

# The OU Design Show



# **Design at the Open University**

The Open University offers design modules to more than 2000 students from diverse backgrounds. Every year we celebrate the achievement of students across these modules with an open design exhibition. Students are invited to enter work that they have enjoyed doing and are proud of from their year's studies. The entries reflect the diversity of our students. The projects demonstrate how design can tackle problems across personal, societal, and global scales.

Through a mix of academic and practical work, you'll develop an understanding of design, acquire new design skills, and build a portfolio of design projects as a strong foundation for future study or work experience.

Designers have used their skills to translate ideas and needs into all the objects that you see around you. In this module you will learn about the essential skills and practices that designers use to create detailed design solutions.

Innovations emerge from complex, dynamic, iterative processes. But how do designers, engineers, entrepreneurs, managers and users create opportunities and generate ideas for innovation? How are ideas developed into successful products, services and systems? What are the impacts of design and innovation?

## **U101 Design Thinking**

## **T217 Design Essentials**

## **T317 Innovation**



### CJ Mickey



Road traffic accident, cattle on road
lose 2 steak cards and move back 1 space

 Pandemic causes panic buying, processing speeds up
move forward 3 spaces

True or false. Cattle kill more people than sharks?

True.

- Leak in water pipe, tanks are dry - lose one cow card OR miss a turn

Cattle Rustler Card

"High Steaks" An educational game for 4-8 people ages 8+

**By: CJ Mickey** 



Hospitalisation

62.5

64

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2

The Board Game

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03

#### Alexandra Kolozsvari Rubecz

Hospitalisation -The Board Game is an educational, set collection game. Its primary purpose to familiarise players with the structure of hospital services and to provide information on access to these services. The game guides the player from the first stage of hospital admission to discharge, while obstacles stand in their way and reward fields help them through a more difficult stage. The target audience of my board game is generally over the age of ten, as well as foreigners who want to settle in the UK. Based on my observations, in a playful, fun way where interactions are given a lot of emphasis, it is easier to learn certain knowledge. The board game provides recreation for 3-5 players.



We can draw lucky cards (Nurse cards) on the Nurse fields. The cards inform and instruct the player about the treatments and examinations characteristic of the hospital unit of the current colour, so that the players can learn the structure of the hospital and the information of its departments by playing. For example, the text next to the colour code of the card drawn at the Urgent Unit (Level 4) says: 'Multi-organ failure, Miss a turn'. • LEVEL 4

Multi-organ failure

Miss a turn

! It's a boy!

up a paracetay

LEVEL 5

were caught smoking

That bruise is still large

The game starts at the Start fields, where we can move with rolling a 1 to 5. We cannot enter the field with rolling a six. We can advance on the board by rolling the dice. The game is divided into levels and units, starting with basic NHS services on the outer arch. From the second level, it faithfully follows the units of the hospital service, all the way to the innermost circle, which is the Discharge. The player who gets to the Discharge level sooner from the Start field after collecting the required number of Paracetamols, wins.



At each level, players must collect a Paracetamol of each colour and place it on the Paracetamol collecting card. Once the player has collected the required number of Paracetamols, he/she can level up from the Ambulance field. We can only level up by entering an ambulance. From there, we must then go to the nearest ambulance on the next level and continue the game, collecting 🧖 Paracetamols.

HOSPITALISATION - THE BOARD GAME by Alexandra Kolozsvari-Rubecz (K1067721

### The Chef's Tarot T Shirt

**Alexandra Slingsby** 







- I designed this T shirt for my own use – I was a chef for many years
- The 3 of swords is represented by the Sabatier knife which I have owned for 30 years
- This tarot card represents emotional upheaval, which I was experiencing at the time of making this piece
- There is a very happy ending to this story, so now I need a new T shirt!



