

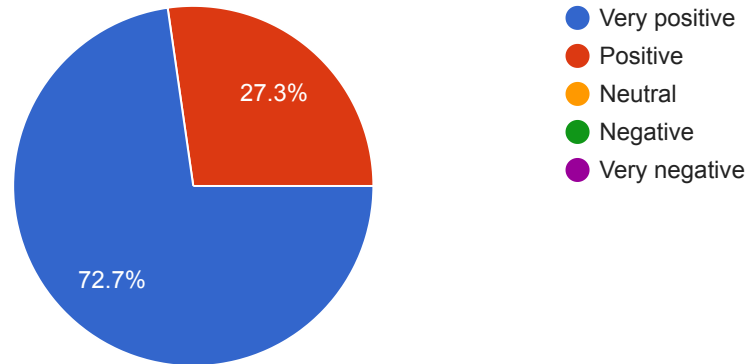
Interaction Design Research course 7.5 HP

12 responses

1. What is your overall impression of the course?

 Copy

11 responses



Comment

6 responses

The course is well organized with a lot of love and care! I wouldn't expect anything else from Kia at this point, but she deserves all the praise.

Very well organised course by Kia and all PhD students involved! The monthly spread reading seminars were paced at the right tempo to read the material while gradually shifting into the RtD mindset.

Great, everything!

This was a really lovely course! Great content, and a fantastic structure that really let us dwell on the course content to learn and reflect.

The best course I have taken so far. Very good discussions, great facilitation. I felt both professionalized as an academic, as well as enriched with lots of new thoughts and ideas through a well curated literature list. An extra bonus was the social aspect, with the course also designed for getting to know other PhDs from around Sweden, providing a network of peers that I think will have a huge positive impact in many ways, especially for us coming from smaller research groups.

Very nice handled by the course leader, who generously shared anecdotes, knowledge and ideas. But also really listened to our thoughts, and being open to all kinds of discussion. Very good balance between a bit of nagging to get us doing stuff, and at the same time making us feel that our ideas do matter and that we can contribute to the discourse. I always looked forward to each seminar, and enjoyed them so much, leaving with my mind blown and a grin on my face!

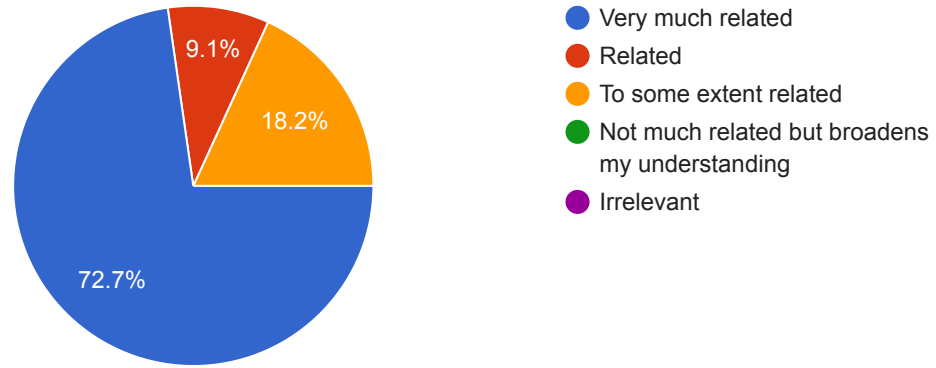
This course was wonderful!



2. Was the course directly related to your research

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11 responses



Comment

8 responses

All the readings were directly applicable to my work.

Coming from a slightly different position in design the course definitely broadened my perspective on RtD and challenged my position. It really pushed me to reflect more deeply on my research methods.

Yes, absolutely. It is targeted in the same direction I want to head as design researcher.

Very helpful for my methodological framing

Spot on

The course is very much in line with what I am doing and a deep dive into understanding how best to use the methodology in my work.

Many things, such as references and concepts, went straight into my thesis proposal text and articles i am writing. Further the course gave a lot of perspectives, providing a chance to read what I would probably not read normally, finding both new angles as well as defining what I am not doing academically.

