NORMATIVE FUTURES

OPEN ELECTIVE 2021

NON-STANDARD TIME

INSTRUCTOR

KALYANI JAYANT TUPKARY

Twitch

Kalyani is an interdisciplinary designer exploring alternate futures or rather realities. As a critical yet optimistic designer, she creates artefacts as portals to alternate worlds. In doing so, her work proposes poetic uses of technology. She explores the materiality of these alternate worlds through code, analogue/digital drawing and electronic textiles.

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CO-INSTRUCTOR

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She designs digital product experience and researches design. Her research interests lie in public policy design, data privacy and technology. She investigates how participatory modes of public policy making can create inclusive and equitable civic life. She has co-founded the Vadaavran collective, a city based climate action group in Vadodara.

https://bit.ly/2NBOP3p

OVERVIEW

With the world in lockdown, time has been bent completely out of shape. So how might we tell time amid a pandemic? Our over-reliance on "standard time" has left us clueless about other senses of time, especially in a global crisis where standardized time management is no longer possible. These other senses of time result in multiple temporalities of which clocks and calendars represent only two. What if we could claim our sense of time, instead of conforming to the "standard time"? Our lived experience of time is divergent, personal and local. We need timekeepers that visualize this non-standard time.

OBJECTIVE

This is a collaborative investigation to challenge the established understanding of time as linear, objective and neutral. It is a pursuit to unlearn 'standard time' and probe into the social, cultural, political and hegemonic spheres that determine our perception of time. By mapping personal rhythms students will explore diverse ways of keeping time. They will make alternate timekeepers that are personal and local "timekeepers" that are just as absurd as our standard clocks and calendars.

METHODOLOGY

This is a hybrid theory-practice workshop with discourse based learning and making under the design fictions framework.

1. Reading critical texts (historical and contemporary research into utopias, dystopias and heterotopias) 2. Deconstructing design fiction precedences 3. Group activities using speculative design approaches: futures wheel, thought experiments and counterfactual history. 4. Collaborative mapping exercises to identify personal rhythms and local temporalities. 5. Conceptualizing and making non-standard timekeepers - imagine realities that don't yet exist. 6. Provotyping (provocative prototyping) non-standard timekeepers to propose alternate world views. 7. Refining one timekeeper. 8. Building a fictional world around it using digital/analog media.

KEYWORDS

Speculation Recalibration Local Future Power

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