International Design Project

How do you innovate where resources run dry?

What types of design can be assembled and repaired in communities where tools, money and infrastructure are scarce?

Can fresh thinking and reused materials deliver a product which benefits both people and the environment in developing countries?

Student teams will consider these questions creatively in this project. They will examine the needs, opportunities and challenges, brainstorm for ideas and select a concept matching the tools and materials available – all within a strict budget. Reused materials will be sourced by each team before a first prototype is designed, built and exhibited at the Maker Faire Hannover 2019.

Everything takes place in English and the project is intended for engineers and scientists who wish to learn a language through project management and prototyping. It gives students the chance to work independently, reach their own decisions and discover that reality does not always mirror theory.

Each team will reflect on their progress in a portfolio and project book, helping them to learn technical English in context. At the same time, they will acquire practical skills in fields like metalworking and electronics.

The project takes place on Fridays, 15:00–18:00, from 10 May to 9 August, and as a full-time block course from 12 to 18 August. 3 ECTS points are available.

To apply, simply register for the course via Stud.IP by 6 May 2019. It is not necessary for participants to speak perfect English, but creativity, determination and an enthusiasm for working in the English language are essential. Attendance and teamwork outside the normal lecture period are obligatory. Questions should be directed to Christopher Tidy (tidy@maschinenbau.uni-hannover.de).