



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

Australia's  
Global  
University

# Built Environment

BEIL0007

Sustainable Design Thinking



Course Outline – Term 2, 2020

## Disclaimer

Information within this document is subject to change. The full and most accurate course outline will be available in Moodle closer to the start of the term in which the course is offered.

## 1. COURSE STAFF

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## 2. COURSE DETAILS

<b>Credit Points</b>	6 units of credit (uoc)
<b>Workload</b>	Approx. 150 hours including class contact hours, weekly individual and group online learning activities, readings, class preparation, and assessment activities.
<b>Teaching Times and Location</b>	Find details in timetable <a href="http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au">http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au</a>

## Description

BEIL0007 is offered as part of the suite of courses under the Built Environment Interdisciplinary Learning (BEIL) initiative. This course introduces both design and non-design students from the Built Environment degree programs to 'design thinking': a creative problem solving process that involves empathic understanding of users, problem reframing and definition, idea generation, and prototyping and testing of ideas, as prerequisites to arriving at meaningful, responsible and sustainable solutions in response to real-world problems. Weekly activities build capabilities in using ideation and innovation strategies to achieve more imaginative and human-focused outcomes. The course culminates with a 'sustainable innovation challenge' that integrates the specialized skills of the cross-disciplinary student teams. In the teamwork that occurs, students are expected to contribute the unique insights, theories, methods, communication forms, and other prior skills from their own academic specialisation, in order to enrich the learning of their teams as they cooperate and collaborate on assessment tasks.

## Aims

To challenge Built Environment students to work together in interdisciplinary teams in order to come up with innovative solutions to complex ecological and social sustainability issues.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

At the successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Apply sustainable design thinking methodologies to problems and opportunities that call for creative solutions.
2. Analyse the positive and negative impacts of design and innovation activities on the natural environment and on the broader society.
3. Demonstrate and apply skills in interdisciplinary communication and collaboration.

### 3. ASSESSMENT

Assessment task	Weight	CLOs Assessed
1. Assessment 1: Climate Crisis Challenge (Individual)	38%	1, 2, 3
2. Assessment 2: Learning Reflections (Group)	30%	1, 2, 3
3. Assessment 3: Design Thinking Exercises (Individual)	16%	2
4. Assessment 4: Design Thinking Exercises (Individual) Presentation	16%	1, 2, 3

### 4. COURSE IMPROVEMENT AND FEEDBACK

Feedback from students is an integral part of improving courses and teaching approaches. One of the primary mechanisms of feedback is myExperience, which we strongly urge all students to complete at the end of term. Course convenors use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. This is communicated in Moodle in the myFeedback Matters page.