INTERIOR DESIGN - B.A.

College of Architecture and Environmental Design
www.kent.edu/caed

About This Program

The Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design combines art, technology and business to prepare you for a career in this exciting and ever-evolving field. With a curriculum that emphasizes design thinking, sustainability and user-centered design, you will gain the skills needed to create functional and aesthetically pleasing spaces. Enroll now and take the first step toward a career that combines creativity and practicality. Read more...

Contact Information

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- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
  - In person
- **Location:**
  - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Architectural and engineering managers

- 2.6% slower than the average
- 198,100 number of jobs
- $149,530 potential earnings

Commercial and industrial designers

- -3.5% decline
- 42,200 number of jobs
- $71,640 potential earnings

Designers, all other

- -1.9% decline
- 13,600 number of jobs
- $63,750 potential earnings

Interior designers

- -4.9% decline
- 77,900 number of jobs
- $57,060 potential earnings

Accreditation

The B.A. degree in Interior Design is accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

The CIDA-accredited program prepares students for entry-level interior design practice, for advanced study and to apply to membership in professional interior design organizations. The program meets the educational requirements for eligibility to sit for the National Council for Interior Design Qualification Examination (NCIDQ Exam).

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

Freshman Students: Admission to the Interior Design major is selective and based on a holistic review process. Prospective applicants must have a minimum 2.750 unweighted overall grade point average (on a 4.000-scale) to be considered for a holistic review and potential admission into the Interior Design program.

Admission to Non-Degree General major: Students who do not qualify for admission to the Interior Design major may qualify for admissions to the college's non-degree General major. Students in the General major are assigned to freshman orientation classes with all College of Architecture and Environmental Design majors. These classes aid in understanding the broad range of career options within the environmental design professions. Students should take regular coursework in preparation to attempt entry into one of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design majors or may consider alternative degree program options. Students should meet with their advisors to aid in making decisions regarding their degree program and major. In order to move forward with a minimum loss of credit hours, students are strongly recommended to choose an alternate degree program within or outside the college prior to completing 45 credit hours.

Transfer, Transitioning and Former Students: For more information about admission criteria for transfer, transitioning and former students, please visit the admissions website.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
AED 10101	DESIGN FOUNDATIONS STUDIO I (min C grade)	3

ARCH 10011	GLOBAL ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY I (KFA)	3
ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
ID 10112	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO I	4
ID 10601	REPRESENTATION AND VISUALIZATION I	2
ID 14011	INTRODUCTION TO INTERIOR DESIGN (min C grade)	1
ID 20012	GLOBAL HISTORY OF INTERIORS	3
ID 20221	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO II	5
ID 20232	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO III	5
ID 20401	INTERIOR DESIGN METHODS AND MATERIALS I: INTERIOR MATERIALS	3
ID 20402	INTERIOR DESIGN METHODS AND MATERIALS II: BUILDING SYSTEMS AND CODES	3
ID 20602	REPRESENTATION AND VISUALIZATION II	2
ID 30321	INTERIOR DESIGN THEORY	3
ID 30331	DESIGN WRITING FOR INTERIORS (WIC) (min C grade) [1]	1
ID 30341	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO IV	5
ID 30352	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO V	5
ID 30391	VARIABLE CONTENT SEMINAR IN INTERIOR DESIGN	3
ID 30403	INTERIOR DESIGN METHODS AND MATERIALS III: LIGHTING AND ACOUSTICS	3
ID 30501	PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES I	3
ID 30603	REPRESENTATION AND VISUALIZATION III	2
ID 40311	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES AND RESEARCH	3
ID 40404	INTERIOR DESIGN METHODS AND MATERIALS IV: ADVANCED MATERIALS AND ASSEMBLIES	3
ID 40461	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO VI	5
ID 40472	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO VII	5
ID 40502	PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES II	3
ID 44592	PROFESSIONAL INTERIOR DESIGN INTERNSHIP (ELR) (min C grade)	2
College of Architecture and Environmental Design Electives, choose from the following:		6
Any Architectural Studies (ARCS) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Architecture (ARCH) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Architecture and Environmental Design (AED) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Construction Management (CMGT) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Any Interior Design (ID) Upper-Division course (30000 or 40000 level)		
Business Elective, choose from the following:		3
Any Accounting (ACCT) course		
Any Business (BUS) course		
Any Computer Information Systems (CIS) course		
Any Economics (ECON) course		
Any Entrepreneurship (ENTR) course		
Any Finance (FIN) course		
Any Human Resource Management (HRM) course		
Any Management (MGMT) course		
Any Management and Information Systems (MIS) course		
Any Managerial Marketing (MMTG) course		
Any Marketing (MKTG) course		
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		

COMM 15000	INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN COMMUNICATION (KADL)	3
MATH 11010	ALGEBRA FOR CALCULUS (KMCR)	3
PSYC 11762	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	3
or SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Humanities		3
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		3
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		3
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		**123**

