In a small group (consisting of WSAmacd and WSAadm students) you will develop and produce an ePublication. You will decide on the design, format, platform and content for the ePublication as well as developing the business, content and marketing strategies. WSAmacd students will submit the publication and a short reflexive account of the design and business approach and process. WSAadm students will submit the business strategy in the form of a written assignment.
Final Major Project (FMP)

Much of Semester 3 is given over to developing the FMP which forms a major part of your Final Show. It is important that you see this as developing all year rather than something you rush after Semesters 1 and 2 are finished. By that time you should have a clear idea of what you are going to do and why. You should look at the sessions across the three Streams (as well as your other courses) as developing your thinking and researching the area, idea, market and strategy you want to explore in the FMP.

Mid-way through Semester 1 you will be asked to submit your initial idea for your FMP. Don’t worry, you are not committing yourself at this stage. We just want you to start thinking about what you are going to do. This first proposal should include:

- Your practice-research question
- The ‘object’ you imagine creating.

Mid-way through Semester 2 you will be asked to submit a firmer proposal outlining:

- Your practice-research question
- The ‘object’ you imagine creating
- Which tutor you would like to supervise your work.

At the start of Semester 3 you will have a tutorial with staff to discuss this proposal and work out your schedule and a
tutorial timetable. During Semester 3 you will have supervision sessions with your tutor.

It is important to note that your FMP is an independent study project. Your supervisor will help and support, but the onus will be on you to research, explore and develop the work. You will have a certain number of tutorials with your supervisor and opportunities for group crits and workshops but the FMP is very much your own work. Don’t worry, all will become clear as we work through the course.

**Group work and individual assessment**
All of your work is individual. You are assessed as an individual and your marks refer to your own work. As part of the Streams you will be working in groups. In Stream 2 your group will produce the campaign while in Stream 3 your group will produce a design object as part of that assessment. You will hand that group work in as part of your portfolio as well as a written commentary/analysis. You will be assessed on both the object and the written work. Part of your mark will reflect the finished object but part will be based on your commentary/analysis. Two students in the same group, submitting the same object may get two very different marks depending on how well their written piece meets the assessment criteria.

**Plagiarism and pla(y)giarism**
Stream 3, with its theme of remix, uses the term “pla(y)giarism” as a spur to creating new designs. The Stream looks at the legal and ethical issues around such appropriation, perhaps even ‘stealing’. While you may choose to engage in “pla(y)giarism” as part of your design work (with appropriate critical discussion in the written part of the assessment), your essays and written work must follow the University’s guidance on academic plagiarism:

All written submitted work will be passed through plagiarism detection software. If plagiarism is detected in your work, your final grade will be penalized heavily or worse, you may fail the assignment altogether. You should submit only your own work and whenever you have engaged with someone else’s work, you should attribute clearly to the source. You can view the WSA Academic Integrity Handbook on the School’s Intranet via the SUSSED portal.

In Stream 3 we will be exploring this tension and you will be encouraged to explore it in your design work. As always, if in doubt… ask!

**Work Not Submitted and Late Work**
Meeting deadlines is an important part of the discipline of higher education, and marks for work handed in or presented late will be reduced to ensure fairness to students who submit on time. The reductions of marks for late work are as follows:

Work submitted up to 5 days after the deadline will be marked as usual, including moderation or second marking, and feedback prepared. The final agreed mark is then reduced by the factors in
the following table. This applies to all students from 2010 onwards. If the calculations detailed below reduce your final module mark to below 50% you will have failed the module.

University Working Days late

- 1 day late (final agreed mark) X 0.9
- 2 days late (final agreed mark) X 0.8
- 3 days late (final agreed mark) X 0.7
- 4 days late (final agreed mark) X 0.6
- 5 days late (final agreed mark) X 0.5
- More than 5 days late Zero

**Equal Opportunities**

In line with the University’s Equal Opportunities Policy, individuals are treated on their relevant merits and abilities and are given equal opportunities within the module, School and University. The aim of the policy is to ensure that no prospective or current student should receive any less favourable treatment on any grounds which are not relevant to academic ability and attainment. Every effort is made to ensure that disabled students are aware of and assisted in making use of the support provided by the University; to ensure access to lectures, classes, learning materials; and to ensure that where necessary appropriate variations to normal examining arrangements are made.
Brief 01 (Stream I): a publication redesign

Your task

To provide a redesign for an existing print publication. Your task is to develop a new design for the publication, but not to revolutionise its appearance, content or position. Rather your role is to work with the publisher and editors’ existing content, strategy and business to create a more impactful and creative layout. The challenge is to work within a client’s existing constraints while still producing a strong design.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this task, you will:

- Be able to work creatively with layout, styles, type and content objects
- Be able to work creatively within existing business constraints and affordances
- Be able to deliver a coherent, deliverable and manageable layout appropriate to the chosen client.

Assessed Deliverables

- Flatplan
- Stylesheets
- Sample cover
- Sample contents page
- Sample layouts.

The client

During Semester 1 you will decide on an existing print publication - magazine, newspaper, journal etc. Your client will be the design team for that publication. Your job will be to produce layouts that meet their needs. The client is looking for a layout change, appropriate to their readership, content and business strategy but not a ‘design revolution’. You need to research and understand their business, USP, market, audience and strategy - to understand that client if you are to meet their needs.

The flatplan

The client wants to see how their publication would flow, how the different existing sections would fit together and how the layout you propose would take their reader through the publication. They need to see that you understand the cultural practices associated with their publication, how people read it, what they do with it. Your layout and the flatplan that showcases it needs to clearly communicate that journey.

The stylesheets

Your client will be using In Design and needs you to provide the styles and stylesheets that the new layout would use. This would include the Master pages, the paragraph, character and object styles. You should annotate these styles with notes that explain to
the client why particular choices have been made and how they work together. This needs to be clear and focused not merely “Font X has been chosen because it is appropriate for audience Y”. Rather it should reference other publications and designs as well as particular elements of the client’s work. “Font X has been chosen for the headline because it echoes the use of Font Y in the client’s advertising while also connoting the traditional image of publication Y…”

The sample cover and contents page

Your client does not want a dummy issue but wants to see how your layout will work. She asks for a sample cover and contents page. As with all of the job, the client does not want to radically change things. If they use cover lines or a contents pages with a list of all staff, they want to keep that structure. Your job is to lay out those existing elements in a better way.