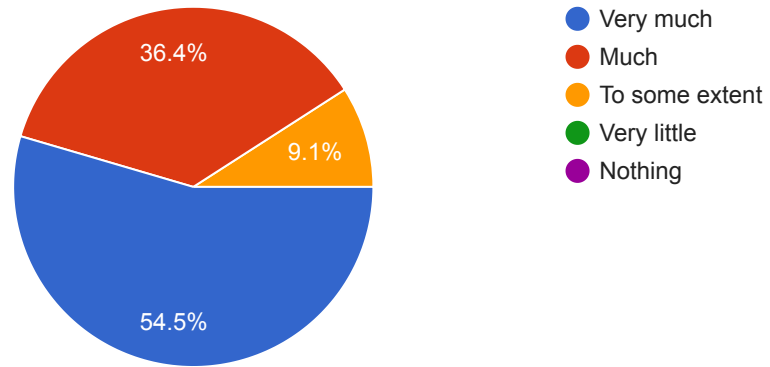
While the course was not directly related to the field of my research, I found it to be really valuable. It helped me figure out where I stand and gave me that epistemological lens I was after.



3. Did you learn anything new?

 Copy

11 responses



Comment

5 responses

Since I was already familiar with the majority of the literature I'm not sure I have learnt that much that feels entirely new. Rather, I have learnt through the conversations with the class, not quite something new but a new perspective on old things.

The book was completely new to me (apart from the concept of a design program). I was aware of most papers that we covered in the later months but it was helpful to read them more thoroughly, discuss them with bright PhD students, and link them together to trace how the RtD history has evolved.

Not only did I learn a slew of new things, it also put a lot of knowledge into context as well as helped me make explicit things I knew but could not explain.

Understanding the history, trail of evolution and different camps in RtD helped me make better sense of the subject and how best to use it in my work.

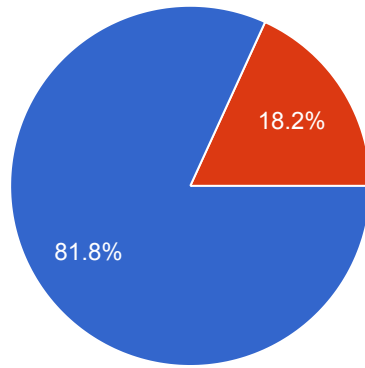
I knew about a few of the articles beforehand, but the course arrangement gave me a new angle to look at them. Additionally, there was a considerable amount of content that was new to me.



4. Did the course meet your expectations?



11 responses



- Yes, it went beyond my expectations
- It was more or less what I expected
- No, it was below my expectations

Comment

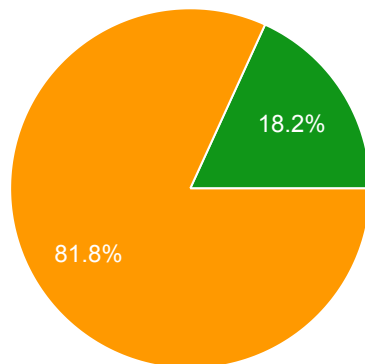
1 response

Having taken other courses by the same examiner, I thought I knew what to expect, but the course exceeded my expectations.

5. How difficult did you find the course?



11 responses



- Very easy
- Easy
- As expected
- Difficult
- Very difficult



Comment

4 responses

A lot to take in and reflect upon. Which was very helpful.

Parts of the course was very challenging, specially reading things I had no previous notion of. But it was still enjoyable throughout !

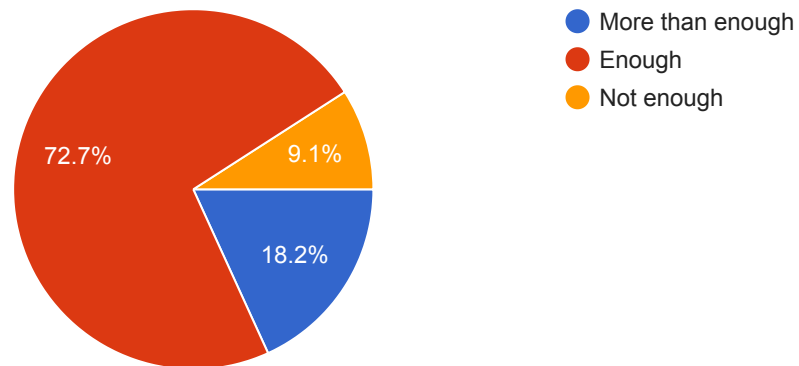
I found it a little difficult to stay on top on the reflections which was due to my own poor planning.