#### Becky Mayfield



### Becky Mayfield



### CJ Mickey



12

# The Problem



# The Solution

In response to the problem statement "How might businesses address the lack of social interactions in the community in which they operate to help reduce feelings of loneliness amongst its members?". I'd like to design a platform where businesses can advertise seating arrangements and events for solo customers in order to make it easier for lonely people to enjoy the activities that socially require you to be accompanied

such as dinning in a fine restaurant or going dancing to a club. This concept would not only help normalise solo social activities but would also allow businesses to profit from a growing market which also includes solo travellers who normally have to dine alone and would most likely appreciate the opportunity to interact with locals.

# The Concept: +Zero App

A platform for businesses to advertise solo seating arrangements or special events for people who don't have a plus one! By selecting a date and time, customers see how many seats are available and read previous customer's reviews Customer receive alerts 24hrs before if no-one else has booked so they can decide if they want to cancel or change their reservation.







# **TMA02 Expanding Plant Pot**

# How might we limit the waste produced by requiring various sizes of pot over a plant's life?

While exploring common household problems, I noted the number of unused pots which had accumulated in my garage. I explored how we could reduce the waste produced, and settled on an expanding pot - a pot which grows with your plant.





The pot is made up of a hexagonal base and rim, as after some experimenting I calculated it the ideal shape for maintaining structure while allowing rotation. Using the measurements from my prototype, I calculated the range of usable volume to be variable by a factor of 10 (from 0.4L to 4L at this scale). When in use, the weight of the plant is applying pressure to the pot's structure allowing it to maintain its shape at any rotation. The outer wall of the pot is made from a loose weave of recycled fabric attached to the base and rim to ensure full coverage while still allowing for rotation.

Target User Groups:

- The casual plant owner: often the time and effort required to buy new pots/compost, and successfully transfer plant into new pot is too much. Throwaway culture means the whole plant is tossed and replaced.
- Elderly/those with physical limitations: the struggle of repotting and the weight of large pots makes it an impossible task. It is easier to throw away and replace.
- Those with limited living/storage space: This pot eliminates the need for multiple sizes and can rotate fully to almost flat making for easy storage.

# Power+tation

The powerstation helps alleviate desktop clutter, whilst reducing the number of power supplies required.

#### Features

1. 10 Watt COB LED lamp which rotates 360° both horizontally and vertically.

2. Power socket and switch for lamp on the rear of the housing leaving the front clean.

3. Six USB A ports for charging or powering additional devices.

4. Large wirelss charging pad capable of accommodating the largest mobile phones.

Originally conceived to solve the problem of having excessive electronic clutter on a bedside cabinet. The powerstation reduces the number of electronic items, whilst also reducing the number of power supplies required.

Combining three items, the powerstation puts a wireless charging pad, USB charging/power suppply ports and a fullly repositionable led lamp at your fingertips.

Using a minimalist approach, the powerstation, with its clean lines and single switch, also looks good on any desk or bedside cabinet.



Gareth Williams : U101

# TWIST BY HARRIET SUTTON

I used illustration. photography, and graphic manipulation to create an optical illusion of two hands drawing one another in a continuous motion. This was inspired by M. C. Escher, and fashion designers such as **Dolce and Gabbana**. The graphic took some inspiration from playing card designs. The word twist is a reference to the card-game of the same name and to describe the motion of the hands in my illustration. I used colour pops to add interest to my final t-shirt design.

THIS IS ME T-SHIRT CONCEPT

Name:

DOB:

13.06.21

Contact

Number:

+447700

900077

John Smith

My T-shirt idea came about when I participated in a 3 day online autism awareness course and I was inspired to brainstorm ideas on how my design could be useful as a product/service, and I liked the idea of using the T-Shirt as a sort of information holding system for individuals who get lost and cannot communicate their needs, such as those on the autistic spectrum. The QR design can then be scanned using any mobile device and their name, DOB and emergency contact number will be displayed to provide useful information about the individual.

