Your Courses at KISD

To give you the chance to get the most out of your stay here at KISD, read carefully the information and create your personal study program. Every semester KISD offers new courses in all integrated design areas of expertise. All courses are offered for one semester and will be held in English and German.

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Study Structure at KISD

In the study course »Integrated Studies in Design«, you will work in multi-semester projects and seminars on complex design processes and acquire a broad knowledge of contents, working practices, and methodologies of design while developing extensive analytical, conceptual and design specific competence, which is linked with cross-cultural and international experience.

KISD studies are project-oriented and support a multi-semester collaboration, thus enabling students to learn with and from one another. In addition to the projects, seminars, lectures, courses, working groups, workshop introductions and a mentoring program round off the study framework. Therefore, the study framework is only partly linear. Every semester students can choose from a wide range of courses.

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Twelve areas of Expertise

Design Theory and Research	*Typography and Layout*	*Design and Economy*
Design Concepts	*Gender and Design*	*Ecology and Design*
Service Design	*Production Technology*	*Identity and Design*
Interface/Interaction Design	*Image and Motion*	*Design for Manufacturing*

Areas of expertise at KISD

The twelve areas of expertise stand at the center of studies at KISD. These are the basis for our interdisciplinary and project-oriented design program, in which the students can develop their individual main focuses. During your exchange semester we encourage you to experiment and choose courses from different areas you are not that familiar with.

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What do we offer?

Projects (short-term, mid-term, long-term)

Seminars (Scientific, Technical)

Courses

Working Groups (AGs)

Lectures (KISDtalks, KISDlecture)

Mentoring

Workshop Introduction (KISDessentials)

Cologne Ressources

KISDessentials

Courses at KISD

At the beginning of each semester a curricular calendar is published for the selection of seminars and projects. This serves as a basis for your individual study plan.

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Important to know! 1 CP 2 CP 3 CP 5 CP 4 CP 6 CP 12 CP

All students at KISD get credit points (ECTS) for their courses. The European Credit Transfer Accumulation System (ECTS) is based on the principle that 30 credits measure the workload of one semester. The workload of a full-time study program in Europe adds up to around 900 hours per semester and in those cases one credit correlates to about 30 working hours. For international exchange students it varies and depends on the specification of the home university. Please figure out how many credit points you have to achieve during your semester abroad. Through these symbols you can see how much credits you can get for each course category.

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Projects `3 CP` `6 CP` `12 CP`

The most important part of your studies here at KISD is represented by the projects you choose. Each project is offered only for one semster by one of our professors. In all courses at KISD you work with students from different semesters. Almost every Friday there are public presentations where students present their project results. There are three types of projects: Short-term, Mid-term and Long-term projects. Depending on the length of the projects you will receive 3, 6 or 12 credit points (ECTS) each.

Choose 12 CP for projects (e.g. two medium-term projects, or two short-term projects plus one midterm project).

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Scientific and Technical Seminars `4 CP` `3 CP`

Scientific Seminars are a reflexive component and form an indispensable unit in order to combine practical design-oriented projects together with these seminars. Supporting documents for a successful participation are reports as well as extensive documentations or investigations in written or in a medial form.

Technical Seminars provide complex or detailed basics and perspectives from the respective technical work area and are offered by technical lecturers and staff from science and research.

Choose 4 CP for a scientific seminar and optional 3 CP for a technical seminar.

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Courses 1 CP 2 CP

By taking *courses* at KISD you might improve your technical skills. Please be aware that the courses are just an additional offer and not the backbone of your studies at KISD. You will receive 1 or 2 credit points (ECTS) for each.

Choose for example two courses.

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Mentoring 4 CP

All KISD students take part in a *mentoring program*. You have several group meetings during the semester with your supervisors. Part of your mentoring program is to reflect about your individual studies at KISD as well as the weekly KISDtalks, lectures and the Friday presentations.

Attendance to these events is mandatory.

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Working Groups / Community Courses (AGs) 2 CP

In these courses you become a member of the KISD community structuring and organising important daily internal procedures. For participating in one of those work groups, you will receive 2 credit points (ECTS).

Choose one working group.

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Cologne Ressources 1 CP

The first project at KISD for all our new students, supervised by all professors.
Here you will get to know KISD and your fellow students, and for the first time you will present yourself to KISD. This project is mandatory for all new students.

You do not have to sign up, just show up for the first meeting.

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KISDessentials   1 CP

The KISDessentials are an ambitious approach to better understand the KISD workshops. You will be divided into several groups and gain experience at various places in the KISD (for example: Wood Workshop, Photo Studio, Computer Lab, Textile Lab, Virtual Reality Lab, ...).

You do not have to sign up, just show up for the first meeting.

Note: To be confirmed if this workshop is taking place or not because of Covid-19

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What is mandatory?

