COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DR2014
Course Title	Body-Centric Design
Pre-requisites	NIL
No of AUs	3
Contact Hours	39 total contact hours

Course Aims

This course is an examination of the many categories of wearable technology, as well as closely related fields, such as wearable computing, techno fashion, electronic textiles, intelligent jewellery and smart clothes. You will research, experiment with and design wearable technology projects, from conceptual work to pragmatic solutions and applications. In this course, you will study how technology can be used in wearable contexts as a means to complement the functions of the human body and enhance personal expression. The course offers a theoretical introduction and foundation, which is iterated through practical elements in the form of concept development and prototyping. It will provide the basis for further studies and projects that combine technology and fashion.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Describe techniques used to create wearable objects and garments and the reasons for using them.
2. Develop concepts and narratives in order to propose the creation of wearable technology objects and garments.
3. Create wearable technology objects and garments.
4. Present and exhibit designs for wearable objects and garments.
5. Evaluate and constructively critique your own and your peers' wearable designs.

Course Content

It is your assignment to research and conceptualise a wearable that addresses one of these themes, be it through acoustic or visual signals, through motion, or by controlling a media environment. There are many possibilities for input sensing, from accelerometers to temperature sensors, and the goal is to create the ideal mapping of input and output, embedded appropriately in the garment or accessory. At the end of the project you should have a functioning reactive/interactive wearable, which you will give a unique title and refine for presentation. Clarify the context in which this work is situated; reflect on the message, significance and the scope of the outcome. Write a text for your project, starting with a short description and then followed by an elaboration of the intention and meaning. Make digital presentation/documentation materials of your work. Document your work through text, photos and video, and if applicable, any other suitable media. Make sure the materials present your work in the best possible way.