# THIS IS ME

HAYLEY MCIVOR 2021 | U101

# **Parcel Drop**

A visual board game which echoes reality inspired by a parcel delivery service - the aim is to deliver a complete set of parcels

Inclusive, image-based game transcends language and literacy barriers

Players begin the game with a hollow vehicle and a set of 6 parcels

Progress is made by spinning the dial on the feature roundabout

Star icons for delivery destination and detour cards



The winner is the first player to have no parcels left to deliver!











An additional 8-section spinner with corresponding gold star icon wild cards offers a variation to the game play that provides more challenge



# Jennifer Balloch



# In response to one of the contributing factors of the global **malnutrition** problem...

# **Rainbow Rewards!**

A system to make healthy eating more appealing -

Jennifer Balloch

# Don't just eat - Nourish



# **The Helping Hand**

'The Helping Hand' is a product that helps walking stick users, by securely holding their stick while they carry out tasks. In doing so, the user can perform simple activities two-handed again, like packing shopping or food preparation, safe in the knowledge that their cane is close by.

The design requires little or no instruction and can accommodate different sizes of walking stick with no adaption, due to its tapered V-shaped docking section. It can be folded up or down and be made from soft materials, to enable inclusion into the surroundings.

This quiet design makes performing tasks smoother and safer, and has the potential to slip into everyday society unnoticed, as an object that has always been there, assisting people.









# THE THUMBS UP TEE

A FEEL GOOD, FUN LOVING GARMENT TO BRIGHTEN ANYONE'S DAY

# Be optimistic...

Yellow is associated with fun, energy and optimism. Your spiritual guides will recognise yellow as a fire element, full of life and impact! The purple adds a sense of luxury, power and ambition. Together these colours make the wearer feel magical!

# Feel good clothing

According to Jules Standish, who wrote 'How Not To Wear Black,' what you wear impacts your well-being and self-esteem...we could all do with a little boost after a year of Covid-19.



# **HAVE FUN**

Fascinate font enhances the 'friendly yet sophisticated' vibe and the placement of the image extends the reach of the thumb lending drama to an otherwise plain white tee



"How might we better support inner city, low income parents and children?" Living in inner cities with a low income comes with its many difficulties. The plethora of benefits that come from being in outdoor green spaces are not so easily afforded to those living in concrete jungles. Let's utilise our city space better to provide low income residents living in high rise inner city buildings with rooftop gardens. A space for families and individuals to relax, helping to improve mental health. Residents can grow fruit and vegetables, contributing to lowering the cost of eating healthily. Mini beast hotels for children to explore and learn about nature. Wide pathways and scattered benches provide access for disabled and elderly residents. Rooftop gardens will bring the community together and give residents a sense of pride and achievement. "This is the new city" - William Mcdonough.

"Design creates culture. Culture shapes values. Values determine the future." -Robert L. Peters





The stigmatisation of mental health is something | sadly have experienced first hand. As a result, | subscribe to the mantra "it's okay, not to be okay." After conducting some user trips | decided to add braille to the design so those with visual impairments could also enjoy my t-shirt. For my final submission, | made two t-shirts; one printed and one embroidered, so that the braille really stood out.

Within my design the hand is severed, thus rendering the 'okay' gesture unironically not okay representing the overall message. I added the blood and bone to my design and used the principles of emphasis and dominance to attract attention to the composition and the important message it

> represents... ...it's <u>okay</u>, not to be <u>okay</u>!

Lyn Denham

# Story of a Pandemic...

# #covid19 #restrictions #hope



Martin Raad



28



Problem:

Those that have been displaced within the UK have little to no support, live on £37 a week and feel lost in a country they do not know.