Assessment criteria

Your work will be assessed according to the standard WSA marking criteria:

- Knowledge and understanding: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing understanding of the relationship between your work and contemporary practice, and an informed understanding of the skills, materials and methods required to experiment with your ideas.

- Cognitive (thinking) skills: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing ability to reflect critically on your work and ideas, make decisions and advance your practice, through a questioning approach to your work and that of your contemporary peers.

- Key transferable skills: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing ability to creatively engage with complex issues, debate apply and communicate visually and in written form, your ideas with increasing clarity.

Specifically we will be looking for:

- Layouts that are sensitive to the chosen client’s business and strategy.
- Layouts that improve clarity, readability and impact.
- Layouts and styles that fit with the client’s broader business.
- Layout and style elements produced and presented in a professional way such that they could be immediately implemented.
Brief 01 (Stream II): Thinking outside the box

Your task

You will be put into small design teams to research and create a concept for a campaign, to raise awareness of a given theme. Your team will be given this theme at the briefing (see timetable).

Your team will select a target audience and have the task to collaboratively explore and define a concept, that will raise awareness of the theme the team is given. As a team you will discuss and explore communication design issues and develop a campaign concept for your audience. You will need to be able to describe that concept in a sentence and be able to demonstrate your research rationale for why you chose it.

The aim, of the team is to develop the campaign, the concept that would appeal to a specific audience.

Your next objective, as individual designers is to produce design works that bring that concept to life, for particular audiences. The design works can be in any form but must meet the strategic aims and detail of the campaign. Your wider research and thinking should be apparent in a research workbook/log, which you will each maintain and build upon throughout the Stream.

Briefing details are issued at brief launch.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this task, you will:

• Be able to evaluate your design work, ideas and methods
• Be able to develop ideas through collaboration, in order to achieve a communication aim
• Be able to research a communication problematic, audience and market
• Be able to use sketchbooks, reflective journals and resources as a research log, to feed the design process
• Be able to reflect critically on your own learning and practice.

Assessed Deliverables

• A finished campaign for a defined audience (produced jointly)
• A finished design work for a defined audience (produced individually)
• A research workbook/log, demonstrating development, reflection, idea generation (produced individually)
• A 500 word maximum commentary about your outcome, with critical reflection (produced individually submitted through Blackboard).

Assessment criteria

Your work will be assessed according to the standard WSA marking criteria:
Knowledge and understanding: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing understanding of the relationship between your work and contemporary practice, and an informed understanding of the skills, materials and methods required to experiment with your ideas.

Cognitive (thinking) skills: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing ability to reflect critically on your work and ideas, make decisions and advance your practice, through a questioning approach to your work and that of your contemporary peers.

Key transferable skills: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing ability to creatively engage with complex issues, debate apply and communicate visually and in written form, your ideas with increasing clarity.

Specifically we will be looking for:

- Evidence of appropriate research into audience, communication and culture
- Development of research through insight and design processes
- Professional level of final outcome and the idea.
Brief 01 (stream III): an ePublication and ePublication strategy

Your task

You will be assigned a group whose task is to form a Strategic Design Communications Consultancy. This consultancy has been commissioned by a client to produce an ePublication and a strategy for its development and use. The ePublication may run on a specific device (e.g. iPad or Kindle) or may be designed to be accessible across devices (e.g. as a PDF or HTML publication). The consultancy will pitch the ePublication and the strategy to the ‘client’ in a presentation.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this task, you will:

- Be able to work as part of a team to strategically investigate, plan and produce an ePublication for a specific client
- Be able to critically analyse the affordances and implications of ePublishing
- Be able to critically develop and present an ePublication/eDesign communications strategy.

Assessed Deliverables: MACD students

- ePublication (produced jointly)
- c500 word written commentary analysing the design decisions in terms of the specific affordances and user experiences of the ePublication (written individually submitted through Blackboard).

Assessed Deliverables: ADM students

(this will count as Assignment 2 of Design 1)

- 2000 word written analysis of the management decisions and the communications strategy for the ePublication
- 15-minute Presentation of the ePublication and analysis to the ‘client’.

The client

Your ePublication needs to have a clear purpose and client. It can be a company report, an information or campaigns document or a journalistic publication. It can be for a large or small company, a campaign or charity or a public body such as a Government department, hospital or school. Each Strategic Design Communications Consultancy must submit details of its client and the job it intends to do for that client by midday 3rd November. Bearing in mind the importance attached to the way your ePublication fits with the strategy of the client, you should pick a client and job that is very focused. It is easier to identify audience and message when creating a promotional ‘booklet’ for a small photography gallery or a particular health campaign than create a ‘magazine’ for mothers.

The ePublication - form
The ePublication can be in any form (iBooks, ePub, mobi, PDF, JPEG) and for any device (phone, tablet, laptop, desktop, e-reader). Your choice of format and device should be informed by your ePublications strategy and this should be explored and explained in your supporting document and your pitch. For instance if you decide to go for an iBook, you need to explain why the affordances of the iPad enable you to communicate your message more effectively than using ePub or PDF. Similarly you need to argue why a particular device is your target bearing in mind your audience and what you intend that audience to do with your work.

The ePublication - content

You need a similar strategic approach to content. Your supporting documentation and pitch needs to be clear why particular content has been chosen and how and why it needs to be delivered via digital media. This is a professional piece of communication and so not only does the design content need to be of a professional standard but so does the language. You need to ensure that the copy is proofread, grammatical but also engaging. If you choose to create a publication in a language other than English, you need to provide a full English translation.

The ePublication - milestones

- 19th October - Sharing session
- 22nd October - ePublishing demonstration

- Midday Friday 3rd November 2012 - submit Client and Job
- w/c 12th November 2012- Formative feedback (MACD only)
- 20th and 23rd November - First ePublication progress workshop
- 11th and 14th December - Second ePublication progress workshop
- 8th and 9th January 2013 - Presentations (Client pitches)
- 18th January 2013 - Submission.

