

# Introduction to Design Thinking

## Overview

Everything we have around us has been designed. Though traditionally used to describe the visual aesthetics of objects such as books, websites, products, architecture, and fashion, ‘design’, both as a concept and a discipline, is expanding to include not just the shaping of artifacts but also the ways people interact with systems, services, and organizations. Design thinking is the act of creating what Herbert Simon called ‘desirable futures’: a proactive stance that resolves or dissolves problematic situations by design. Through a hybrid of lectures, discussions and field trip, this interdisciplinary course unpacks the idea of ‘design thinking’ -- both as a concept and a toolkit --, and introduces the participants to the methodological aspects of problem-defining, innovation-led, human-centered design approach, which will enhance their skills as ethnographers, visual thinkers, strategists, analysts and storytellers. This course aims to bridge theory and praxis by equipping the participants with the ability to apply what they have learned to public service, social and entrepreneurial challenges, and untangle the complexities of policy issues and explore innovative ways to create genuine social impact in the local context. It reflects on ‘design’ as a human-technology interface, and points toward theoretical, critical, methodological and pedagogical practices arising out of such imbrication. This will equip participants with the expertise to frame and investigate problems using design thinking, and critically review the ideas and theories associated therewith, including with reference to local socio-economic contexts.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>5-11 October, 2018</b>
<b>You Should Attend if You're</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ a student (undergraduate, graduate, research) interested in, broadly speaking, problem-defining, innovation-led, human-centered design approach.</li><li>▪ a faculty from reputed academic institutions; having similar interests.</li><li>▪ from the industry, with similar interests.</li></ul>
<b>Fees for Participants from</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Abroad: US \$500</b></li><li>▪ <b>Industry-Research Organizations: Rs. 10000</b></li><li>▪ <b>Academic Institutions: Rs.5000(Faculty)   Rs.1000 (Students)</b></li><li>▪ <b>NIT Silchar: Rs. 500 (PhD &amp; PG)   NIL (UG)</b></li></ul> <p>Registration fee does not cover food or accommodation. Outstation participants may be provided with twin sharing accommodation on payment basis in the Institute Guest House, if available.</p>

**Number of participants for the course will be limited to fifty.**

## The Faculty



**Dr. Gavin Melles** is Senior Lecturer in the School of Design at Swinburne University (Melbourne, Australia). He teaches, supervises and researches in the areas of sustainability, social enterprise and innovation, and technology design. He is a member of the Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) for Low Carbon Living and also the AutoCRC EV Bus Malaysia project. He supervises PhDs in a variety of related areas including: sustainable urban regeneration in Iran, sustainable urban transport design for Malaysia 2020, digital media and low carbon renovations, co-design strategies for community engagement, organisational transformation, etc. He has previously held research fellowships funded by a range of bodies at Linköping University (Sweden), University of Applied Sciences of Basel (Switzerland), TU Dresden and RWTH Aachen (Germany). He has Masters in Anthropological Linguistics (University of Costa Rica), PhD in Education (Deakin University), and recently completed an MSc in Sustainable Development (SOAS). Dr Melles has editorial responsibilities with seven international journals in education, humanities and design. He is an active member of the Australia-India Institute, Development Studies Association and the IUCN-CEC, among other organisations. His main working languages are English, German, Spanish and French.

## Course Co-ordinator

**Dr. Avishek Ray**

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## Course Outline

- Social Innovation through Design
- Design Rhetoric: On Model Theoretic Approach
- Designing Business and Innovation
- Service Design Perspective
- Designing for Sustainability
- Wicked Problem Solving
- Critical Analysis of Design Thinking
- Prototyping Possibilities

## Registration Guidelines (Step-by-Step):

1. First, 'web register' at GIAN 'Courses Registration Portal': <https://goo.gl/AhcCyS>. If you're already registered, skip this step.
2. Then, log in, click 'Course Registration' tab on the GIAN Portal, and 'check box' to select this course (#171031G02) from the list. Click 'save' to register, and 'Confirm Course(s)' to confirm.
3. Now, pay the requisite Course Fee online in favour of the Director, NIT Silchar, **A/C No: 10521277057, IFSC Code: SBIN0007061, MICR Code: 788002004**. Keep the payment info (transaction # & date) handy. You'll need this during the next step. Also, please retain the receipt for on-spot submission.
4. Next, fill out the form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/8q7FFAJOHxq5UZCg2>, and click 'submit'. This is for the Course Coordinator's record. Now, await the Course Coordinator's confirmation.

**P.S.** Registering on the GIAN portal does not guarantee participation in the course. Please do not confuse with web registration with course registration. You might have been 'shortlisted' after paying the 500/-, but your selection is subject to paying the requisite course fee to NIT. For successful enrolment, make sure you've made both the payments. Number of participants for the course is limited to 50, and the registration will be open till the seats are filled. For queries and clarifications, write to the Course Coordinator at: [avishek.avishek@gmail.com](mailto:avishek.avishek@gmail.com); [avishekray@hum.nits.ac.in](mailto:avishekray@hum.nits.ac.in).