Problem Statement: "How might we help displaced people within the UK live a more meaningful life with a sense of purpose and a feeling of belonging"



Unity is a website I created to solve the problem statement. Unity is a website for those that have been displaced that live in the UK and can speak the language. They can log on to the website create a profile and film a video of themselves giving a cooking demonstration. This will be available for those wishing to learn authentic cooking recipes from the country of origin. The user can visit a page where they can choose the cuisine they wish to cook from Thai, Indian, Chinese, Moroccan and European to name a few. From there they can choose a dish. Once the user has choosen a dish say "Indian - Chicken Korma" They would be face with a number of instructors that take this course. Think of it similar to the Udemy of Cookery.



#### Lets say the user has chosen Arpit as their instructor. They will land on his profile where he can writ about himself in the header. In this case Arpit chose to write about his love of food and how he started cooking from a young age with his mother. It shos the user the dish they chose to make and a little about it, and the user can also see the other dishes Arpit makes.

The Bio is a great place for those that are using the platform let others get to know them, not just the users of the site who will purchase but other people that have been displaced to.

### The Community



The community page is an integral part of the project. This is where the British public and those that have been displaced come together. There is a live chat where anyone can talk from those that have been displaced looking to reach out, to the general public who want to get involved. There is also losts to do our within the community that makes Unity the perfect project.

#### **Street Food**

This is where monthly markets are held with stalls. Here those that have been displaced can showcase their food, meet the public and others who are also displaced and are using the platform. Here is where you could meet your next employer as showcased on the homepage blog. A woman who was using the platform got her right to remain and meet her new employer, a restraunt owner at the street fair.

#### **Coffee Morning**

Use the filter at the side to look up your postcode and see when your next coffee morning is. Meet the locals who want to get to know you. You could also meet others that have been displaced who want to make connections in their local area.

#### **Skills Workshop**

Use the filter at the side to see when your next skill shop is. From cookery classes to help you deliver a more professional video, digital skills to market your videos and much more. The skill shops are there to enhance those that have been displaced skill set and increase their earning ability on the platform.

#### The Outcome

Unity provides a platform to build a community and tackles several problems at once. The platform enables others that have been displaced within an area to make friends meet up and build foundations. It allows them to make an additional income until they hear from the home office of their residency status. This could take many months. It builds skills as they attend workshops and allows them to learn about a culture and gives the British public a chance to learn from other cultures. It could also lead to long term employment as their next employer could be as one of the street markets.

# **Lets Make Recyling Fun!**

Getting It Sorted Recycling Game By Nathan Lansdell



<image><image><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text>



Detailed instructions and game build guides to help you construct your game.

Cartoon character art to build relationships between the players and the waste products.

The Getting It Sorted Recycling Game Where players are pitted against each other in a bid to earn the most counters by recycling correctly, whilst trying not to lose counters by falling foul of bad recycling!

The winner is the player with greatest number of counters and most items recycled correctly. THE ECO-FRIENDLY

# LITTLE COOK SUBSCRIPTION BOX A health-focused service for children and caregivers. - Nichple Griffin

"A TWO-YEAR-OLD WHO IS OBESE HAS A 75% CHANCE OF BEING OBESE AT 35." THE LITTLE COOK SUBSCRIPTION BOX IS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE CHILDREN AND CAREGIVERS TO CREATE HEALTHY MEALS TOGETHER. RESEARCH SHOWS CHILDREN ARE MORE WILLING TO TRY NEW, HEALTHY FOODS WHEN THEY'RE EXPOSED TO THE COOKING PROCESS. WE ALSO KNOW HABITS FORMED IN CHILDHOOD ARE MORE LIKELY TO FOLLOW THROUGH TO ADULTHOOD. WE'RE HERE TO TAKE THE PRESSURE OFF PARENTS WITH AN INNOVATIVE, ECO-FRIENDLY, BUDGET-CONSCIOUS RESPONSE. THE BOX IS ECO-FRIENDLY BY CONTAINING THE EXACT INGREDIENTS NEEDED FOR THE RECIPE DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR. THIS ALSO KEEPS OUR SERVICE BUDGET-FRIENDLY, COSTING NO MORE THAN A NORMAL SHOP. RECIPES ARE PREDOMINATELY VEGAN FRIENDLY AND SUITABLE FOR MOST ALLERGY SUFFERERS. BY CREATING VEGAN-FRIENDLY RECIPES WE'RE LOOKING AFTER OUR PLANET IN THE SHORT TERM AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. THE BOX COMES WITH A CHALLENGE SHEEF FOR THE CHILD TO TICK OFF GOALS WITH STICKERS PROMOTING POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT AND STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS TO HELP READING AND COGNITIVE SKILLS. WHEN USED REGULARLY THE BOX WILL ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO FOLLOW A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AND PREVENT FUTURE OBESITY PROBLEMS THROUGH EXPOSURE TO NEW FOODS AND A NEWFOUND RESPONSIBILITY BY LEARNING TO COOK. THE BOX WILL ALSO HELP ENCOURAGE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PARTICIPATING FAMILY MEMBERS THROUGH MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES AND TEAM BUILDING.