Assessment criteria

Your work will be assessed according to the standard WSA marking criteria:

- Knowledge and understanding: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing understanding of the relationship between your work and contemporary practice, and an informed understanding of the skills, materials and methods required to experiment with your ideas
- Cognitive (thinking) skills: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing ability to reflect critically on your work and ideas, make decisions and advance your practice, through a questioning approach to your work and that of your contemporary peers.
- Key transferable skills: you will demonstrate at an advanced level, a developing ability to creatively engage with complex issues, debate apply and communicate visually and in written form, your ideas with increasing clarity.

Specifically we will be looking for:
• Design (form and content) that appropriately and creatively meets the need of the client and targets specific audience, audience practices and audience culture

• Strategy that explores and critically engages with affordances of digital media devices and content

• The integration between design and strategy in terms of the product and the teamwork involved in its development.
Communication design is not just about producing graphic designs, it is also about thinking, and the three Streams have identified a number of texts that we think stimulate that thinking and can maybe spark new ideas or practices. These are texts that we’d like you to explore as the course and the Streams progress. You will be pointed in the direction of other readings and resources but these texts will keep popping up and are certainly important to read. We would even encourage you to think about buying them as they are the sort of texts that you need to be active with: scribble notes in the margin, annotate or doodle your own ideas in response to the author’s – you can’t really do that with the library copies! Note that some of the texts include difficult passages. Don’t worry if you don’t get what the author is saying straight away, make a note of your questions and bring them to tutorials.
In addition to these core texts, each session includes some suggested reading. This is divided between core reading and extra reading. You will get far more out of the lectures and workshops if you read around the subjects, issues, themes and ideas. You should ensure that you read or view the core reading for each session at the least.

You should also explore the other readings/videos/artist/designers etc. as starting points for your own independent research. The more you explore, the more you have to work with in your own designs.
WSAmacd is on Facebook
This is more than just a publicity page for the course or even just a showcase for your work. It is an active part of the WSAmacd community we are looking to build over the next year.

Staff will add material, links, ideas, content and news to the page as the year progresses, but we will be looking to you to add material you find and

Yeah, that’s what I look for in a brand: clingy and emotionally needy.
think would be relevant to the group, as well as photos and videos of your work in progress. What is more, each session will be followed up by a Facebook discussion.

We'll explain more about how Facebook works with the course in the induction week, where we will also show you other tools you'll find useful as you work on the course.

**The Facebook Timeline Cover**

As you probably know, Facebook uses a “Timeline” theme to layout its pages. We'll be talking more about this on the course but one of the nice design things about this is that you can play with having different ‘cover’ images and profile images. If you’re clever you can play with the way they work together. We like to think of the WSAmacd cover as the course’s ‘Google doodle’. We want to keep it changing so any time you fancy creating a new one - in honour of a special day or just because you can, send the cover and avatar image files to Paul and he'll put them on the page.

For specs and some fun examples, see:

http://www.nealcampbell.com/2011/12/17/facebook-timel-for-photoshop/#.T4QCze2hBFJ
Evernote
As well as the course’s Facebook page, WSAmacd uses Evernote (www.evernote.com), a free web service that enables you to collect fragments – web pages, documents, photos, notes, whatever - in what is best described as a digital shoebox. These fragments can be tagged, organised and searched (Evernote will even search the text in an image). We would encourage each of you to have an Evernote ‘notebook’ as a great place to collect research, source materials, inspiration as well as material for essays, assignments etc.

Paul has an Evernote notebook where he adds material relevant to WSAmacd. This is available online at www.evernote.com/pub/theinternationale/WSAmacd.

Here you can read the various web pages, fragments and rags 'n refuse (as Walter Benjamin would call it) that he has collected or curated. Each fragment has a range of tags which you can use to find material relevant to each session or theme we are exploring.
the Syllabus

Week 1:

Monday (1/10) This is me
We’ll get straight into design. In a full day workshop, we’ll ask you to produce a design object (poster, book, video, App… whatever) that communicates who you are. You’ll have until 14.00 - no extensions!

Tuesday (2/10) This is Paul
Over the first week, each of the tutors will run a workshop where you can find out about what they’ve done, what they do, what they’re planning to do and why photography, design and type excite them.

On Tuesday… Paul, who says:

“What will I talk about? Well… being a hack, a hacker and a (h)academic, some photography, some imaging, some imag(in)ing, some objects… oh and some software”

‘Reading’

- www.theinternationale.com
- www.flickr.com/content2bdifferent
Wednesday (3/10) This is Jacqueline
On Wednesday… Jacqueline who says:

“Wednesday morning will be about my design journey, influences and practice, about MACD collaboration, alumni and about you… we’ll start with “Under the Influence.””

Reading

- D&ad annual 2011. Taschen.
- D&ad student awards., 2008. Simple as that. D&ad published.
- http://www.triennaledesignmuseum.it/adiaryofanexhibition/graphic-design-worlds/
- http://www.dandad.org/awards/student/2012/categories/1/open-brief/09517/martin-headon-olly-wood
- http://designmuseum.org/design/abram-games
- http://www.pentagram.com/what-type-are-you/
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FypidAJB8E
Thursday (4/10) This is Naomi
On Thursday... Naomi who says:

“We’ll begin by looking at my experience in the newspaper and magazine industry and the significance of expertise – not just mine, but of all those skilled craftsmen and creative minds that I have collaborated with in the editorial process. But, before we begin looking in depth at different and specific creative experts and their projects, we need to clarify exactly what you will be studying while you are here and all that the subject of communication design involves. Following this, I will show you a documentary film screening of The Cool School: The Story of the Ferus Art Gallery, featuring such influential artists as Ruscha, Kauffman, Warhol, Johns, Lichtenstein and Duchamp – whose collaborative expertise fuelled their creative work.”

Friday (5/10) Stream 3: LECTURE. Introduction #1. The course, the themes and the assessment.
We’ll start the Stream with an overview of what we’ll cover, how we’ll deal with it and most importantly how the two pathways will work together. We’ll also let you know how the assessment will work, what we expect and how you can make the best of the lectures workshops and readings.

And... RiP: A remix manifesto. the movie http://ripremix.com

Extra Reading

- Navas, E., 2012, Remix Theory The Aesthetics of Sampling, Springer Verlag, Chapter 2
Week 2:

Monday (8/10) Stream 1: Expertise, collaboration and the editorial team

Lecture

In this lecture, we’ll be looking at how print can survive the digital age. We’ll begin by thinking about how the combination of different creative skills apply to and enhance the editorial process. We’ll move on to explore the structure and hierarchy of the editorial team and how expertise and collaboration is key to producing a successful product.

