

Interior Architecture

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Florida International University's Department of Interior Architecture is situated within two very compelling conditions: the diverse international community within South Florida and the rich interdisciplinary environment in the College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts. This unique context inspires our interpretation of the interior design profession as an occupation that exercises many types of knowledge and operates within complex social, cultural, technological, and artistic settings.

FIU's Department of Interior Architecture provides students with a value added education that consists of small student-to-faculty ratios, studio facilities where students have their own workspace, study abroad options, and computer and fabrication labs offering advanced technology. The Department of Interior Architecture is an ideal setting where students are actively involved in learning and exploring the current and future roles of the interior design profession within a global society. More particularly, this context challenges our students to critically investigate the diverse roles of interior design, and inspires us to explore new avenues of thought and attitudes toward why and how we make human environments.

The Accelerated Master of Interior Architecture (MIA) program provides a seamless course of study leading from undergraduate freshman year to the conferral of the Professional Master of Interior Architecture degree. The Accelerated MIA is comprised of 160 credit hours of integrated pre-graduate and graduate coursework. The degree consists of 73 credit hours of pre-graduate coursework taken over two years followed by 87 credits hours of graduate coursework. At the conclusion of 73 credit hours of pre-graduate study, students move directly to graduate study. A transition from undergraduate to graduate standing occurs during the fourth year after completion of 120 credits. Students must be in good standing with a minimum graduate GPA of 3.0 or better. A Bachelor degree is not awarded at any point in the program.

Admission Requirements

Undergraduate students may apply for admission into the first year or the third year of the program. The department admits students once a year in Spring Semester in order to begin their course work in the following Summer or the Fall semester. We recommend that interested applicants meet with a member of the college's Student Services and Advising Center during the Fall semester prior to the application deadline. Admission to the department is competitive and is not guaranteed. Admission will be offered based on space availability to those applicants judged by the Department Faculty Committee to have the greatest potential for successful completion of the program.

First Year Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the University's admission requirements and submit a design portfolio – please refer to the Design Portfolio Requirements section.

Third Year Transfer Student Admission Requirements

Applicants for third year admission must meet the University's admission requirements and submit a design portfolio – please refer to the Design Portfolio Requirements section. Students who have completed an AA in interior design or architecture must meet the following requirements: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0; completed design studio courses 1 through 4 with a grade of 'C' or better; and be judged by the Faculty Admissions Committee to have passed a competitive portfolio review. Only grades of 'C' or higher (2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale) are accepted for transfer of applicable prerequisite and core courses from other institutions. No grade below a 'C' will be accepted for graduation in required courses or required electives.

University policy only allows the transfer of 60 lower division credits. Additional upper-division transfer credits may be accepted. Thus, for most transfer students it will be necessary to take a certain number of undergraduate credits at FIU in order to achieve the minimum required to satisfy the degree requirements.

Third Year Native Student Admission Requirements

FIU undergraduate students who wish to change their major to Interior Architecture should check program requirements and be advised by the college's undergraduate advisors well in advance of application for admission.

Design Portfolio Requirements

As part of each department's admission review process, all students are required to submit a design portfolio demonstrating the candidate's creative abilities as well as their level of design. The design portfolio is evaluated based on a candidate's demonstrated sense of composition, attention to detail, graphic communication skills, expressive quality, and sense of space, accuracy, and observation. The design portfolio should be formatted on 8.5" x 11" sheets, bound or carefully packaged, with a maximum thickness of 3". Applicants may also include 11" x 17" sheets provided they are folded to 8.5" x 11". Design portfolios may include two-dimensional story boards (a sequence of still images that show a story), computer printouts, and photographs of small three-dimensional models/projects.

First Year Design Portfolio Requirements

All candidates' design portfolios must include a one-page (maximum) statement outlining intentions, aspirations, and purpose in pursuing a professional degree. Candidates seeking admission into the first year of the curriculum should submit design portfolios that contain three freehand drawings based on accurate observations: (1) a drawing of a stair or stairs, (2) a drawing of a bicycle or bicycles or a part of a bicycle or bicycles, and (3) a drawing of your own

choice. These drawings may be in ink, pencil or charcoal. In addition to the three required freehand drawings, the first year design portfolio may contain reproductions of a two-or-three dimensional work.

