

# Evaluation of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester in Art & Technology

## Aalborg University 2009

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### Project(s)

The first project: There was not given enough information, when the project theme was announced which caused some frustration among the students. Furthermore they did not feel that the supervisors agree(d) on their expectations and what the project should consist of.

Frustration in the initial phase because the students did not know where to find help, who their supervisors were, and who they should ask all the questions they may have had.

The supervisors agreed that the beginning of the project could have been better and that the students could have been better informed.

The second project: The project with External Artist. Good thing working with a real artist, not thinking about how many pages to write and all the rules, much more hands-on, intuitive and direct. This should be the first project for coming classes. But still, it's good to have a few classes before the project to get some theory before.

The third project: OK – so far no comments.

### Courses

#### Tectonic I

General: It is a compact programme. The students need more introductions to study at a university, how to make a project and how to work in groups. The supervisors are aware of it, and will change it to next year.

#### Drawing and Sketching Technique1 – shapes and space

OK

The teacher is disappointed over the poor attendance.

#### Creative Drawing

OK

Is the course following the study plan?

#### Art History / Perception

Good classes.

## Design and Methodology

Good idea to learn with both body and mind. Surprising in a positive way. Students would like to have more lectures like this in general.

## Supervisors and coordinators

The first meeting with the supervisors was too late in the process – this is the students' job to arrange and it is the students' job to contact the student adviser if they would like a meeting.

It was specified that the supervisor's job is to provide a project framework and discuss possible solutions, not to tell the students what to do.

## General comments

The education needs other kinds of work spaces. What we need is room where it is allowed to mess it up, e.g. by using glue, painting etc.

1 tutor seems not to be enough. (The one we had, has done a great job).

Supervisors must be pointed out from day one, and they have to meet the students as soon as possible.

The 1<sup>st</sup> semester has generally been a positive and good experience

## Coordinators comments

The 1<sup>st</sup> semester in Art & Technology has obviously had problems and met challenges on the way. It is our opinion that these have been dealt with in a suitable way. The major problems and challenges have been the fragmentation of the semester, where the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> project were meant to be integrated, but this never really became. The 1<sup>st</sup> project did not have sufficient impact on the final product.

We should consider rearranging the projects, beginning with the hands on/practical project (project 2). This would create a more logical and comprehensive link between project 1 and project 3. Furthermore, it would strengthen the possibility of social interaction in between the students. Another question is, whether it is a good idea to have changing supervisors (module 1 and 3).

The groups have been working seriously and actually managed to display competence of studying and learning, which the results of the exams clearly demonstrate.

The coordinator(s) should be more visible in the beginning of the study, hence preventing frustration among the students.

Aalborg, March 4, 2009