# Loss and Love



Inspired by the moment I helped my son to hold onto his toothbrush to allow him to continue to feel the vibration.



I saw the word "Loss" in the thumb, toothbrush and fingers of my recreation photo, which I abstracted into a B&W design, placed over the heart.



I adapted this into a larger, bold colourful design using the word "Love" - the very emotion that is the driving force behind grief and the loss of a loved one.

#### Design by: Natasha Anderson-Hunt





# **T217 Design Essentials**





Light Conversation by Bryony Sims

> A fun activity for children and families to discover the magic of light and learn morse code.

Light Conversation is a two player game of sending secret messages to each other using light reflections, then cracking the code. Inspired by the heritage of the Ditchling Beacon and its use to warn of incoming invasions using fire, Light Conversation has reimagined this concept to provide educational entertainment to children. The design further draws on British history through being housed in a sustainable and resilient Long Barrow structure, adding value to the park without making aesthetic sacrifices.





Light Conversation gets children interested in history and nature, and helps with their school work. When playing the game, they will be noting down what they see, using problem solving skills to translate messages and planning messages back; valuable skills that parents want children to develop.

Resilience is at the forefront of the component design, its steel overlaid with earthenware structure benefits from a harmonised blend of ancient and modern building techniques to ensure a safe structure that is build to last.

Light Conversation is a great site for school trips and youth groups; lending itself to history, science, maths and even computer class! Morse code is a predecessor of modern coding languages so introducing children to it at an early age will help them to grasp more advanced codes in the future.



# smart garden lamp

# THE BEEHIVE KITCHEN

Personalising your space even in the smallest of kitchens Juan Torres Q61 T217 2021







The aim of this project was to create an innovative solution for small kitchens that would adapt to the modern challenges that our societies face today, like kitchens getting smaller, people's focus to protect the environment and reducing the impact of food and waste, with some changes being introduced in the kitchen like refillable packing. As people spend more time in the kitchen, its a perfect time to introduce solutions to a hardly evolved market, that would create a more comfortable space for its users.

The solution I designed was "The Beehive Kitchen", a modular "Lego-like" kitchen storage solution that allows the user to adapt the space to its needs, using the nature-inspired honeycomb pattern of beehives, to create cabinets, work surfaces, shelves, etc. The honeycomb pattern makes it possible to increase the maximum usable space available on a wall, which makes it ideal for small kitchens.

The user can change the modules with ease adding or removing the pieces that come in different colours, shapes, textures, etc to a wall mounted grid specifically created to improve on space in the kitchen and create a personal space for the user that they can feel proud of.



As the modules could be easily produced out of injection moulded plastics, with the possibility of using modern recycled plastics, it provides the opportunity of creating a cradle-to-cradle system, in which, when the users are encouraged to recycle their modules (providing a discount on next purchase for example), that could incite them to try and buy different modules, but at the same time, have a smaller impact on the environment.