Third Year Design Portfolio Requirements

All candidates' design portfolios must include a one-page (maximum) statement outlining your intentions, aspirations, and purpose in pursuing a professional degree. The design portfolio should include no more than 10 examples of your design work executed within the past two years. Examples include, but are not limited to, studies of buildings that demonstrate your analytical ability. Recent art and/or design projects that an applicant completed in collaboration with others are acceptable as long as the example contains an explanation of the applicant's role in the process. Portfolios may not contain samples of architectural or interior design construction documents either by hand or by computer.

Student Work

Student work submitted to the department in satisfaction of course or degree requirements becomes the physical property of the department. However, students retain all rights to the intellectual property of such work. This work may include papers, drawings, models, and other materials. The department assumes no responsibility for safeguarding such materials. At its discretion, the department may retain, return, or discard such materials. The department will not normally discard the materials of current students without giving them a chance to reclaim them.

Students must petition the department in writing for any deviation from the established policies.

Study Abroad

Study abroad is an important component of the Department of Interior Architecture. Our study abroad center is located in Genoa, Italy. The Genoa center is ideally situated in the historic center of the city in a renovated former convent dating from the 13th century. During the semester abroad in Italy, students are afforded an opportunity to study those artistic, architectural, landscape and interior spaces and artifacts that have long been acknowledged for their exceptional and enduring value to design culture.

Accelerated Master of Interior Architecture

Degree Program Hours: 157

The accelerated degree program consists of a two year pre-graduate foundation and a three year professional graduate program. The pre-graduate classes and studios focus on the interdisciplinary study of design, graphic communication, history/theory and technologies. The graduate curriculum focuses upon professional knowledge and skills required for an interior design career.

Pre-Graduate Preparation

Students should enroll in pre-graduate design courses the first semester they attend FIU or their progress through

the curriculum will be prolonged. Seats in pre-graduate design courses are limited and cannot be guaranteed to all students.

Undergraduates admitted with fewer than 36 semester hours must meet all of the Department of Interior Architecture pre-foundation requirements.

Progression Requirements

No grade below a 'C' will be accepted for graduation in required courses or professional electives.

Academic Standards and Policies

1. Progression Requirements: At the conclusion of 72 credit hours of pre-graduate architecture program coursework, students with of an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above move directly to graduate coursework.
2. All students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in all undergraduate ARC/IND courses. Students who fail to meet this minimum GPA requirement are subject to an internal academic review and may be delayed in their progression to graduate coursework.
3. No grade below a 'C' will be accepted for graduation in required courses or professional electives.
4. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative 3.0 or higher GPA in graduate level coursework (5000 level or higher).
5. After three semesters or 30 credits of graduate coursework, students who fail to maintain a minimum cumulative 3.00 GPA are subject to an internal academic review, which may result in dismissal from the program.

Pre-Graduate Level Course Requirements (73)

ARC 1131	Design Graphics 1	2
ARC 1132	Design Graphics 2	2
ARC 1301	Design Studio 1	4
ARC 1302	Design Studio 2	4
IND 2237	Design Studio 3	4
IND 2238	Design Studio 4	4
IND 2420	Materials and Methods for Interior Architecture	3
ARC 4586	Structures 1	1
ARC 4586L	Structures 1 Lab	2
ARC 2701	History of Design from Antiquity to the Middle Ages	3
ARC 2702	History of Design from the Renaissance to the XIX Century	3
IND 3306	Fundamental Digital Media for Interior Architecture	3
ART 2330C	Beginning Figure Drawing	3

Course requirements also include 35 credits of general education coursework.

Courses are selected from the following categories:

Verbal Communication (9)

ENC 1101	Writing and Rhetoric I	3
ENC 1102	Writing and Rhetoric II	3
COM 3110	Business and Professional Communication	3

Environmental Context (11)

MAC 1147	Pre-Calculus Algebra and Trigonometry	4
PHY 2053	Physics without Calculus I	4
EVR 1017	The Global Environment and Society – GL	3

In addition to the courses above, students select 15 credit hours from the UCC catalog with Advisor's approval.

