



# UID Research Seminar (4–8 credits)

**Credit points:** 4–8 ECTS

**Course code:**

**Responsible department:** Umeå Institute of Design

**Main field of study:** Industrial Design

**Level:** PhD

**Specialisation in relation to degree requirements:** Doctoral or Licentiate degree in Industrial Design

**Subject area:** Design research

**Grading scale:** Pass / Fail

**Any programme affiliation:**

**Confirmation:** This syllabus was approved by the Research Council at Umeå Institute of Design, Umeå University, on 2016-05-11 and is valid from the autumn term of 2016.

## Contents

The research seminar is intended to provide a forum for presentation and discussion of PhD students' ongoing research, as well as and in relation to other work in design research and other relevant discourses. The purpose is to enable an ongoing intellectual exchange that will support PhD students in their development as independent scholars and, more generally, to foster a vibrant research culture at UID.

The seminars are held bi-weekly during the school year, and all PhD students and research-active staff are expected to attend and participate regularly. The formal requirement for the research seminar course is attendance at a total of 50 seminars during PhD studies, or 25 for Licentiate studies; and presentation at a minimum of 4 seminars for PhD studies, or 2 for Licentiate studies (roughly one per school year). The course is worth 8 credits for PhD students and 4 credits for Licentiate students.

## Expected learning outcomes

- A deepened understanding of academic discourse in design research.
- An ability to articulate and present one's own research for other design research scholars.
- An ability to constructively critique and provide feedback on the work of others.

## Relation to general study plan

The research seminar is a general higher seminar in design research, and as such it serves many of the learning goals described in the general study plan. However, from an educational point of view, it specifically adds to the other elements of the program with respect to the following:

*Primary: 1.2.1, 1.2.4, 1.2.5, 2.2.1*

*Secondary: 1.3.1, 2.2.3*

## Required knowledge

Qualifications for admission to the PhD programme in industrial design, or equivalent.

## Form of instruction

Seminars.

## Examination modes

Examination is held orally. The assessment of the course is based on active seminar participation and presentations.



Students are responsible for keeping a record of the seminars they attend and present, which can be submitted for the course credits as soon as the required number has been reached. Research seminar participation should also be included in the individual study plan in both the planning and reporting on activities of the previous year (seminars attended should be listed). The full list of seminars is available for reference on the UID web site (<http://uid.umu.se/en/research/research-seminar/>). The list of attended seminars that is presented for credit should include the date, presenter, and topic or title of the seminar. In order to count for course credit, students must be physically present at the seminar (i.e. participation via web conference does not count).

If students have difficulty meeting the attendance requirement due to there not being enough seminars held at UID, other events and seminars at other departments and institutions may be counted after approval of the supervisor and examiner for the PhD education.

### **Academic credit transfer**

Equivalency credits for this course can only be given if it can be shown through transcripts and course plans that a similar course has been passed and after the supervisor and examiner for the PhD education have evaluated and approved the students' individual level of skills and knowledge.

If a student spends time at another institution as a visiting scholar or similar, seminars attended there may be included toward course credit after approval from the supervisor and examiner for PhD education.

### **Course literature**

There is no set literature for the course, although frequently texts will be distributed in advance for discussion at particular seminars.