We’ll explore the structure of a publication: the story with a beginning, middle and end. In the design of print publications, it is the juxtaposition of stories, the different themed sections, the particular decisions about how each tale will be told, on how many pages, in what kind of visual style, and in what order.

Workshop

We will be handling and analysing various editorial design print pieces, discussing what works and what doesn’t and why. Analysing the different pieces, we will discuss their concepts, content and context as printed objects. We’ll be clarifying what are editorial concepts and what makes a great idea for a print publication. We will explore the harmonious balance of content and structure, looking at the best examples.

Task

For next week, research two pieces of creative collaboration. The first, a piece of work that demonstrates the mixing together of more than one creative mind. The second, a piece of editorial copy within an existing print publication. Analyse their narrative – thinking about concepts and context within the whole work and the way collaboration has manifested.
Core Viewing

• How Ink is Made http://vimeo.com/13206165
• BBC One Imagine: Books - The Last Chapter? Presented by Alan Yentob
• Ben Eine – The Origin Wine Canvas http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HlbDNT6cyEI&feature=related

Core Reading

• http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2011/aug/22/are-books-dead-ewan-morrison
• http://unbound.co.uk/
• http://www.futureofthebook.org/
• http://www.pokelondon.com/
• http://www.minaletattersfield.com/
• http://www.pentagram.com/
• http://www.bibliothequedesign.com/
Tuesday (9/10)

Stream 3: WORKSHOP
Let’s get stuck in - source material everywhere
In this first workshop we’ll just get straight into remix. Using ‘the Web’ as source material you’ll create a remix. What you mean by that, what you do and what ends up coming out of it all… well we’ll see. The key thing is, this workshop is about ‘source material everywhere’.

Core Reading


Extra Reading

Wednesday (10/10) Stream 2: Overview and Semester 1 assessment

In this first session we’ll take a look at what will be covered during Stream 2 as well as the structure of the formative and summative assessment. You’ll also feedback and we’ll discuss the work you began last week on ‘Under the Influence’.

Core reading.


Extra reading

- Arden, P., 2003, It’s not how good you are, it’s how good you want to be: The world’s best selling book. Phaidon.
- http://tundrablog.com/2010/10/07/how-ink-is-made
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7M7U8rP_K8&feature=related
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGKrKJnelFM&feature=fvwrel
- http://www.dontpaniconline.com/magazine/arts/chris-mcveigh
- http://www.antonygormley.com/
- http://www.davidshrigley.com/
- http://printjam.tumblr.com/

Social media, social networks and real-time digital streams like Twitter are changing communications and communication design. They are also changing – expanding maybe – our conception of the Brand. This session looks at the technological and cultural shifts and what that means for the idea of brand, brand values and whose design it is anyway.

**Core Reading:**

- Leadbeater, C., 2009, We-think : [mass innovation, not mass production], Profile, London. pp 1-27
  Also see videos and links at: http://www.charlesleadbeater.net/home.aspx


**Extra Reading:**


- Shirky, C., 2008, Here comes everybody : the power of organisation without organisations, Allen Lane, London


• Shirky, C., 2008, Here comes everybody: the power of organisation without organisations, Allen Lane, London

• Lovink, G., 2012, Networks without a cause: a critique of social media, Polity, Cambridge

• Anderson, C., 2009, The longer long tail: how endless choice is creating unlimited demand, Random House Business

• Jenkins, H., 2006, Convergence culture: where old and new media collide, NYU Press, New York


• Weinberger, D., 2003, Small pieces loosely joined: A unified theory of the Web, Merloyd Lawrence Books,


Week 3:

Monday (15/10) Stream 1: Collaborative Creativity, concepts and ideas

Presentation

As a group, we will look at the pieces you have researched that signify collaborative creativity and discuss what worked and what went wrong in the process.

Lecture

Concepts resemble machines: they are the reason you work on the content, and at the same time they define the method of your work. This lecture asks what is an idea and what is it not? These are the questions that define an idea, that create a seed, that extend the boundaries of exploration. The answers always come down to the fundamental question: what do you want to say?

Workshop

It is now your turn to join creative forces and apply cognitive thinking as the experts do. Brainstorming is an exercise practiced the world over in creative, communicative environments. The reason for this is simple: idea generation is key to innovative thinking and successful design. It unleashes thought processes and at the same time triggers new cognitive processes. A key element in these sessions is collaborative play – with an emphasis on words and images to generate new ideas. And fun, of course.

Task

Ready for next week, you will be given a piece of narrative to consider and analyse, coming up with an idea about how you would illustrate it, within an editorial context.
Core Listening


• Paula Scher: Great Design is Serious (not solemn) http://blog.ted.com/2009/01/16/great_design_is/


Core Reading

• Barnard M., 2005, Graphic Design as Communication, Routledge, UK.

Tuesday (16/10) Stream 3 (Groups A & B):  MACD WORKSHOP. There’s nothing new...
In the first practice-research workshop we’ll be looking at the history of remix. We’ve already seen Girl Talk and explored some contemporary remix spaces and ideas. But artists, designers, writers and activists have been ‘playing’ with remix long before computers and the Internet. We’ll be looking at three themes these ‘designers’ have explored: potentialism, pla(y)giarism and appropriation. In particular - and if you want to find source material everywhere, these are the starting points - we’ll look at The Situationists, Oulipo, Tom Phillips, William S Burroughs, Kenneth Goldsmith, Peter Kennard. We’ll by taking some of their techniques and trying them out.

Core Reading
Explore Mark Amerika’s site for Remix The Book, in particular:

- http://www.remixthebook.com/the-course/potentialism
- http://www.remixthebook.com/the-course/playgiarism
- http://www.remixthebook.com/the-course/cut-ups
- http://www.remixthebook.com/the-course/appropriation

Extra Reading


The Real Kenny G PDFs from the Guru of UbuWeb.com http://epc.buffalo.edu/authors/goldsmith/


Reality Studio A William S. Burroughs Site http://realitystudio.org/multimedia/


It's amazing to me that UbuWeb, after fifteen years, is still going. Run with no money, Ubu has succeeded by breaking all the rules, by going about things the wrong way. UbuWeb can be construed as the Robin Hood of the avant-garde, but instead of taking from one and giving to the other, we feel that in the end, we're giving to all. UbuWeb is as much about the legal and social ramifications of its self-created distribution and archiving system as it is about the content hosted on the site. In a sense, the content takes care of itself; but keeping it up there has proved to be a trickier proposition. The socio-political maintenance of keeping free server space with unlimited bandwidth is a complicated dance, often interfered with by darts thrown at us by individuals calling foul-play on copyright infringement. Undeterred, we keep on: after fifteen years, we're still going strong. We're lab rats under a microscope: in exchange for the big-ticket bandwidth, we've consented to be objects of university research in the ideology and practice of radical distribution.

