

CALL

FOR

PROPOSALS

NORMATIVE  
FUTURES

OPEN ELECTIVE  
2021

DEADLINE EXTENDED TILL 25TH FEBRUARY 2021



राष्ट्रीय डिजाइन संस्थान  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN

ONLINE APRIL 5-16 2021

[openelective.nid.edu](http://openelective.nid.edu)

APRIL 5-16, 2021

# NORMATIVE FUTURES

OPEN ELECTIVE 2021

The **OPEN ELECTIVE** is a set of two-week long multidisciplinary workshops offered to the second year students of the Bachelor of Design (B.Des.) and the first-year students of the Master of Design (M.Des.) programmes across the three NID campuses in Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar and Bengaluru. Some of the primary objectives of the Open Elective are to inculcate trans-disciplinary approaches, explorations, experimentation, expansion of thinking, consciousness, and possibilities amongst the students.

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS** Open Elective 2021 calls for Workshop Proposals from NID faculty, visiting faculty, other academics, designers, and artists who wish to share their ideas, ideologies, philosophies, and skills with the students as a structured two-week workshop with process-based engagement towards a tangible outcome. The workshops will be conducted remotely, though depending upon the predefined scope and material requirement for a workshop, basic material kits can be sent to the participating students in advance. Some significant aspects that we are seeking in the proposal are a response to the introductory text, a distinct approach from the regular screen-based learning, a bit of playfulness, and a possible collaboration between two, or more design disciplines. The workshops can be offered individually by one instructor, or jointly with another instructor, who may or may not be an NID faculty member. The submitted proposals will be reviewed by the OE committee for their affinity to the call and possible interest to the student community. Subsequently, the selected workshops will be opened to the students for registration, and applicant instructors informed accordingly.

The **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN** (NID), with campuses in Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar & Bengaluru, is a statutory institute under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and has been declared an Institute of National Importance by virtue of the National Institute of Design Act, 2014.

**OUR ONGOING MOMENT** is now largely defined by the last one year, which to say the least was challenging and withering. In a fraction, the pandemic shook the foundations of human civilization and dented all our existential systems. As millions of lives are lost, national economies have crashed, and healthcare exhausted, survival and sustenance have once again become the foremost pursuit for the majority of the global population. But as difficult the times have been, they are also quite transformative. We witnessed a collective spirit of survival that prompted us to see and experience things in a new light. Today, the world is more connected than before and a strong sense of consciousness has prevailed.

The present that we live in and the idea of the future that we envision has also expanded. During the pandemic, mental health and well-being has emerged as a major concern. Home has become a multidimensional platform positioning itself in between the old concepts of Outside and Inside. Chaos and Order, Frugality and Innovation, Material and Making, everything was witnessed in these intimate home spaces. The notions of proximity and distance have also changed. The neighbourhood has again become important to us. Localism, our dependence on local systems, has made us re-value things which are within our hand's reach.

The pandemic also made us question our notions of being a global community. Technology-driven, virtuality-enabled, trans-located, co-working and co-creative spaces have dissolved the limitations of physical geographies. The fragility of the unconnected systems in remote and vernacular setups have also become prominently evident. As the technology-enabled creators have thrived, the rural craftsmen, the small-scale makers and the un-connected artists and creators continue to struggle. Although the traditional creator was challenged due to the shrinking physicality and expanding virtuality, the scope for opportunities has also shifted and increased in some sectors. As individuals and communities, we have progressed to become more adaptive and open to newer possibilities and experimentation. Perhaps it is also the time to rethink inclusivity along with a conscious adherence to the sustainable development goals. Is the pandemic the paradoxical-pause which the planet's inhabitants needed, or is it a provocation to make us stop in our heels, reflect, rethink and come together to redefine human civilization?

- INHABIT • COHABIT • INTIMACY • DISTANCE • DISTRUST • FRAGILITY • MENTAL HEALTH • WELLBEING • SELF CARE • EMPATHY • OBSERVATION • ACCOMMODATION • CONSCIOUSNESS • SELF • OTHER • COMMUNITY • LOCAL • GLOBAL • NETWORK • CONNECTION • ISOLATION • INCLUSIVITY • DESIRABLE • FAKE • POLARIZATION • EXTREMISM • INTOLERANCE • FEAR • ADAPTABILITY • HUMANITY • BUILD • HOPE • SPECULATION • PLAYFULNESS • ABSURDITY • CHALLENGE • POWER • TRANSPARENCY • CONSCIENCE • INNOVATION • FRUGALITY • SUSTENANCE • REUSE • RELATIONSHIPS • RECALIBRATION • PARADOX • IMAGES • SOCIAL MEDIA • SYSTEMS • PHYSICALITY • VIRTUALITY • TOGETHERNESS • INSTITUTIONS • STATE • CITIZENRY • REDEFINE • VALUE • FUTURE

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OE 2021 PANEL

ASHOK MONDAL | KETANKUMAR VADODARIYA | MAMATA RAO  
RISHI SINGHAL | TANISHKA KACHRU | VARUN SHASHNI

FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Extended deadline for the submission of proposals



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