Graduate Level Course Requirements (84)

IND 6255	Graduate Design 1	6
IND 5427	Construction Documents in Interior Architecture	3
IND 5486	Materials for Interiors	3
IND 5615	Building Systems for Interiors	3
IND 6256	Graduate Design 2	6
IND 5438	Lighting Design	3
IND 5508	Professional Practice	3
IND 5138	History of Modern Interiors (online)	3
IND 6257C	Graduate Design 3	6
IND 5485	Advanced Construction Documents in Interior Architecture	1
IND 5454L	Advanced Construction Documents in Interior Architecture Lab	2
IND 5626	Project Programming	3
IND 5325	Color Theory and Application for the Built Environment	3
IND 6970	Masters Project	6
IND 5628	Sustainable Practices in Interior Architecture	3
IND 6258C	Graduate Design 4	6
IND 6616C	Interior Architecture Theory I (online)	3
IND 5475	Computer Applications in Design	3
IND 5937	Special Topics	3
IND 6639	Research Methods	3
IND 6259C	Graduate Design 5	6
Directed Elective (Internship)		3

Course Descriptions

Definition of Prefixes

IND-Interior Design

F-Fall semester offering; S-Spring semester offering; SS-Summer semester offering.

IND 1932 Special Topics/Interior Design I (4). An introduction to the basic perceptual, social, cultural, environmental and technical issues of interior design. Basic interior design projects.

IND 2022 Introduction to Interior Architecture (3). Explore the profession of interior design through history and processes. Learn the basics of how to design an interior space.

IND 2237 Interior Architecture Design Studio III (4). Introduction to Interior Architecture. Explore site, building, social, cultural and environmental issues that generate spatial and programmatic responses in designing interior architecture.

IND 2238 Interior Architecture Design Studio IV (4). Investigations in how structure, materiality, and human factors affect the vertical and horizontal composition of space within the interior architecture of small infill urban building projects.

IND 2420 Materials and Methods for Interior Architecture (3). Introduction to construction systems, interior material assemblies and finish application. Identification of sources and materials used in the development of an interior design project.

IND 3131 History of Modern Interior Design (3). Analysis of the 20th century architectural interiors, furniture and decorative arts from 1890-present. Prerequisites: ARC 2701, ARC 2702.

IND 3215 Interior Design 5 (4). Analysis, programming and design of commercial facilities including hospitality and retail. Students research the functions, and requirements of the project, design the interior spaces, develop architectural details and work on the selection of furniture and finishes. Corequisites: IND 3451C, IND 3423C. (F)

IND 3216 Interior Design 6 (4). Consideration and application of design criteria with an emphasis on planning and design of interior for the work environment. Students develop programs, work on space planning, as well as furniture selection, illumination and selected architectural details. Prerequisites: IND 3215, IND 3480. Corequisites: ARC 4270C or IND 4501. (S)

IND 3306 Fundamental Digital Media for Interior Architecture (3). Introduction to digital media used within the interior design process. Students will learn how to represent the built environment using two and three-dimensional digital media software.

IND 3308 Visual Notation for Interior Design (3). Course will focus on technique, through exercise and assignments of varying degrees of complexity will explore and develop the range of skills necessary to develop confidence in drawing in interior design. Prerequisite: Program approval.

IND 3451C Interior Design Construction Drawing 1 (3). Development of Interior Design working drawings with emphasis on detailing and cabinetry. Prerequisites: ARC 1461, ARC 4586. Corequisites: IND 3215, IND 3480.

IND 3469 Computer Applications in Interior Design (3). Advanced application of computer tools used in interior design process and communication. Prerequisite: ARC 4058.

IND 3511C Lighting Design (3). A fundamental course in lighting with emphasis on interaction with the design of an interior space. Prerequisites: IND 3215 or Architectural Design 5 (ARC 5329).

IND 3930 Special Topics Design Studio (4). An interior design studio based on a particular aspect of interior design under the direction of appropriate faculty.