At the begining of the course we had a common discussion about the pace and the content. It was also provided extra litterature. The course leader acknowledged that we are in the midst of different PhD projects with different deadlines, so the course was adapted to for instance peoples schedules and things such as CHI, that was such a good way of arranging the course!

6. To follow the course, my prerequisites have been ...

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11 responses



Comment

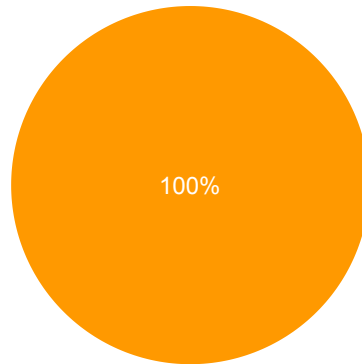
1 response

I wish that I would have read a bit more on the subject of theory of science (to find my worldview a bit more) and that I would have been a bit further in my research project - I felt that I lacked the possibility to connect the course to my practice.

7. What do you think about the amount of material in the course? (One book + some papers)

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11 responses



- Far too much
- Too much
- About what I expected
- There could have been more material
- Way too little



Comment

5 responses

It was a good amount of literature, a lot of new things (for me at least) and a few classics. Really enjoyed going back to the book at the end of the course after having read the papers as well.

About right!

The amount of time I had to spend on reading was a bit uneven, as I knew some parts very well and some parts not at all.

It is in line with other PhD courses that offer similar amount of credits

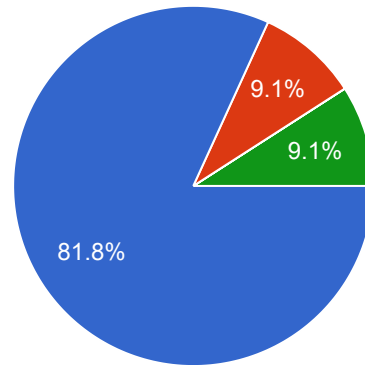
Hm no options fits for this question. It was less literature than I expected, but I really liked that! I really enjoyed reading and discussing the literature more in depth, rather than having a huge pile of thick books to glance through and stress about. So my "Other" choice would be "Less than expected, and that was very good"



8. What do you think about the course format - organising the seminars yourselves, reading the book, discussing, reading some more, discussing, and finally presenting your own work?



11 responses



- It was the right process for this material
- It worked fine, but I would prefer another format
- I did not get enough guidance through the subjects
- It was the right process for this material but complimentary lectures could have been very beneficial



Comment

6 responses

The format is fine. However, I would have also perhaps kicked it off with a in-person meeting. It could also have been good to share our ideas for the examination piece before we handed in, so an iteration on it could have been possible within the course?

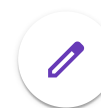
It was GREAT! Everyone was so thoughtful on how to get a good discussion!

I would love to see more senior perspectives. Kia's stories and experiences were helpful to see the struggle of RtD becoming an accepted format of doing research in HCI. To me, a lot of the authors we are reading about are repeating names in the papers but I have never met or spoken to them. It is very fascinating to hear the stories from Kia in relation to these researchers. It adds more personality to these names and it makes me feel like I'm being onboarded to the community. I would love to see more integrations with other senior researchers in the course (like Johan for example).

Perhaps students could spend some more time discussing how and whether RtD might fit their own work?

Great format! Good also with some time in between, and meeting the same group regularly, together deepening our way of reasoning and understanding. The self-organizing seminars was brilliant! It gave chance to develop a lot of skills and the variation kept up the interest. Also wanting to do a good seminar for ones peers helped the quality.