But by the time you read this, UbuWeb may be gone. Cobbled together, operating on no money and an all-volunteer staff, UbuWeb has become the unlikely definitive source for all things avant-garde on the internet. Never meant to be a permanent archive, Ubu could vanish for any number of reasons: our ISP pulls the plug, our university support dries up, or we simply grow tired of it. Acquisition by a larger entity is impossible: nothing is for sale. We don't touch money. In fact, what we host has never made money. Instead, the site is filled with the detritus and ephemera of great artists—the music of Jean Dubuffet, the poetry of Dan Graham, Julian Schnabel's country music, the punk rock of Martin Kippenberger, the diaries of John Lennon, the rants of Karen Finley, and pop songs by Joseph Beuys—all of which was originally put out in tiny editions and vanished quickly.

However the web provides the perfect place to restage these works. With video, sound, and text remaining more faithful to the original experience than, say, painting or sculpture, Ubu proposes a different sort of revisionist art history, one based on the peripheries of artistic production rather than on the perceived, or market-based, center. Few people, for example, know that Richard Serra makes videos. Whilst visiting his recent retrospective at The Museum of Modern Art in New York, there was no sign of TELEVISION DELIVERS PEOPLE (1973) or BOOMERANG (1974), both being well-visited resources on UbuWeb. Similarly, Salvador Dalí's obscure video, IMPRESSIONS DE LA HAUTE MONGOLIE—HOMMAGE Á RAYMOND ROUSSEL from the mid-70s can be viewed. Outside of UN CHIEN ANDALOU (1929), it's the only other film he completed in his lifetime. While you won’t find reproductions of Dalí's paintings on UbuWeb, you will find a 1967 recording of an advertisement he made for a bank.

It's not all off-beat: there is, in all fairness, lots of primary expressions of artists' works which port to the web perfectly: the films of Hollis Frampton, readings by Alain Robbe-Grillet, Samuel Beckett radio plays, the concrete poems of Mary Ellen Solt, the writings of Maurice Blanchot and the music of Meredith Monk, to name a few.

UbuWeb began in 1996 as a site focusing on visual and concrete poetry. With the advent of the graphical web browser, we began scanning old concrete poems, astonished by how fresh they looked backlit by the computer screen. Shortly thereafter, when streaming audio became available, it made sense to extend our scope to sound poetry, and as bandwidth increased we later added MP3s as well as video. Sound poetry opened up a whole new terrain: certain of John Cage's readings of his mesostic texts could be termed “sound poetry,” hence we included them. As often, though, Cage combined his readings with an orchestral piece; we included those as well. But soon, we found ourselves unable to distinguish the difference between “sound poetry” and “music.” We encountered this dilemma time and again whether it was with the compositions of Mauricio Kagel, Joan La Barbara, or Henri Chopin, all of whom are as well-known as composers as they are sound artists. After a while, we gave up trying to name things; we dropped the term “sound poetry” and referred to it thenceforth simply as “Sound.”
Wednesday (17/10) Stream 2: LECTURE. Decode the story.
This session introduces a two-week team task where you will be examining perspectives of brand experience and decoding FMC packaging. Design teams will disseminate findings to the rest of the group.

Core reading
- http://www.triennaledesignmuseum.it/adiaryofanexhibition/ graphic-design-worlds/

Extra reading
- Thackara, J., 1988, Design after post modernism. Thames and Hudson.
- David Carson: Ted Talks.
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFpANOqSdi8&feature=related
- http://www.thedieline.com/
• http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/2004/oct/11/guardianobituaries.france
• http://www.musevery.com/
• http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgwOjjoYtco&feature=related
Friday (19/10) Stream 3: LECTURE. ePub PR demonstration

Part of your Design 1/Semester 1 assessment is to produce and critically assess an “ePublication”. WSAmacd students will produce the publication alongside a short commentary and WSAadm students will produce a business analysis and presentation. This session explores the creation of an ePublication as a way of opening up the possibilities and the issues that are raised by platforms, proprietorial standards and interfaces.

Core Reading


Extra Reading

- Gruman, G., 2012, iBooks Author for dummies, John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, N.J.
- Ludovico, A., 2012, Post-Digital Print: The Mutation of Publishing Since 1894, ONOMATOPEE 77,


• Thompson, J.B., 2012, Merchants of culture: the publishing business in the twenty-first century, Polity, Cambridge
Week 4:

Monday (22/10) Stream 1: Thinking with type

Lecture

In this lecture, we'll be asking the question, what is type and where is it found? We'll think about typography as the art or process of printing with type. We'll move on to investigating typography within the editorial context. As Steven Heller wrote in his book The Education of an Art Director, “typography is the foremost skill necessary in all of design”.

Workshop

As a group, we will be looking at and discussing last week’s assignment, the narrative, and how each of you chose to illustrate editorial content.

Screening

Helvetica is a documentary film about typography, graphic design and global visual culture. It looks at the proliferation of one typeface as part of a larger conversation about the way type affects our lives. The film is an exploration of urban spaces in major cities and the type that inhabits them as well as a series of interviews with renowned designers about their work, the creative process, and the choices and aesthetics behind their use of type. Helvetica encompasses the worlds of design, advertising, psychology, and communication, and invites us to take a second look at the thousands of words we see every day.

Task

For next week, select an acclaimed typographer from an envelope and research their work for next Monday.

