

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Design Thinking**  
**Designtänkande**

**7.5 Higher Education  
Credits**  
**7.5 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	FE6615
<b>Valid from:</b>	Autumn 2016
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2013-05-20
<b>Changed:</b>	2016-03-07
<b>Department</b>	Stockholm Business School
<b>Main field:</b>	Företagsekonomi
<b>Specialisation:</b>	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Decision

The syllabus is decided on by the School of Business Education Committee 2013-05-20, revised 2016-03-07.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

120 HE credits. Swedish upper secondary school course English B, or the equivalent, or one of the following tests. Cambridge CPE och CAE: Pass. IELTS : 6.0 (with no part of the test below 5.0). TOEFL (paper based): 550 (with minimum grade 4 on the written test part). TOEFL (computer based): 213. TOEFL (internet based): 79.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
6615	Design Thinking	7.5

## Course content

Design thinking is a powerful tool for devising strategic interdisciplinary or entrepreneurial initiatives, permitting connections between concepts, methods and shifts of perspective that would otherwise be overlooked in a mono-disciplinary ‘problem-solving’ approach. Originating in design, but capable of being applied across a broad range of disciplines, design thinking brings a disruptive, game-changing potential to ways of working that have become routine.

People naturally have the ability for design thinking – it deploys the associative, improvisatory logic of play – but are typically encouraged to suppress it in favour of more dependable yet limited problem-solving methodologies.

For entrepreneurs who value the pursuit of validity and innovation over tradition and repetition, this course will equip you with the core skills for furthering such aims. It takes a practice-led approach, teaching design thinking skills through a mix of lectures, workshops and assignments. Having acquired the fundamentals of design thinking, students are then encouraged to explore ways of extending the established techniques – incorporating elements from, for example, other creative and design disciplines such as plotting, characterization, visualisation, role-playing, story-boarding and experience prototyping.

As the course focuses on themes and speculative, post-critical prototyping of actual “wicked” problems, teaching is conducted in an interactive manner with participants expected to take an active role throughout the course.

**Learning outcomes**

The purpose of this course is to teach PhD, MFA, MSc, and MA students the advanced methods for design thinking.

The learning outcomes for the course are for the participants to be able to independently:

- Acquire and execute design thinking methods.
- Evaluate and organize the concepts such a methodology generates.
- Discuss and critically assess the strengths, weaknesses and innovative potential of proposals from course colleagues.
- Develop, document and articulate a coherent design proposal based on results generated.
- Demonstrate how design thinking can change and enlarge the student's own disciplinary 'world view'.
- Develop and argue for an interdisciplinary entrepreneurial initiative inspired by the design thinking process.

**Education**

The course combines lectures with seminar discussions, workshops, group and individual presentations by the students as well as leaders in the field.

The course language is English.

**Forms of examination**

The final grade will be based on:

- The student's interdisciplinary entrepreneurial proposal, its final presentation and documentation of how design thinking has led to this result
- The grading you receive from your team members, and an evaluation of the way in which you give and motivate the grades you give yourself and your team members
- Successful completion of the individual assignments
- Attendance

**Grading scale**

Fail (F), Fail (Fx), Sufficient (E), Satisfactory (D), Good (C), Very good (B), Excellent (A)

**Attendance**

Attendance is compulsory.

**Interim**

In the event of major changes to the content or the required readings of the course, or suspension of the course altogether, students are entitled to an opportunity to retake the examination according to the present syllabus once each semester during the subsequent three semesters after the change has taken effect.

**Limitations**

The course cannot be included as part of a degree in conjunction with other similar courses accomplished at other universities in Sweden or abroad.

**Misc**

The course is offered within the framework of the Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship (SSES).

**Required reading**

Required and supplementary readings will be announced at the beginning of each semester the course runs.