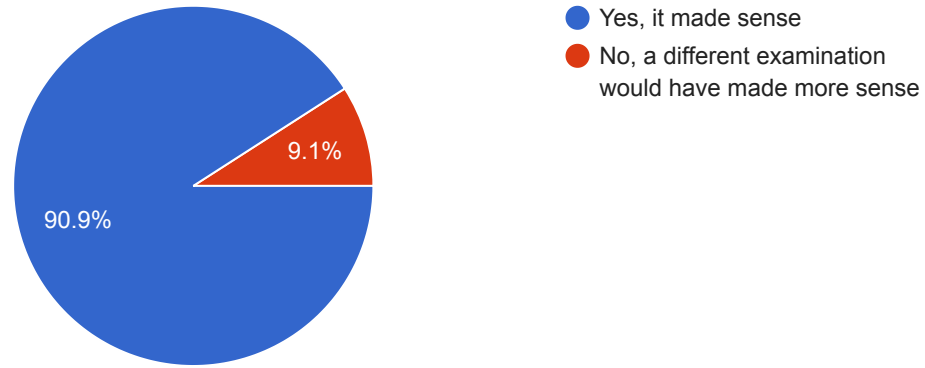
I found the course format quite enjoyable! Although, I did struggle a bit with understanding the book in the first sessions. I found myself going back to the book after reading the articles, and that helped me make better sense of it. The seminars, which we organized ourselves, were a fun and valuable learning experience. However, I had some moments of confusion. Having a brief introductory or concluding lecture from the course instructor might have been beneficial in those moments.



9. Was the examination appropriate to the course content?

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11 responses



Comment

4 responses

Maybe some quiz or test just to get a check how much you've remembered.

The format made sense, bit unfortunate timing during the holiday period however

It was rewarding to hear what everyone else is working on, and good to have to send in some text as well. It might have been good with some kind of peer-feedback, to specifically read one or two others work and come with feedback, and then get feedback on the feedback from the course leader. This would also be a way to practice some reviewing, having a designated reader as well as getting some more in depth feedback. But now over the summer it was hard maybe with deadlines well in advance...

Loved to have a full day of meeting IRL, as well as having a social activity in the evening, the perfect ending to a good course!

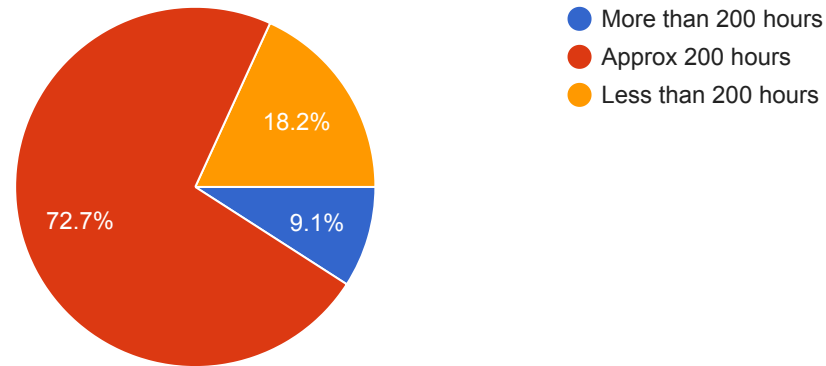
The examination was great. Initially, it appeared challenging, but it turned out to be incredibly useful for synthesizing the course content and relating it to my own research. Having some time after the course to reflect and focus on the final assignment was a nice touch and a thoughtful addition. It allowed me to revisit the course material and gain an even deeper understanding.



10. How many hours (approx) did you spend on the course? (7.5 hp = 5 weeks = 200 hours)



11 responses



Comment

3 responses

I would say this is very hard to judge because I spent hours for the course that also applied to my research. That's a good thing, but makes it hard to separate course work from research work.

Hard to estimate as I do many projects in parallel, but I think the credit is fair considering how much time it takes to actually *learn* this stuff. Not just reading the texts once.

