



Course: Design Research in Healthcare (5 ECTS)

Online Course Schedule

September 10, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location: Online **Microsoft Teams meeting**

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/join/342573259758982?p=Bfl7GYWXgED603GW50>

Instructor: Jaana-Maija Koivisto, Associate professor, University of Helsinki

Schedule

9:00-9:30

Course aims, contents, teaching methods, and evaluation / Jaana-Maija Koivisto

9:30-10:00

Introduction to design research in healthcare / Jaana-Maija Koivisto

10:00-10:20

Break

10:20-12:00

Design research theories / Jaana-Maija Koivisto

12:00-1:00

Lunch Break

1:00-2:00

Theoretical frameworks for the design and evaluation of health services - introduction and practical examples / Hege Mari Johnsen, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Health and Nursing Science, University of Agder, Norway

2:00-2:20

Break

2:20-3:40

Design research methodologies / Jaana-Maija Koivisto

3:40-4:00

Guidelines for workshops.

Workshop Course Schedule

September 16, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location: Biomedicum Helsinki 1, Haartmaninkatu 8, 00290 Helsinki

Workshop Introduction

Practical Exercises for Innovative Design Development

Time: 9:00 PM - 11:00 AM

Location: Room: kok. 8-9

Instructor: Jaana-Maija Koivisto University of Helsinki, Hege Mari Johnsen University of Agder

Helsinki Design Company Workshop

Time: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Location: Room: kok.8-9

Instructor: Elina Metsäkanto (Helsinki Design Company)

Workshop 1: Understanding the Problem

This workshop introduces the foundational principles of design thinking, with a focus on discovering and defining your problem. Participants will explore healthcare-related themes and learn to apply different problem framing techniques. The goal is to move from a broad challenge area to a clearly defined problem statement that can guide design work. By the end of the session, each group will have a well-scoped problem brief grounded in real user needs within the healthcare context.

September 17, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location: Biomedicum Helsinki 1, Haartmaninkatu 8, 00290 Helsinki

Helsinki Design Company Workshop 2

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Location: Biomedicum Helsinki 1, Haartmaninkatu 8, 00290 Helsinki, Room: sh.3

Instructors Elina Metsäkanto (Helsinki Design Company)

Workshop 2: Defining the Solution

This session guides participants into developing and delivering solutions. Participants will use structured ideation techniques to generate solution alternatives, then select the most promising concept for further development. The core activity is defining assumptions to test, choosing appropriate methods, and outlining success criteria. The participants get to present their concept and testing plan, receiving feedback to sharpen their approach before moving forward.

Workshop Closing

Future Directions in Innovative Design Development

Time: 14:00 PM - 16:00 AM

Location: Room: sali 2

Instructor: Jaana-Maija Koivisto University of Helsinki, Hege Mari Johnsen University of Agder