4 CP Mentoring International:
KISDtalks, KISDlectures, Presentations

1 CP Cologne Ressources

1 CP KISDessentials

Further recommendations

12 CP for Projects
(e.g. two mid-term, or two short-term plus one mid-term project)

4 CP for Seminars

2 CP for a working Group (AG)

1 CP for Courses

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Your Courses at KISD Winter Semester 2021/22

Example #1

4 CP Mentoring International		**6 CP** Mid-Term Project #1	
1 CP Cologne Resources		**6 CP** Mid-Term Project #2	
5 CP German course at TH Köln		**1 CP** Course	
4 CP Scientific Seminar		**1 CP** KISDessentials	
2 CP Working Group (AG)			

= *30 cp in total*

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Example for a Semester at KISD

Example #2

4 CP	*Mentoring International*
1 CP	*Cologne Ressources*
4 CP	*Scientific Seminar*
2 CP	*Working Group (AG)*
5 CP	*German Course at TH Köln*

12 CP	*Long-Term Project #1*
1 CP	*KISDessentials*

= 29 cp in total

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Example for a Semester at KISD

Courses held in German (optional)

If you have an advanced knowledge in German (at least B1), you might be able to join classes held in German at KISD too. Good to excellent communication and presentation skills in German language are required.

Proofs of Performance

As proof of performance you get a document called Trancript of Records.

Please make a documentation about the project (together with your fellow students), write a course report and collect the signatures of your lecturers when the course is over. Usually we do not have grades for courses. If your home university requires a grade for a class, please ask the lecturer for a German grade. In the end of the semester you are asked to write a semester report.

How to choose courses?

The course selection for students to register for selected courses takes place online at a respective online platform offered by KISD. Please find here a detailed description of the registration and selection process. Please note that your preferences for selected courses can only be taken into account during a limited time period within that procedure.

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TH Köln campusID

During enrollment you will receive your personal university account from the TH Köln by mail. That is your *campusID*. It consists of a login name and a password. At the campusID-Center you can change your password and set up forwarding of your university emails to your private email address.

The campusID will permit you to use many university services, such as

- *access to the Internet via the TH Köln WLAN*
- *Internet access via APs of other German universities (eduroam)*
- *access to the intranet of the TH Köln*
- *access to the university network via VPN*
- *semester ticket NRW print service*
- *your email account firstname.lastname@mail.th-koeln.de*

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Important information

Please note that your *campusID* and all related services are only valid as long as you are enrolled. As soon as you are removed from the register of students, these services will be disabled with immediate effect.

Related links
  - *campusID-Center*
  - *campusID: more information* (German only)
  - *Webmail*
  - *mail client server information* (German only)

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KISDaccount

You will be invited by email to create a *KISDaccount*. This KISDaccount allows you to use various KISD services, including:

- *access to applications on KISDspaces (Course Blogs, Study Journal, KISDbiblio, KISDmedia, KISDarchiv, etc.)*
- *access to the digital choice of courses*
- *an email address for internal communication*

The KISD-email address is only meant to receive emails, which can then be forwarded to your private email.

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Studying at KISD does not mean

A school based approach

Strongly limited flexibility

Constant exam stress

Time pressure

What do we expect?

Teamwork - Learn form and with each other

Commitment

Interdisciplinary thinking

Experimental working

Focus on quality, not on grades or credit points

Important Hints

We recommend you to use the KISDtimeline to organize yourselves. The KISDtimeline useful tool to see which courses are offered and might be interesting for you

https://spaces.kisd.de/KISDtimeline/?sem=2019-1&state=all&data=

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How to create a KISDaccount?

On receipt of the email invitation, you can create a KISD account. When you do, please consider the following:

- *choose a login name with a maximum of 8 characters and a password*

- *open your account by using this login name and your temporary password. Your KISD email address has the following format: login-name@kisd.de (and:first-name.lastname@kisd.de)*

- *immediately set up email forwarding to your private email address or the email address of the TH Köln (KISDspaces > Profile > Click to edit your profile)*

- *upload a photo of yourself for the account (KISDspaces > Profile > Click to edit your profile)*

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If you have questions regarding the course selection, please join the zoom meeting on the following date:

Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 3 pm CEST

Details to be announced.

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Zoom meeting

First Phase

- read the Course Catalogue

- select your courses online or via email

- course selection period: September 3 to 10

- check during the week if you are still in your selected courses

- select alternatives just in case

- a PDF in Spaces informs you about the results of the selection (participant lists)

Second Phase

- you didn't get your requests?

- enroll via KISDspaces: waiting list

- choose courses which still have free places

Online Course Selection

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September 3 Online course selection starts

September 10 Course selection ends

September 17 Course participants lists

September 16 Welcome Day

Important Dates

Thank you!

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