I do think 200 hours would be a good approximation of the time a student would need to spend on reading the papers, writing reflections and reading others' reflections.



11. What would be your advice to future students? For example, when to take the course, early/mid/late-PhD-studies? How to engage with the literature? ...

11 responses

I would take this course early-ish. It defines too much of the method to take it late.

Perhaps the course would be better in the mid of a PhD, I took it perhaps a bit early which made it quite challenging - but I also think I grew a lot from the experience and feel as if I am benefiting from having taken the course already!

Do it early to get exposed to Rtd philosophy.

I think it's definitely good to take this course with some design theory knowledge already. It was well pitched for me, perhaps because I had read some of the material already and was aware of most of the concepts. I can imagine that someone coming in without this knowledge would find it challenging to get going.

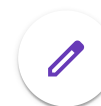
If you already know you want to pursue a career in RtD and have taken a master's that covered similar research articles, then I'd take it right from the start of the PhD. If I'd take the course again, being more aware of the final submission, I would have taken notes directly into my thesis' methodology section.

I would advise mid-PhD studies when they have done some design work to engage the theoretical works with.

Take the course mid PhD-studies.

I'd go for this course second year, or first if you have previous experience in design theory or design research!

I would suggest that students consider taking the course after a year or so into their studies, when they are contemplating how to structure their thesis or present their work. That is when I



personally found the course to have the most impact.

I have already recommended this course to several PhDs, that they should take it if they get the chance. I think (and also based on the discussions in the group) that mid-PhD or maybe a little before that would be good. For me now on my second year the timing felt perfect. I have gotten a grasp (a bit...) on the field and my topic, and now this course added so much terminology, understanding, contacts and ideas for my PhD toolbox making me ready to build my PhD on a stronger foundation!

I think taking this course during the first half of the PhD-studies makes a lot of sense as it would provide a foundation for research methods and approaches. Personally, I found it helpful to revisit certain articles multiple times to grasp their concepts and connect them to my research. So, my suggestion would be to allocate time for revisiting articles after your first encounter with them.



12. Comments and suggestions on how to improve the course

7 responses

Somehow I feel like the body of papers should be presented first and the book later. Would be good to see historically what has happened in HCI for us to get to the need of understanding a design programme. Kia is also strongly involved with a programme so it would be helpful to discuss more the struggles of working and defining a programme, but also how those of us that don't necessarily have one in our universities how we can approach that. This course does potentially create tensions between supervisors and PhD students. I wonder if a crash session in the first part of the course could be designed to be attended by the supervisors as well? Not sure. Anyway this is a great course and one shouldn't try to fix what isn't broken.

More free format discussion/debate of the material, less workshop/games :)

Absolutely fantastic course! Kia is amazing in facilitating an atmosphere where everyone can be comfortable to freely discuss, rant, get critical and angry - I loved to see all the emotions in the course. The last session in person was lovely, great to see everyone in person and to be in a more informal setting at the karaoke! Thanks Kia!

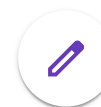
I'd like to try to have a seminar in smaller groups where we could spend more time per person, delving deeper into the epistemological reasoning in each work.

I found the course to be very helpful in helping marshal my thoughts on how to present my work and structure the thesis. I only wish that we would have been able to meet more often in person than over Zoom.

Maybe the first seminar should have a bit more structure, helping to set a standard for the course. Also maybe, before the Redström book, have one seminar (with maybe 2-3 articles) focusing more on the basics of RtD and the growth of the CHI community.

Also maybe a bit peer feedback on the final assignment.

Guest lecturers was talked about and never happened, it would have been very rewarding to



get perspective/s from some other researcher, now it became very influenced by one way of doing RtD. A "discussion battle" between two senior researchers on epistemology and RtD would have been something... ;) And then meta-discuss it afterwards.

A QaA session would have been very nice, preparing like some questions each, maybe in groups, and get answer from different researchers. (or just trying to answer each others questions in the group as well).

All in all a great course, so all of above is more of small tweaks, the overall format should absolutely be kept as it is!

A wonderful course! I wish we had longer sessions that could allow deeper discussions.

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