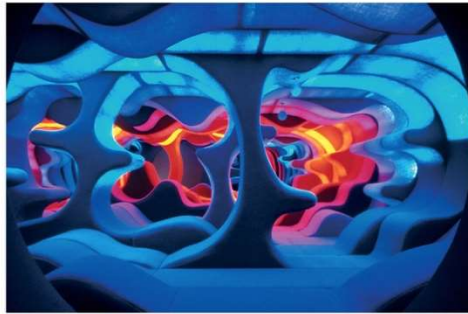
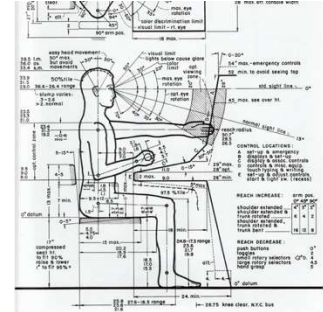


AHIS 466, Spring 2021
Studies in the Decorative Arts and Design
Tuesday, Thursday 9:30-10:50 am, online
Dora Vanette



This course examines the history of design and presents key debates in the field of design history. Roughly chronological, the course will nonetheless focus on larger thematic concerns such as labor, identity, and sustainability, allowing issues of gender, race, and disability to take center stage. Through a series of case studies, spanning Native American handicrafts, laborsaving kitchens, wheelchairs and curb cuts, as well as algorithms and “user-friendly” technologies, the course will raise questions about who design is for, what it does, whose experiences it supports, and whose it hinders. One aim of this course is to develop students’ abilities to analyze and write about objects of daily life and to explore the multiple contexts (historical, economic, political, and ethical) these artifacts are embedded within.