



What is Frugal Design?

Frugal Design, Innovation or Engineering refers to the process of reducing the complexity and cost of a good and its production but can also include increase in product durability and the use of unconventional ways of distribution. This field of product development has to a large extent emerged to fill a market gap in developing countries but has also developed within for example the field of health care and the need of increased access to it. When we talk about sustainability and resourcefulness there are still big differences in conditions and perspective depending on where in the world we are and the necessity of awareness and learnings through collaborations makes a robust platform for such projects.

Course Framework

This course takes departure in the notion of frugal innovation but focuses more on the frugal thinking through the design process and with a collaborative, cross-disciplinary approach. The aim of the course is to create awareness and usefulness of the concept in a cross disciplinary environment. This will be done through a lecture and text based introduction of the concept and underlying principles, followed up by more design oriented, practical assignments. SDG 9, 12 and 17 form the basis for all activities.

Expected outcomes

Participating in this course will serve as a source for inspiration, as well as an opportunity to learn and experience an alternative way to design and develop robust, low cost, qualitative and sustainable solutions to everyday problems in low resource settings.

Who can apply?

The course is open for all Master programs at Chalmers and particularly recommended for students within the fields of; Architecture, Civil Engineering, Engineering for sustainable development, Mechanical and Industrial Design Engineering.

Application

Due to limited number of places students are asked to send a short Motivation Letter (max 1/2 A4) to catarina.ostlund@chalmers.se.

Deadline

01/03/2022

Study period

LP4 / 7.5hp

Questions?

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