

**BA Furniture and Product Design
Level One
3D Design Module 1: PM 1030C
Project 3
2008/09**

HYBRID

This project is inspired by the possibilities of combining items of worn out or discarded furniture into a desirable and useful object. This transformation in turn will then act as a starting point to explore how a one-off piece can inspire and be translated for mass production. Also by looking at existing structures within furniture archetypes, you will be considering and documenting how your new pieces are constructed.

Part 1: Individual

There are four main categories of furniture: chairs, beds, tables and shelving which relate to basic functions of sitting, sleeping, eating/writing and storage. Most furniture can fit into one of these categories and initially you are requested to find a wide range of examples showing the extent of each category eg chairs: sofas to benches and stools. Consider carefully the structure of the pieces you have chosen, what materials they are made of and how their individual components are connected together. Which examples do you like or dislike and why? Represent this research visually on A3 sheets for studio pin up and discussion.

Part 2: Group

- 1) You will be working in groups of 3. Your starting point is to find a single discarded item of furniture, each of you from a different category. This might be something you have at home and are longing to get rid of or something from a skip or local junk shop. Brick Lane Market on a Sunday morning is a good place to look.**
- 2) Photograph each piece separately and then draw it as a technical drawing at 1:5. Work with your partners please to find a way of combining your individual pieces into a single item of hybrid furniture. You need to retain the 3 individual functions, but you are free to use the complete objects or deconstruct them down into component parts. Consider how and where this new combination**

will be used, how it functions structurally and in use and how it connects together. Also think about what your new piece will evoke and communicate (eg historical references, visual associations) You can use a small amount of other materials or additional objects eg a light or a radio if this can be justified in terms of your overall design thinking.

- 3) Document and visualise your collaboration and thought processes using sketches and mind maps. Keep a photo diary and each make a collage representing your final piece, indicating possible context eg living room, garden. Reflect on your working relationship with your partners. Did collaborating help or hinder your creative processes, what would have made it easier?

Part 3: Individual

- 1) Imagine IKEA come and see your piece and wish to explore the possibility of a mass-produced version of it for their PS Range. How can you convert the essence of your design into a suitable prototype? What materials and manufacturing processes would you use and how does it fit in with their existing furniture? Draw detailed sketches of your final design, including details of materials proposed. Make 1:5 sketch models, photograph and include in your photo diary.
- 2) Produce a book (minimum size A3) that brings together all the projects work.

Time Schedule

All sessions 9-12am in the studio.

This is a 6 week project (and the Christmas holiday)

Thursday 18 November

Allocation of groups and Introduction (after ME Presentation)

Thursday 25 Nov

Pin up Part One on studio wall.
Bring in furniture
Technical drawing session with DG
H/w Photograph furniture and do 1:5 technical drwgs of the piece you brought in

Thursday 2 December	Part Two: Group Collaboration
Thursday 9 December	Part Two progression Design Talk and Understanding of Structures with DG
Thursday 16 December	Part Two completed including collage and photo diary. Consider Part Three. DG
Christmas holidays 20 Dec to 10 Jan 2012	Work on Part Three
Thursday 13 Jan	Final Presentation of Parts Two and Three
Mon 17 Jan to Fri 21 Jan	Assessment Week

Feedback sessions to be notified

End of Semester 1

**Assessment criteria:
Research, Concepts, Development Work and Outcomes, Presentation**

**Weightings: Individual Part 1 (10%) and Part 3 (20%)
Group Part 2 (70%)**

**Books to read:
Structures notebook, Tony Hunt, Architectural Press
Structures or why things don't fall down, JE Gordon, Pelican**

**There will be 3 photocopies of Principles of Structure by JJP Ellams
available to circulate.**

**HYBRID: Object (structures) 10/11 JA
j.atfield@londonmet.ac.uk**