[1] A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

Progression Requirements

- A minimum 2.500 overall GPA is required for advancement to the second year.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.500	2.000

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

		Semester One	Credits
!	AED 10101	DESIGN FOUNDATIONS STUDIO I	3
	ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
!	ID 14011	INTRODUCTION TO INTERIOR DESIGN	1
	MATH 11010	ALGEBRA FOR CALCULUS (KMCR)	3
	PSYC 11762 or SOC 12050	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS) or INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	3
	UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
		Credit Hours	**14**
		Semester Two	
	COMM 15000	INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN COMMUNICATION (KADL)	3
	ID 10112	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO I	4
	ID 10601	REPRESENTATION AND VISUALIZATION I	2
	Kent Core Requirement		3
	Kent Core Requirement		3
		Credit Hours	**15**
		Semester Three	
	Minimum 2.500 overall GPA is required for advancement to second year		
	ARCH 10011	GLOBAL ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY I (KFA)	3
	ID 20221	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO II	5
	ID 20401	INTERIOR DESIGN METHODS AND MATERIALS I: INTERIOR MATERIALS	3
	ID 20602	REPRESENTATION AND VISUALIZATION II	2

Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**16**
Semester Four		
ID 20012	GLOBAL HISTORY OF INTERIORS	3
ID 20232	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO III	5
ID 20402	INTERIOR DESIGN METHODS AND MATERIALS II: BUILDING SYSTEMS AND CODES	3
ID 30331	DESIGN WRITING FOR INTERIORS (WIC)	1
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Semester Five		
Kent Core Composition courses (6 credit hours) must be completed		
ID 30321	INTERIOR DESIGN THEORY	3
ID 30341	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO IV	5
ID 30403	INTERIOR DESIGN METHODS AND MATERIALS III: LIGHTING AND ACOUSTICS	3
ID 30603	REPRESENTATION AND VISUALIZATION III	2
College of Architecture and Environmental Design Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**16**
Semester Six		
ID 30352	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO V	5
ID 30391	VARIABLE CONTENT SEMINAR IN INTERIOR DESIGN	3
ID 30501	PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES I	3
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**14**
Third Summer Term		
ID 44592	PROFESSIONAL INTERIOR DESIGN INTERNSHIP (ELR)	2
	Credit Hours	**2**
Semester Seven		
ID 40311	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES AND RESEARCH	3
ID 40404	INTERIOR DESIGN METHODS AND MATERIALS IV: ADVANCED MATERIALS AND ASSEMBLIES	3
ID 40461	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO VI	5
College of Architecture and Environmental Design Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**17**
Semester Eight		
ID 40472	INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO VII	5
ID 40502	PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES II	3
Business Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**14**
	Minimum Total Credit Hours:	**123**

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	

Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	**36-37**

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Understand the foundations of the interior design discipline: history, theories of design, technical knowledge, human factors, human sciences, design thinking and professional practices.
2. Understand the complex relationships between design practice, materials, technology, sustainability and social issues in the built environment.
3. Conduct and apply technical, historical, material and cultural research, using quantitative and qualitative methods to design projects.
4. Understand how a variety of building materials, finishes and systems are used, assembled and interconnected in construction.
5. Skillfully manipulate two- and three-dimensional representational techniques using a wide range of media.
6. Demonstrate effective visual, verbal and written communication skills.
7. Contribute effectively to multidisciplinary, diverse teams prepared to practice in complex, multicultural global contexts.
8. Create interior spaces at varying scales, in various contexts and for varying purposes, using research, critical thinking, analysis and problem solving, which respond to user needs and promote human well-being.
9. Create interior spaces that conform with required codes, standards and regulations to protect the life, safety, health and wellness of the building occupants.

10. Develop an ethical bearing that addresses sustainability, social justice, leadership, responsibility to clients and society and respect for difference and equity.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Interior Design seeks to exemplify design excellence, make interior spaces for human well-being and continually expand the reputation and rigor of the program. The program educates highly skilled and empathetic interior designers through a diverse curriculum that emphasizes research, creativity, professionalism and leadership in an era of social and technological change. Competencies achieved in the program include fundamental design skills tempered with the application of research and creative inquiry; knowledge of materials, methods and systems; space planning and programming; professional practice knowledge and critical thinking; gaining experiences through a guided internship; inquiry into human factors in design; and the comprehensive designing of interior spaces with vigilance toward the health, safety and welfare of the public.

The college offers a semester abroad for qualified third-year students in the Interior Design major. The study abroad program is housed in the heart of historic Florence, Italy and Paris, France. The program is open to all students who have made satisfactory progress toward completion of their undergraduate program.

Interior Design students may apply early to the Master of Healthcare Design degree and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degree programs. See the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program policy in the University Catalog for more information.