An exhibition mapping the innovations, influences and future directions of design studies in the north

This exhibition reflects on, articulates and critiques aspects of design education by documenting our past, situating our present and envisioning our future possibilities. Beyond looking at the legacy and prospects of our own program, we hope that Design Latitudes will generate dialogue and debate on how to equip designers to meet the needs of communities in the north and beyond.

The Design Latitudes exhibition showcases 59 submissions from students, graduates, faculty, instructors and design professionals affiliated with or connected to Design Studies in Industrial Design and Visual Communication Design at the University of Alberta. These innovative submissions challenge, conceptualize, critique, embody, examine, explore, interrogate, propose, reflect on and reveal a wide array of frameworks for design studies in the north.

The Design Latitudes exhibition explores shifts of latitude and frontiers of North in relation to our interdisciplinary Design Studies program at the University of Alberta, which connects design education to research, practice, industry and community engagement. Latitude encompasses both geographical context as well as breadth of freedom of action or thought. North is bordered geographically, framed in opposition, and conceptualized through a diversity of experiences, lenses and spaces.