

Being bad to do good: using reverse psychology to embed Life Cycle Thinking and knowledge of Sustainable Development Goals in design and engineering curricula

Deborah Andrews - Associate Professor of Design, School of Engineering Ben Lishman – Course Director Engineering Product Design, School of Engineering Elizabeth Newton – Associate Professor of Psychology, School of Applied Sciences















LSBU
20,000+ students
6 Schools

1892 - original aim
'to promote the industrial skill,
general knowledge, health
and well-being of young men
and women'

1920 - first institution in UK to admit women to an engineering course













Ending the Depression Through Planned Obsolescence Bernard London, 1932

Design should create 'the desire to own something a little newer and a little better, a little sooner than necessary'
Brooks Stevens, 1954

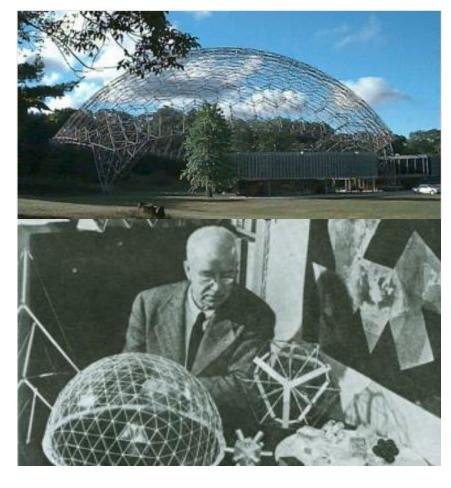




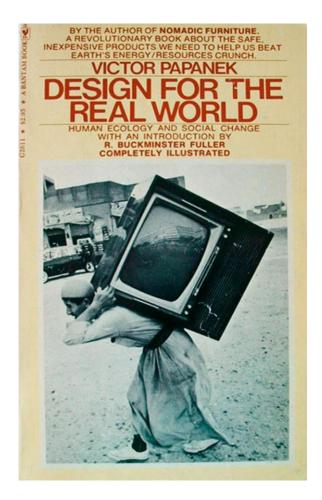








Ephemeralisation - doing more with less Richard Buckminster Fuller - 1896-1983



There are professions more harmful than industrial design, but only a few Victor Papanek - 1923-1998







Sustainable engineering and design at LSBU – early examples





















Yr1 inclusive sustainable garden





Yr 2 reducing waste from hospitality industry

















Yr 4 Major Design Projects – sustainable technology & human centred design











A rather simplistic colour scheme which echoes the styling of the 'British Red Cross'. White is still the predominant colour due to the need to print the instructions of use (section: 7.5) on the back of the device. Plus, it also leaves space for the companies backers & own branding to be printed directly onto













Very much like (above) the 'British Red Cross' design, the UNHCR- Wash_Box offers ample room for further information or colour alteration. Despite this blue colour being printed directly onto the design, that's not to say it cannot be changed during manufacturing to take more of a holistic approach to a disaster.











A personal favourite of all the available colour schemes, the 'Oxfam' Wash_box offers the same colour layout as the previous two designs, but the green generally suits the eco-friendly sustainable approach this project is taking towards providing human-aid to disaster relief victims.



















Education – modularisation / tick box culture







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Eco fatigue – too much and confusing information







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Eco anxiety – fear of climatic and environmental catastrophe







Education – modularisation / tick box culture

Eco fatigue – too much and confusing information

Eco anxiety – fear of climatic and environmental catastrophe

Eco apathy / learned helplessness

Compounded by internet – e.g. youtube algorithms – recommend more of the same / unbalanced information











CHARTERED SOCIETY OF DESIGNERS









Need alternative strategy - education about and for sustainability

engaging, memorable, makes impact, is enjoyable, empowering







Need alternative strategy - education about and for sustainability engaging, memorable, makes impact, is enjoyable, empowering

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Assignment: inter-disciplinary (EPD / PD) groups of 4 / 3 day project

Design your future – your city, your choice......

Develop an UNSUSTAINABLE design concept in response to a specific theme -

food, water, transport, travel, energy production, buildings, resource use, health, leisure

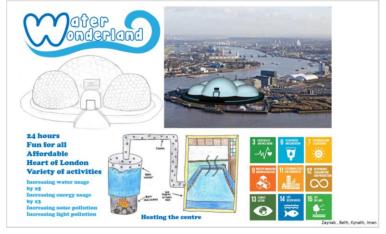


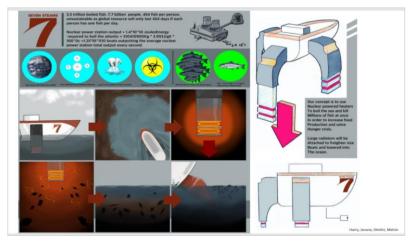




Design your future – your city, your choice.... unsustainable design concepts



















Reverse psychology – effect and effectiveness

Module results / year	Sample size	Mean in bold + Std Deviation
17/18	41	55.6
		12.3
18/19	35	59.4
		11.5
19/20	41	58.0
		12.0

Not significant – need to further analyse results to account for individual differences in ability across year groups – but results suggest a trend

Why? students had to consider what is good in order to achieve opposite can't paraphrase - need to process information more deeply – produces longer lasting memory and better understanding of topic

IQ is often cited as major predictor of learning success

Motivation is also predictor of learning success and fun increases motivation

Anecdotal – students said 'assignment was really good fun'

Recommendations and future work – it works for students – lets try it in industry!







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Thank you for listening

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