IND 3936 Cejas Eminent Scholar Seminar (1-3). This is a seminar/workshop course taught by distinguished educators, scholars, and designers. Lectures, critical readings, and discussions of thematic topics make up the methodology of the course.

IND 4225 Interior Design 7 (4). Analysis of the human condition in design. Topics include the behavioral and environmental sciences, ergonomics, and ecology and their impact on design. Prerequisite: IND 3216. Corequisite: IND 4943C. (F)

IND 4226 Interior Design 8 (4). The final studio involves projects of increased scale and complexity. The studio emphasizes the diversity of aspects that integrate the design process from conceptual formulations and

programming to the full development of the design thesis. Prerequisites: IND 4225 and IND 4943C. (S)

IND 4303 Interior Architecture Visual Communication (3). This course introduces graphic tools, techniques, and conventions used for effective visual communication in interior design.

IND 4311 Color Theory (3). Use of color in the built environment including principal color systems, methods of color harmony, effects of visual phenomena, and various psychological, cultural and historical implications. Prerequisites: ARC 1132, ARC 2304.

IND 4441C Furniture Design (4). Introduction to the human factors, concepts, function, materials and techniques of furniture design. Prerequisite: ARC 4058.

IND 4455C Advanced Construction Documents (4). Advanced production of construction documents. Includes design of architectural details, material specification, integration of building systems, and application of life safety-accessibility issues. Prerequisites: IND 3451C, IND 3423C, IND 3216.

IND 4501 Interior Design Practice (3). The student will be introduced to the specific skills necessary to succeed in the preparation of legal documents and specifications. Prerequisite: IND 3215.

IND 4543 Design at Sea (3). Study spatial, material, and regulatory issues associated with marine design while aboard a transatlantic cruise.

IND 4627 Sustainable Interior Design Practices (3). Students study and apply knowledge of the theoretical, practical, and professional issues involved in designing sustainable interior environments. Prerequisite: IND 3215.

IND 4904 Service Learning and Independent Study (3). Directed independent study focused on explorations of interior architecture processes, topics, or applications that are not otherwise available within the curriculum. Prerequisite: Students must have permission from the Department Chair.

IND 4940 Interior Design Internship (3). Advanced issues in interior design practice learned through work experience with licensed professionals. Prerequisites: ARC 4270C or IND 4501, IND 3451C, IND 3480, IND 3511C.

IND 4943C Programming (3). Preparation of program for the final interior design studio project. Instruction on methods of information gathering, analysis, and evaluation. Environment and behavior theories will be explored. Prerequisite: IND 3216. Corequisite: IND 4225. (F)

IND 5029 Art in Public Interiors (3). Examination of the creative place making and the integration of artwork into the interior architecture of public places.

IND 5138 History of Modern Interiors (3). An analysis of the history of architectural interiors, furniture and decorative arts from the Neo-Classical period to the present time.

IND 5164 History of 21st Century Furniture Design (3). Students will research and analyze the social, political,

technical economic and theoretical forces that contribute to new movements in late 20th century and early 21st century furniture design.

IND 5235 Formative Studio 1 (6). Introduction to concept development, spatial expression, and representational techniques in architecture.

IND 5285 Design Foundations (3). The course is a rigorous introduction to design fundamentals. It builds a design language through lectures, practical exercises, exploring techniques, materials, skills, making and critical thinking. Prerequisite: Program approval.

IND 5319 Visual Notation for Interior Design (3). Course will develop drawing skills in multiple media, actively engaging in projects of drawing as a medium of investigation, documentation, memory, observation and presentation for interior design. Prerequisite: Program approval.

IND 5325 Color Theory and Application for the Built Environment (3). Use of color in the built environment including principal color systems, methods of color harmony, effects of visual phenomena, and various psychological, cultural and historical implications.

IND 5418 Design at Sea (3). Study of Interior Architecture of Cruise Vessels. Students learn spatial material and regulatory issues associated with marine design.

IND 5427 Construction Documents in Interior Architecture (3). Conceptual framework for design of building assemblies, understanding of construction technologies and properties of interior building materials. Construction drawings and specifications are produced. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

IND 5428 Materials and Methods (3). Research and analysis of building materials and methods. Properties of materials and performance in a variety of light building, interior and environmental assemblies are investigated.