Core Listening

- Typographic Design in the Digital Domain with Erik Spiekermann & Elliot Jay Stocks
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SG0Ou071DhQ&feature=related

Core Reading

- Baines P and Haslam A., 2005, Type & Typography, Laurence King Publishing, UK.
- Heller S., Talarico L., 2011, Typography Sketchbooks, Thames & Hudson, China
Tuesday (23/10) Stream 3 (Groups A & B): MACD WORKSHOP. Remixing Apple an exercise in détournement

In Week 3’s lecture we looked not just at the technology and techniques of Apple’s iBookAuthor but also at the wider context of iBooks and Apple’s (beautifully designed) walled gardens. In this week’s practice-research workshop, we’ll be engaging in détournement, a Situationist technique. We’ll be remixing Apple’s ads, documents, images, words… whatever, using its very own software.

Core Reading

Explore Mark Amerika’s site for Remix The Book, in particular:

• http://www.remixthebook.com/the-course/detournement-2

Extra Reading

• DJRABBI – SOS www.djrabbi.com/sos Guy Debord spinning in his grave.
• International Situationniste www.nothingness.org/SI/ The Archive of Situationist Writing.
• Ken Knabb www.bopsecrets.org/ Bureau of Public Secrets
• SI: YouTube Version www.youtube.com/watch?v=g34XVscFkls
• Rebirth of Nation www.rebirthofanation.com/ Paul Miller summons the spirit of D.W. Griffiths
Wednesday (24/10) Stream 2: LECTURE. Triangles and Dead Lions.
This week we’ll be exploring the origins and development of global brands. We’ll also be having progress group workshops for project 2.

Core reading


Extra reading


• Olins, W, 2003, On brand. Thames and Hudson.

• Olins, W, 1990, Corporate Identity. Thames and Hudson.


Friday (26/10) Stream 3: LECTURE, ePub sharing session
This first 'sharing session' gives your group the opportunity to present its initial thoughts and plans for the ePublication. We’re not expecting huge amounts of detail or fully realised sketches let alone designs but certainly by this stage your group should have an idea of:

- The client
- The purpose
- The project plan.
Week 5:

Monday (29/10) Stream 1: Acclaimed Typographers, Layout and Grid

Presentation

We’ll discuss the typographers you have researched and think through what made their work groundbreaking and how their designs changed the way we look at the world.

Lecture

Without the grid nothing is possible. The grid means reference, order, hierarchy. The grid is the structure that holds a publication’s design together. It is the rules that each page must conform to, the invisible threads that keep text and images in position. In this session, we will be looking at the diversity of the grid system – from the simple to the complex – and what meaning and message is projected through their structure.

Workshop

This first workshop will start with a quiz on the terminology used by designers and printers when discussing the editorial and print requirements of a publication.
Workshop

This second workshop introduces you to the measuring and mathematics behind setting up the pages of a magazine. This session highlights the invisible elements of a blank page that will help you to plot and plan your publication. No screens necessary, just pencils and paper.

Lecture

The power of Adobe InDesign to construct page layouts for editorial content has enabled designers the world over to produce innovative designs that have geometric accuracy and beauty. This lecture looks at the history of the technology and the importance of learning the application.

Workshop

This concluding workshop allows you to set up an editorial template using InDesign. Using your measurements, you will input the sizes into the technical programme and learn how to flow in the editorial copy from your previous week’s task.

Task

You will be given an editorial feature from an existing magazine to transfer onto a template using InDesign for next Monday’s session. It will be your role to research an appropriate image to illustrate the copy.

Core Reading

- http://www.lynda.com/
Tuesday (30/10) Stream 3 (Groups A & B): MACD WORKSHOP. Remixing theory

Remix is a critical design praxis. It starts from the premise that there is source material everywhere and everything is available for remix. That includes theory. This practice-research workshop takes some theory - don’t be frightened, we’ll go through it! - and uses it and imag(in)ings as the basis for a remix. Be sure to have read the articles and viewed the work. Come with any questions and then we can get straight into the remix.

Core Reading

- Tina La Porta - Distance. http://www.turbulence.org/Works/Distance/
Wednesday (31/10) Stream 2: SEMINAR & GROUP PRESENTATIONS. Decode the story.

Core reading

- Olins. W., 2003, On Brand. Thames and Hudson

Extra reading

- http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/
- http://www.edwardtufte.com/tufte/books_vdqi
- http://iancarr.net/10627/60983/data-design/voyage-information-design
- http://vimeo.com/5601437
Friday (2/11) Stream 3: LECTURE.
Remixing readership – Problematic: What is a reader/consumer?

As designers and advertisers we are (or at least should be) obsessed with the reader, the consumer of our carefully crafted communication texts or sales messages. In a remix culture and distributed mediaspace, the problem is, what is reading and the reader? What do we mean by ‘consumption’? This session poses these questions to the two tutors who will approach the problematic from their different professional experiences as well as different theoretical and conceptual positions.

Core Reading


Extra Reading

• Lury, C., 2011, Consumer culture, Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, N.J.

• Ytre-Arne, B., 2011, ‘I want to hold it in my hands’: readers’ experiences of the phenomenological differences between women’s magazines online and in print, Media, Culture & Society, 33(3), pp. 467-77


• Gehl, R.W., 2011, The archive and the processor: The internal logic of Web 2.0, New Media & Society, 13(8), pp. 1228-44


Week 6:

Monday (5/11) Stream 1: Flat planning and assessment briefing

Brief One

Now it is your turn to have a go and design your own publication. You will choose an existing title and redesign it, using your newly acquired knowledge and understanding of print and editorial criteria.
Assessment Briefing

In this session, we will be covering what exactly you will need to produce for your Stream 1 part of Semester 1’s portfolio.

Lecture

What is a flatplan and why is it necessary? We will look at how the configuration of pages are highly likely to change, according to fluctuating content and emphasis, as well as advertising sales.

Workshop

The focus today will be on constructing a flatplan from scratch. We’ll sketch a flatplan to explore its relevance to the overall editorial design. You will be given a magazine to analyse for structure, drafting its original flatplan. Once you have successfully assessed your draft flatplan, you will input the content into a new template using InDesign.

Task

Once you have chosen your existing title to redesign, go away and examine why you think it requires a new design. Research your title and make analytical and critical notes. Come back on Monday 19 November and tell the group your initial plans for the redesign of your magazine. You must include a new initial rough flatplan, and be able to articulate what you want to change and why this is necessary to the new concept.

