

## PhD Anatomies 2020: What's in a design research thesis?

- call for participation 2002 (and course description, see next page)

Dear PhD students,

You are welcome to attend to the PhD Design Course - PhD Anatomies 2020: What's in a design research thesis?

Start time: April 28, 2020, at 13.00-15.00

Location: Campus Norrköping, room KO201

The topic of the PhD Anatomies theme within the LiU Design seminar series is how knowledge is constructed in PhD dissertations in design research. The form for exploring this topic is what we might call a dissection seminar. A dissection seminar addresses two groups of participants: Panelists who devote ample time to preparing for and participating actively in the dissection of a selected PhD dissertation, and other members of the LiU Design network who attend the seminar with less preparation to listen, learn, ask questions and contribute their perspectives.

It is proposed that three dissection seminars take place in 2020: one in the spring, two in the fall, with one date being announced in this call for participation in the course, and dates for the fall to be decided at the first seminar. PhD students who prepare adequately and participate as panelists in two of the three dissection seminars earn 2 credits for the year. See the attached course description for details.

The theses that will be discussed are:

Spring, April 28: Embodied Core Mechanics: Designing for movement-based co-located play;

Márquez Segura, Elena

<http://uu.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A920694&dswid=3717>

Fall: Designing Energy-Sensitive Interactions: Conceptualising Energy from the Perspective of Electric Cars; Lundström, Anders

<http://kth.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A924626&dswid=3717>

Fall: Simple haptics: Sketching perspectives for the design of haptic interactions; Moussette, Camille

<http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A558987&dswid=3717>

Please register for the course by contacting Jonas Lundberg ([Jonas.lundberg@liu.se](mailto:Jonas.lundberg@liu.se)).

Deadline for registration for participating PhD students: March 20

Jonas Lundberg, March 9, 2020

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### - course description

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Each dissection seminar is focused on one selected PhD dissertation in design research. Panelists read the dissertation carefully and prepare to discuss the following generic questions.

- What are the proposed knowledge contributions of the dissertation?
- For each proposed knowledge contribution:
  - How is it grounded?
  - Is the grounding adequate? If not, how could it be improved?
  - Is the proposed knowledge contribution internally relevant? Which literature or academic community does it address?
  - Is the proposed knowledge contribution externally relevant? What is its significance in the world? Are any claims made with respect to significance and impact, and if so, how are they validated?
- Are there potential knowledge contributions in the work that are not identified as such by the author?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the dissertation as an example of design research?

In addition, specific preparation questions may be put for each dissertation to be dissected.

At the dissection seminar, the preparation questions are discussed in a moderated panel format where the moderator is a senior design researcher familiar with the dissertation to be dissected. For the benefit of the audience, one of the panelists is tasked with giving a brief initial presentation of the dissertation. Audience members are invited to participate in the discussion as deemed appropriate by the moderator.

Jonas Lundberg ([jonas.lundberg@liu.se](mailto:jonas.lundberg@liu.se)) serves as the coordinator for the PhD Anatomies seminars and as examiner for the PhD course with the same name. It is the coordinator's responsibility to select dissertations to be dissected, and to appoint panelists for each dissection seminar among PhD students and senior researchers in the network.