

Action Research 08
 Ilpo Koskinen
 Office hours: Tuesday 13-14
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Syllabus

Objectives

This class introduces participants to methodological basis of design research methods. The aim is to give an understanding some of the scientific qualities of design research. It also gives basics for understanding research conducted in design studies, and communication tools with managers, administrators, and researchers.

Contents

The class consists of three interrelated parts.

1. **Lecture.** The first part consists of listening to 12 hours of lectures.
2. **Exam.** You have to read the book Koskinen, Ilpo, Katja Battarbee and Tuuli Mattelmäki 2003. *Empathic Design. User Experience for Product Design*. Helsinki: IT Press. IT is available in the library.
3. **Study.** You have to conduct a small empirical study simultaneously with the lectures. Learning methods in abstract is absurd; we are dealing with know-how, not formalized knowledge.

Schedule of lectures

Week 1: 22 Sept - 26 Sept				
Mon Room 857	Tue Room 6087	Wed Room 857	Thu Room 857	Fri Room 6087
9-12 Lectures: Introduction	9-12: Lectures: observation, videos	(Seminar II by Turkka Keinonen)	(seminar II cntd)	(seminar II cntd)
13-16 Lectures: interviewing	13-16: Lectures: forms of inference	13-14: handing the research task	13- Free research time	13- Free research time

Week 2: 29 Sept - 3 Oct				
Mon -	Tue Room 857	Wed Room 857	Thu Room 857	Fri Room 6087
Free research time	9-12 Analysis workshops (two groups), with Jung-Joo Lee	Free research time	(seminar II cntd)	Finishing presentations
	13-16 Analysis workshop (two groups), with Jung-Joo Lee		Preparing presentations	Final presentations

Exam

To pass the class, you need to read the following book and get to the school's general exam in October, November, or December. UIAH Library has several copies of the book, but not enough, so try to do the exam asap, but check the availability of the books first. You can also get it from IT Press, and borrow a copy from researchers.

Koskinen, Ilpo, Katja Battarbee and Tuuli Mattelmäki 2003. *Empathic Design. User Experience for Product Design*. Helsinki: IT Press.

I will make three questions, and you have to answer two of them with a short essay.

Procedure for exams

Step 1: 10 days before the exam, go to Oopi (Tals in English) on the 3rd floor, fill a brown envelope in which you tell that you want to get to Action research Step 3: go to exam in Iso luentosali/Main lecture hall on 8th floor. (Step 2 is reading the book) Step 3: I'll grade the exams and combine info to participation list in the class, and announce results in ca. 10 days after the exam on my door in 8th floor.

Exam dates

11.10. ; 22.11. ; 13.12 . Exams are always at 10-14 in Iso luentosali (Main lecture hall, 8th floor)