Core Reading

Tuesday (6/11) Stream 3 (Groups A & B): MACD WORKSHOP. Remixing the Remixing readership lecture

In the final three practice-research workshops we’ll take the remix tools, techniques and principles we have been exploring and build a specific piece of communication design. We will take the previous Friday’s lecture and remix it. You will remix words, images, audio and video from the lecture as well as from anywhere else across the distributed Web to create a remix… whether in print, in motion, online or whatever. This week we’ll remix Week 5’s session: Remixing readership.

Wednesday (7/11) Stream 2: LECTURE. Thinking outside the box.
This week we’ll be brainstorming, engaging in some word play, imag(in)ing and generating concepts.

Core reading

Extra reading

- Lemon Scented Tea, 2009, Never use white type on a black background and 50 other ridiculous advertising rules. Pageone.
- Lois, G., 2012, Damn Good advice (for people with talent)! Phaidon.
Friday (9/11) Stream 3: LECTURE. Remixing authorship – Problematic: What is a designer/advertiser?
If remix culture is changing readership and consumption practices and our conception of the reader and the consumer, it’s doing the same to our idea of authorship: the designer and the advertiser. Once upon a time we were the privileged ones, the creative, the leader. Now… well when the (people formerly known as the) audience is active does that mean we are passive or is some sort of partnership possible? This week the tutors will address that question, again from their different starting points.

Core Reading

- Manovich, L (n.d.) Who is the Author? Sampling/Remixing/Open Source. Available at: http://manovich.net/DOCS/models_of_authorship.doc

Extra Reading


- Dean, J., 2010, Blog Theory: Feedback And Capture In The Circuits Of Drive, Polity, Cambridge; Malden, MA


Week 7:
(w/c 12/11):
Formative Feedback Week.
This week will be given over to tutorials with the Stream leaders where you will get feedback on your work so far and possible directions for your assignments.
Week 8:

Monday (19/11) Stream 1: Magazine redesign

Presentation

The morning session is your opportunity to tell the group about your publication and your plans to change it. We will want to know the reasons for these changes and how you intend to implement them.

Workshop

Throughout this afternoon session, you will be using InDesign to set up your magazine: creating a template for your magazine, inputting all the sizes and dimensions for the copy and images. This template is the flatplan – the empty bowl before the ingredients are added and mixed together. Getting this bit right from the outset will set you up. You will be shown how to style up your text and be expected to use the session to practice this.

Task

You will be given a set of exercises for setting up and styling alternative templates for your magazine. Bring these to the next session for analysis, feedback and discussion.

Core Reading

• Bringhurst R. 2004, The Elements of Typographic Style, Hartley & Marks, USA
By this time in the Semester your group will be well advanced in their work on the ePublication. The WSAmacd team will have sketches, wireframes and notes about interface, interaction and content. The WSAadm team will have begun to develop the communications strategy and business case for the particular ePublication. This first sharing session gives you the opportunity to pitch your ePublication to the tutors and your fellow students. The tutors will be there to offer comments and ideas but perhaps more importantly, we'll be looking to you all to provide constructive feedback to each other. Groups should have initial sketches of the design as well a presentation of the emerging strategy.
Wednesday (21/11) Stream 2: London trip.
Details tbc.

Extra reading

• Amos, A., 2010, The Blue Lady’s New Look and Other Curiosities: Posts from the crossroads of design and marketing. JKR Brand First Books.


• Boylston, S, 2009, Designing Sustainable Packaging. Laurence King.

• Chick, A. & P. Micklethwaite, 2011, Design for Sustainable Change: How design and designers can drive the sustainability agenda. AVA Publishing.

• Kirkpatrick, J., 2009, New Packaging Design. Kirkpatrick


• www.wrap.org.uk

• www.oneplanetliving.org

• www.environment-agency.gov.uk

• www.rspo.org

Friday (23/11) Stream 3: ePublication progress workshop 1 cntd.
Week 9:

Monday (26/11) Stream 1: Navigation
Lecture

However the reader chooses to travel, it is important that they never feel lost on their journey, which is where clear and consistent signage comes in. Order, hierarchy, legibility and impact are the key factors in helping a reader navigate through a publication.

Workshop

This week’s session will focus on last week’s task and troubleshoot any problems – what the task has thrown up in terms of difficulties fitting text to a fixed grid and the logic to moving elements around on the page to maximise impact and ensure legibility. Next, we will concentrate on ensuring everyone has a magazine mapped out in InDesign.

Workshop

Concentrating on navigation, you will be given a set of exercises to complete to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of positioning and styling up copy to emphasise hierarchy and readability.

Task

For next week, research and come up with plans to improve a failing publication by implementing a new navigation system.

Core Reading


Tuesday (27/11) Stream 3 WORKSHOP. Remixing the Remating authorship lecture

In the second remixing the lecture practice-research workshop, you’ll be remixing Week 6’s session: Remixing authorship.


Details to follow
Friday (30/11) Stream 3:  LECTURE. Remixing business – Problematic: What is business?
So we (or more correctly the remix media culture) has problematised the designer/advertiser and the reader/consumer, but maybe the challenge is even more fundamental than that. What if the rules of business, the nature of the organisation, the brand and what they do are changing – not in some sense of moving from a capitalist to a different economic system but rather shifts in the nature of capitalist economics, business organisation and design itself. This session opens up those macro questions, looks at some models emerging and asking what they mean for us as designers, marketers and advertisers.

**Core Reading**


**Extra Reading:**

14.00 – 15.00
Integrated Lecture

Alan Rutter from Condé Nast will be talking about ePublishing, tablets and magazine design and business.
Week 10:

Monday (3/12) Stream 1: Contents and the contents page

Lecture

The most obvious navigation tool is the contents page of a publication where articles are trailed and the structure is laid bare. We look at some award-winning designs to assess their ability to lead us through the pages with clarity and ease, whilst remaining innovative creations in their own right.

Workshop

We will discuss a diverse range of contents pages, analysing what works and how we can implement a similar strategy for our own publications. You will then start to assemble the material for your contents page, using drawn sketches and InDesign to shape content into structure on the page.

Screening

Cover - ID magazine.

Task

You will be given an existing contents page to redesign.

Core Reading

- http://i-donline.com/
- http://www.flickr.com/groups/thefacemagazine/
- http://www.monocle.com/
- http://www.colors magazine.com/magazines
- http://www.wallpaper.com/
Tuesday (4/12) Stream 3 (Groups A & B): Remixing the Remixing business lecture

In the third remixing the Lecture practice-research workshop, you’ll be remixing Week 9’s session: Remixing business.
Wednesday (5/12) Stream 2: 
SEMINAR. Thinking outside the box.
This week we'll be thinking (some more) outside the box as well as sharing where we’ve got to with projects. We’ll also spend some time reflecting on the London trips.