Having different modules means a more accessible kitchen. People might need cabinets at a lower height or in a place that is easier to reach, and some modules could be specifically designed for different accessibility needs.

By having modular design, the kitchen can quickly adapt to the market needs. If new solutions to reduce waste arrive, for example, a module could be designed to have specific dedicated space for reusable packaging, which could be cabinets with drawers for flour, rice, pasta etc.

Giving the user the choice to create their dream kitchen, invites them to be wildly creative, with endless possibilities yet to be discovered.



surrounding wildlife and landscape for all. Sustainable use of natural, local materials.

deeper understanding of

- acing to conservation.
- -The back of this sheet includes names of species, information and fun facts.







# Welcome To Ditchling Beacon



# **T317 Innovation**

Winner



Eleanor Marsh - A2849050 - T317

### T317 Innovation: Designing for Change

#### Anna Ward Stancheva



Making carrying shopping bags up stairs Pocket-sized. Hands-free, Easy and Flexible

### What is the PHEF-Carry?

Designed to aid with carrying shopping bags up steps and stairs, the PHEF-Carry is a pocket-sized product comprising two magnetised devices with adjustable straps and a clip on each device. It can be worn on the body or on the shoulders, also perfect for a hands-free shopping experience!





Magnets for attaching the devices behind the back. A clip on each device for shopping bags



Adjustable 1.2m cotton straps with a button to control the length

Press studs to stop the straps rising towards the neck. Anti-slip rubber spots





3D Visual Concept



3D Visual Concept







it.eu



# INDIVIDUALEARN

The tutoring book, which can be assembled individually and directly to your child's needs!



who need extra help learning. The book's content is custom-made and can be selected from a variety of exercises, topics and levels. For additional help scan the QR code on the page which leads to the webplatform. There are further exercises and videos with immediate feedback to learn with. Individualearn is made from recycled paper and is available in every country. Individual for everybody!



Get visual and audio input from our webplatform. There you can watch videos and get immediate feedback from interactive exercises.



#### HOW IT WORKS

The pressure sensor in the insole is located beneath the ball of the foot to promote proper running form.

The sensors detect the impact forces of each step and send the information to a microcontroller unit (MCU) located in the arch of the insole, which then transmits it via Bluetooth.

Because the information is contained within the insole, the Smart Insole is compatible with virtually any running shoe.

The Smart Insole is an easy to use, affordable and environmentally friendly addition to your running wardrobe.

#### HOW CAN IT HELP YOU?

The Smart Insole can detect the foot pressure distribution and movement of CoP (centre of pressure) in real-time.

The Smart Insole will provide athletes, soldiers, physicians and therapists with a relative advantage when evaluating foot information through digitalised visualisation in order to build a new standard of rehabilitation treatment and injury prevention.

The smart insole solution is a low-cost solution of evaluating patients and providing a better and intelligent solution that can be used in hospitals, rehabilitation centres, and military applications.



#### INTRODUCING THE SMART INSOLE



TECHNOLOGIES

Sustainable merino Intelligent wool textile insole microcontroller for sensors accuracy

SUPPORT.

Adaptive energy control and wireless charging

Smart Insole transmits information via Bluetooth to a Smart Insole app for digitalised visualisation.

The Smart Insole is made with eco-friendly natural materials like merino wool and eucalyptus trees because they are our best hope for a sustainable future.





enoniation

STUDENT: PATIENCE ALI

#### PAT TROLLEY

This project aims to design a modular product that the user owns, taken out from the car to the shop, back to the car and straight into the house with the least effort when lifting or storing. The trolley will be lightweight, with adjustable height, collapsible and easy to store in the car, and should hold at least 60 kilograms of shopping and fit into the boot space of 300 litres. The trolley design to expedite the whole shopping process, eliminate the need to obtain, sanitise, and return a store owned shopping trolley. The design integrates innovative technology, compatible with IoT, integration capabilities with new Amazon till less shopping.