IND 5438 Lighting Design (3). Exploration of theories and applications of lighting design. Emphasis on studying research about interactions between light, people and articulation of interior space.

IND 5445C Furniture Design (3). Providing a general overview of furniture design process, this design/build studio course teaches students about ergonomics, scale, space, structure and materiality related to furniture design.

IND 5446 Professional Practice and Entrepreneurship in Furniture Design (3). Learn about industry standards and entrepreneurial strategies that successful designers and furniture companies use when bringing new designs to different markets.

IND 5447C Advanced Furniture Design (6). Research, analyze and design furniture using wood, metals and plastics. Instruction will include advanced technical skills and emphasis on qualitative and conceptual aspects of design.

IND 5475 Computer Applications in Design (3). Study of computer software packages applicable to the architecture office environment, with particular emphasis on CAD software, graphics packages and desktop publishing.

IND 5477 Computer Applications in Design II (3). Intermediate study of computer software applicable to the architecture and interior design office environment, with particular emphasis of CADD software, graphics packages and desktop publishing.

IND 5485 Advanced Construction Documents in Interior Architecture (3). Experimental approach to new materials and methods applicable to the field of construction. Field and laboratory exercises in the evaluation of technical support assemblies for buildings.

IND 5486 Materials for Interiors (3). Analysis and research of critical issues affecting selection and application of interior finish materials.

IND 5508 Professional Practice (3). Advanced study of office administration, contract negotiation, fee structure, professional ethics, client and public relations. Investigations and analysis of business organizations and project management. Prerequisite: Program approval.

IND 5513 Managing the Design Project (3). Principles and methods of managing design projects including, buildings, interiors and landscape projects. Content covers planning, scheduling, organizing, and controlling complex design projects.

IND 5615 Building Systems for Interiors (3). Study of building environmental systems and building performance issues that impact the design of building interiors and affect the health, safety, welfare, and performance of building occupants. Prerequisite: IND 5628.

IND 5625 Interior Architecture Theory II (3). Overview of the environmental parameters, morphological concepts and ideological principles that generate form and meaning in interior design, architecture, and landscape architecture.

IND 5626 Project Programming (3). Students perform pre-design research and analysis aimed at programming the design of a specific facility. Students ultimately prepare a program of requirements for their master's project. Prerequisites: IND 5937, IND 6639. Corequisite: IND 6259C.

IND 5628 Sustainable Practices in Interior Architecture (3). Analysis and application of theoretical, practical, and professional issues involved in designing sustainable interior environments.

IND 5629 Computer Applications in Design III (3). Students learn advanced techniques in digital design through using 3 dimensional modeling and rendering software within the design process.

IND 5645 Structures 1 (1). Through the study of statics and strength of materials this introductory course provides a scientific basis for analysis of how various structural systems work and withstand loading. Prerequisites: PHY 2053 and MAC 2233 or MAC 1114 or MAC 1147.

IND 5645L Structures 1 Lab (2). The lab sessions will supplement lectures through additional practice and hands-on problems that are designed to enhance the application of structural concepts. Prerequisites: PHY 2053 and MAC 2233 or MAC 1114 or MAC 1147. Corequisite: IND 5645.

IND 5937 Special Topics (3). Examination of the conceptual framework supporting the theory, and research applications in specialized area of interior design. Prerequisite: Program approval.

IND 5938 Cejas Eminent Scholar Seminar (1-3). This is a seminar/workshop course taught by distinguished educators, scholars, and designers. Lectures, critical readings, and discussions of thematic topics make up the methodology of the course.

IND 5941 Internship Experience (0). Experience in interior design practice learned through work with licensed professionals.

IND 5948 Interior Architecture Graduate Internship (3). Advanced issues in professional practice learned through work experience with design professionals.

IND 5950 Interior Architecture Travel, Culture, and Design (3). Study of Interior Architecture through travel. Adopting a global view, students learn to weigh design decisions within the parameters of ecological, socio-economic, and cultural contexts.