Core reading


Extra reading

• Baudrillard, J., 1970, The Consumer Society: Myths and Structures. Translated by


Thursday (6/12) Stream 1: Visual language

Lecture

Images and graphics are narrative tools. They are necessary, but not as decoration. In this talk, we look at how visual language is about showing how a publication sees the world. The visual language will depend on the amount of information that has to be conveyed, and the visual literacy of the intended audience. Visual language is a crucial element in the creation of a coherent experience on paper.

Workshop

You will be working in small groups for this session. You will assume the roles of editor, art director and illustrator/photographer and explore the commissioning process. You will be given a piece of editorial copy and you need to think about the imagery. Highlight certain paragraphs that have specific meaning. Make notes in the margins to indicate relevant parts of the narrative and how you are thinking about illustrating the piece. Now research imagery that will help you illustrate the text – photographs, illustrations, woodcuts, lino cut, screen prints, digital art, whatever. Set up a double and single three page feature in InDesign, input the copy, style it up and scan, import and position an image or multiple images that you consider emphasises the written word. Print out your work for a group presentation and discussion.

Task

You will each be given a series of cover lines to style and arrange onto a cover – which you will also source and design. The emphasis will be on wordplay and positioning of type over image. Use the previous sessions to decide how to tackle this and bring your solutions back after the Christmas break. Put them on the wall before we begin on Monday 7 January for a group critique and discussion.

Core Reading

Friday (7/12) Stream 3: LECTURE. Remixing power.

Perspectives on media power. Problematic: Who/what is powerful?
The new cultural practices, media and spaces we have been exploring are not neutral. They are deeply power-full. In order to make sense of these issues we need to explore what we mean by ‘power’, how does it work? What do we mean by powerful and powerless? This session explores those questions through the work of various theorists of power.

Core Reading

Extra Reading
- Sheridan, A., 1980, Michel Foucault : the will to truth, Routledge, London
- Galloway, A.R. & Thacker, E., 2004, Protocol, Control, and Networks, Grey Room(17), pp. 6-29
- Bucher, T., 2012, Want to be on the top? Algorithmic power and the threat of invisibility on Facebook, New Media & Society
Week 11:

Monday (10/12) Stream 1: The cover

Presentation

We will discuss the covers and cover lines you produced last week.

Lecture

Finding dynamic and appropriate armour, wrapping or mantle for a publication is no easy task. We look at the cover’s two main functions: to express the brand and mission at a glance, and also work as a newsstand sales tool. We will explore the history of the editorial cover and the significant part typography has played in that development.

Workshop

We'll examine various covers and discuss what makes the best cover and why.

Task

You will design and create the cover for your publication using InDesign. Work (brainstorm) collaboratively with colleagues to come up with appropriate words that will entice and hold readership. Use the next few weeks to ensure that you have all the completed ingredients that make up your publication. Use the time well to ask peers and tutors questions to resolve any problems. Reflect on what you have produced so far and redesign certain elements if necessary. This process is part of being a good designer.
Tuesday (11/12) Stream 3: WORKSHOP. ePublication progress workshop 2
By this second progress workshop, your ePublication and its strategy should be near completion. This session offers you the chance to hone the finishing touches with the tutors and the other groups. You should have a version of the ePublication to demonstrate as well as a draft pitch of your strategy.
Wednesday (13/12) Stream 2: CRITS. Thinking outside the box

Core reading


Extra reading

- Arden, P., 2010, It’s not how good you are, it’s how good you want to be: The world’s best selling book. Phaidon.

Thursday (14/12) Stream 2: CRITS. Thinking outside the box cntd.

Friday (15/12) Stream 3: WORKSHOP. ePublication progress workshop 2 cntd.
Weeks 12-14:
Christmas vacation… Merry Christmas everyone!
Week 15:

Monday (7/1) Stream 1: Magazine redesign Presentation

Today and Thursday, each of you will present to the group, your new redesigned magazine strategy and content – in preparation for assessment.

Tuesday (8/1) Stream 3: MACD and ADM Presentations

Spread across the week, each of the ePublication teams will pitch their publication to the 'client' in a business presentation. For ADM students, this is part of the assessment (see ADM handbook). For MACD students, while the presentation itself is not assessed, teamwork is. The assessment requires MACD students include a short commentary on the process of design and development. This should include a critical account of the work of the team and the pitch. All team members need to play a part in the presentation.

Wednesday (9/1) Stream 3: MACD and ADM Presentations cntd.

Stream 2: Thinking outside the box Presentations

Thursday (10/1) Stream 1: Magazine redesign cntd.

Stream 2: Thinking outside the box Presentations cntd.
Weeks 16-17:
(w/c 14 & 21/1): Assessment
... and coming up in Semester 2

**Stream 1**
Your brief... the design consultancy

18: The Frontiers of Print
19: The Print Industry
20: Repro-ready
21: Brief and Assessment Briefing
22: Designing the Interim Show
23: Designing the Interim Show
24: The Interim Show
25-28: Vacation
29: Self-Promotion
30: Communication: Discussing ideas
31: Convincing the client
32: Self-Promotion Presentations
33: Self-Promotion Presentations
34-36: Assessment.

**Stream 2**
Your brief... telling a story or two or three

18: Overview, assessment and stories
19: The Interim Show
20: Stories - the ideas
21: The 30 second story
22: Audiences and the experience
23: Planning the Interim show
24: The Interim show
15-28: Vacation
30: Defining the audience
31: Defining the stories and ideas
32 and 33: Story presentations
34-36: Assessment.
Stream 3
Your brief... to create an App

18: Mashups, Yahoo Pipes and Google Maps and Apps

19: Mobile apps and remixing the material

20: HTML, CSS and Javascript

21: Facebook apps and remixing space

22: Remixing data

23: Globalisation, the glocal and remixing the Interim Show

24: The Interim Show

25-28: Vacation

29: Pla(y)girism devices and a mobile app

30: Remixing politics: activism and hacktivism.

31: Hacktivism and circuit bending

32: Remixing ethics

33: App presentations

34-36: Assessment.